

# ENVIRONMENTAL UTILITIES CITY OF ROSEVILLE

# Today

June 2005



WATER • WASTEWATER • RECYCLED WATER • STORMWATER • SOLID WASTE

## Rate Adjustments to Go into Effect



The City of Roseville's Environmental Utilities Department continues its long tradition of providing reliable water, wastewater and solid waste utility services to customers living in Roseville. These services are provided in the most efficient manner possible to keep costs down. However, to offset the rising costs of operations, new rates for water, wastewater and solid waste utility services will begin appearing on utility bills in the near future. Look for more information on when the new rates will go into effect in the next edition of EU Today.

Several factors contributed to the rate change, including rising oil prices, increased chemical and vehicle costs, more stringent regulatory requirements, and increased employment costs. Additionally, costs related to state recycling mandates and new government regulations requiring the city to review and enhance security at our facilities have also increased our operational costs. Except for the rising price of petroleum products, each of the added costs represents an increase in the level of service we provide.

► **Final rates adjustments can be found on our web site at [www.roseville.ca.us](http://www.roseville.ca.us) in the Environmental Utilities section.**

### Did You Know?

According to a recent sampling of Roseville residents, the average Roseville household uses about 14,200 gallons of water each month—or more than 170,000 gallons per year. Where does it go? Irrigation requires the greatest amount of water, but other water guzzlers include:

<b>Shower (5 minutes)</b>			
<b>Conventional showerhead</b>	<b>27.5 gallons</b>	<b>Low-flow showerhead</b>	<b>12.5 gallons</b>
<b>Toilet (4 flushes per day)</b>			
<b>Conventional toilet</b>	<b>21.0 gallons</b>	<b>Ultra-low flush toilet</b>	<b>6.4 gallons</b>
<b>Brushing teeth (twice per day)</b>			
<b>Water running</b>	<b>7.0 gallons</b>	<b>Water on at rinse only</b>	<b>.8 gallons</b>

It's easy to waste water without realizing it. But it's just as easy to save a great deal by paying attention to the little things!

### Composting in a BIG Way

Some of your trash may end up back in your garden, if you purchase nutrient-rich compost from the Material Recovery Facility (MRF). As the central processing point for Roseville's solid wastes, the MRF separates trash into recyclable material, green waste, and waste bound for the landfill. The green waste includes grass clippings, leaves and weeds, which can be decomposed and converted into a useful soil amendment.

The MRF's compost is made by shredding the green waste and placing it on a concrete pad where beneficial micro bacteria, moisture, and oxygen break it down into a nutrient-laden humus.

► **The compost is sold primarily to landscapers but is also available to the public by calling 916-645-5230, ext. 1015.**





## Schedule Your FREE Water-Wise House Call Today

As we switch to metered water bills, you may be one of the many residents looking for ways to reduce water use with a direct benefit of lower water bills. Let us help by providing a free **Water-Wise House Call**.

Designed especially for homes built before 1992, a **Water-Wise House Call** is a personal water-use analysis that helps spot leaks, inefficient plumbing fixtures, and irrigation problems. Our trained water surveyors will come to your home or apartment complex and spend an hour or two with you reviewing your water use, providing low-flow plumbing devices and suggesting water-wise recommendations, including an irrigation schedule for your lawn. Also, if your toilet is an older model, you can get information about our rebate program of \$75 when you purchase a new low-flow toilet.

- **Find out more or schedule your Water-Wise House Call by calling 774-5761. Toilet rebates are available on a first-come, first-served basis—so call us today!**

### Water Treatment Plant Set for Expansion

In 2001, when the city completed the Barton Road Water Treatment Plant expansion and upgrade, the amount of treatment capacity jumped from 48 to 60 million gallons of water each day. With summer peaks anticipated at 55 million gallons a day, it was apparent that the next expansion was needed. Rather than move ahead with the planned expansion to 85 million gallons per day, the city determined it was more cost effective to build out to the site's 100 million gallon daily capacity.

The increase will help meet community demands and create a state-of-the-art treatment plant that blends unobtrusively into the Granite Bay community surrounding the plant. Construction bidding will take place this summer, with construction beginning in the fall.

### Meter Retrofit Program on Schedule



The Meter Retrofit Program continues to meet its target dates in the fourth year of its 10-year plan. To comply with federal, state and regional requirements, and as part of the city's goal of encouraging conservation by charging customers according to the amount of water they use, the city is installing water meters on homes built before 1992. Metered rates are already in effect for new homes built with meters in place and on homes converted during the first years of the program. To date, city crews have installed water meters in approximately 5,400 homes of the over 15,000 homes requiring meters.

### Industry Peers Honor Roseville's Wastewater Treatment Plants

Wastewater industry peers recently delivered their versions of the Oscars to both the Pleasant Grove and Dry Creek Wastewater Treatment Plants. Pleasant Grove Wastewater Treatment Plant earned the coveted Merit Award from the Consulting Engineers and Land Surveyors of California (CELSOC). CELSOC selects California projects that demonstrate the innovation and forward-thinking needed today.

For the fifth time in the last ten years, the Sacramento Area Section of the California Water Environment selected the Dry Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant as its 2004 Plant of the Year recipient in the large plant category.

Both plants feature innovative advances that help minimize environmental impact while providing high-quality recycled water used to irrigate golf courses, parks and city streetscapes.

### Check Us Out!

See what's new at Roseville's interactive website.



[www.roseville.ca.us](http://www.roseville.ca.us)

### Thank You to Our HEROES

Each month our Customer Service Recognition Committee selects one of our employees to receive the department's Honoring Excellence and Rewarding Outstanding Employees (HEROE) award.

**Vicki Hinton** earned our February HEROES award for her rallying spirit that led Environment Utilities employees to nearly double their contributions to this year's



**Vicki Hinton, Utility Service Technician**

Roseville Employees Annual Charitable Hearts Fund (REACH) campaign. The REACH campaign raises money to support the Citizens' Benefit Fund, which provides grants to local nonprofits whose efforts improve the quality of life for the residents of the City of Roseville.

#### Jody Kobayashi

was named as our HEROE in March for his outstanding work on the conversion to Ethernet at the water treatment plant. Jody made sure that all participants were kept informed of



**Jody Kobayashi, Electronics Technician II**

upcoming tasks and the effect each task would have on the treatment process. Thanks to Jody's coordination, the project was easier than expected and the needs of everyone involved were met.

Vicki and Jody's names will be engraved on our HEROES plaque on display at Roseville's Corporation Yard. They also received a \$25 gift card as a thank you for their attitudes and efforts.

✓ **If there's an Environmental Utilities Department employee who has provided you with outstanding service, we'd love to hear about it. Please call us at 774-5770 to nominate the employee for recognition as our department's monthly HEROE.**



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Comments and suggestions are welcome—please send to the attention of Sean Bigley.

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