

## August District 5 RNO Leadership Meeting: Denver Water Update

### Regarding the request about the High Line Canal:

Jimmy Luthye with Denver Water is continuing to look into the issue and will provide additional information as soon as possible. You can reach Jimmy directly at [jimmy.luthye@denverwater.org](mailto:jimmy.luthye@denverwater.org).

### Water supply update

The cooler, wetter weather at the end of July dropped demand in the city significantly over the last couple of weeks. Overall, though, conditions have remained largely the same, with the U.S. Drought Monitor still showing the Denver Water service area in the “Moderate Drought” level, with most of our collection system remaining at the “Abnormally Dry” designation.

Our reservoirs are about 91% full right now; normally we’re around 95% at this time of year.

Check out our [Water Watch report](#), updated weekly, for more information. We’ll also be posting regular stories to our website, at [www.denverwater.org/TAP](http://www.denverwater.org/TAP).

### Summertime tips for caring for your yard

Denver Water’s reservoirs did not fill completely this year. And, with ongoing drought conditions affecting the Colorado River, which supplies about half of Denver’s water, we all need to use only what we need.

Following our annual summer watering rules is a good place to start using less water while maintaining a healthy landscape. The watering rules incorporate best practices for efficient outdoor water use.

What more can you do?

- Turn off your sprinklers if it has rained (or is predicted to rain) ¼ inch within 24 hours.
- Got a brown spot in the lawn? Hand-water, using a shut-off nozzle on your hose, to give that area some extra TLC. No need to run your entire sprinkler system just to deal with a small problem.
- Consider swapping some of your lawn for water-wise landscaping, which can include a pretty patio, raised garden beds or native plants and grasses.
- Remember, wasting water also adds to your water bill, as the more you use, the more you pay.
- **Screwdriver test:**
  - An easy way to test for soil moisture is to probe your lawn with a screwdriver, like testing a cake with a toothpick. If it goes into the soil easily and comes out with dirt crumbs, no need to water just yet.

### Check your timer

Have you checked your sprinkler timer lately? Don’t just set it at the beginning of summer and forget it. Power surges or outages, such as those that can occur during our afternoon thunderstorms, could affect your irrigation system’s operations. Or a lawn mower could bump into and damage a sprinkler head.

Checking your irrigation system regularly, like once a week or twice a month, helps ensure it continues working efficiently throughout the summer. And, using only what you need helps keep more water in our storage reservoirs, which didn't fill completely this year.


Watering two days a week should be enough for your landscape during most of the summer. Only during extreme heat or dry periods may your lawn need an extra third day.

Use the chart below as a starting point to determine the number of minutes to water each zone on the days you water. Adjust your watering minutes based on rainfall, type of grass or plants, sunny or shady locations and other characteristics.


And remember, never water a zone more than three days a week, and never between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Our summer watering rules are in effect until Oct. 1.

**Sprinkler times** (month and minutes per zone):


	<b>Minutes per zone</b>	
	<b>August</b>	<b>September</b>
Fixed spray heads:	<b>14</b>	<b>11</b>
Rotor heads:	<b>27</b>	<b>23</b>
Rotary nozzles:	<b>34</b>	<b>28</b>
Manual sprinklers:	<b>20</b>	<b>17</b>




**Fixed Spray Heads**




**Rotor Heads**



**Rotary Nozzles**



**Manual Sprinklers**

 Learn more at [denverwater.org/SummerWatering](https://denverwater.org/SummerWatering).

### Don't let water bills pile up

Many of our customers see higher water bills in the summer due to higher water use. Any payment on your water bill is better than no payment.

You can make full or partial payments by:

- Going to our website, [denverwater.org/Pay-My-Bill](https://denverwater.org/Pay-My-Bill).
- Sending a check in the mail.
- Calling our automated payment service at 1-800-556-0292.
- Paying at any Western Union agency location or at a King Soopers customer service desk.

We also partner with the Mile High United Way 2-1-1 Help Center, which is a multilingual, confidential service connecting our community to vital resources. Find out if you qualify for hardship assistance by dialing 211, texting your ZIP code to 898-211 or visiting [211Colorado.org](http://211Colorado.org).

And, if you qualify for the Colorado Low-Income Energy Assistance Program, an emergency federal program may be able to help you pay water and wastewater bills, avoid water shut-offs and support reconnections related to nonpayment.

For information on the Low-Income Housing Water Assistance Program, including income eligibility requirements and the application process, visit [cdhs.colorado.gov/Leap](http://cdhs.colorado.gov/Leap).

To learn more about options for paying your bill, visit [denverwater.org/BillingandRates](http://denverwater.org/BillingandRates).

## **Construction update**

We completed a project this week to make crucial repairs to a broken valve at Leetsdale Drive and South Oneida Street, touching the edge of Washington Virginia Vale. It is likely we will need to come back out for additional repairs at some point soon, at which point there will once again be lane closures on Leetsdale Drive.

Our pipe replacement work is complete in the Hilltop and Washington Virginia Vale neighborhoods, except for final street restoration. We expect that work to be done in the next few weeks.

After that, we will have one more project in District 5 in the Hale neighborhood later in the year, on Clermont Street from East 13th Avenue to East Colfax Avenue. We expect this work to begin in late fall or early winter.

### [Project Map](#)

#### **Project communications:**

- Door hangers before construction.
- Posts to Nextdoor.com.
- Outreach to the RNOs.
- Customers can contact 303-893-2444 with specific questions.

*\* Customer Care may be experiencing long wait times. When possible, customers should visit [denverwater.org](http://denverwater.org) for self-service options and project information.*