SUMMER HIRES

Each summer, Donala employs temporary laborers for maintenance work on the District’s properties. We will be looking for up to four summer hires this spring. Applicants should be college students who are District residents and who aren’t afraid of manual labor and getting dirty. Duties will include summer maintenance of District facilities, landscaping, painting, fence repair and similar activities. Additionally, there is a week in the summer when maintenance is necessary at the District Willow Creek Ranch, just outside of Leadville. This is an excellent opportunity for a science minded student. There will be some exposure to the chemical and biological processes of the water and wastewater treatment facilities. The going rate for the new hires will be $14.75 hour. There are no benefits associated with these positions. The application deadline is April 10, 2020. Applications can be obtained at the District Offices, located 15850 Holbein Drive, Colorado Springs, CO. They may also be downloaded from the District’s website: www.donalawater.org. Pre-employment drug screening and a driving record review are required prior to a final offer of employment.

STAFF CHANGES ARE COMING TO DONALA WATER AND SANITATION

Heraclitus, a Greek philosopher, is quoted as saying "change is the only constant in life." The same is true with the Donala Water and Sanitation District. Recently the Chief Operator of the Upper Monument Creek Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility, Terri Ladouceur, announced that she is resigning her position, effective February 28, 2020. Ms. Ladouceur has been a valued employee since 2004, and the Chief Operator of the UMCRWWTF since 2013. Terri has maintained the facility in an exemplary fashion. We all wish Terri the best in her next adventure.

This has created a vacancy which was immediately filled with the appointment of Aaron Tolman as the new Chief Operator. Aaron has been employed by the District since 2013 as a wastewater operator. Aaron has a great deal of experience in public utilities and was highly recommended by Terri as her replacement. Aaron currently has a B license and anticipates obtaining his A license by the end of the year.

This has also created a vacancy for a wastewater operator. Applications and resumes can be sent via email to kipp@donalawater.com. The requirements for this position are posted on our website www.donalawater.org.
CAPITAL PROJECT(S) FOR THE SUMMER OF 2020

The District staff and our consulting engineers have just wrapped up the design and construction standards for our capital project(s) this summer. Unlike last year, we will not be working on Gleneagle Drive (I think I heard a collective sigh of relief), but we will be continuing our replacement of AC (asbestos concrete) water mains which were installed in the mid 1970’s. The water mains in question are along Mission Hills Way (excluding the townhomes), Huntington Beach and Candlewood Court. While these are not main thoroughfares, this project will have localized impacts to the residents during this coming summer. We anticipate that this project will be placed out for bid in the next several weeks. After roughly 30 days for interested contractors to respond, the project will be awarded by the end of March and construction started by mid-April. Last fall we sent letters to the residents on these streets advising them of the project. The District will again reach out to the residents in the coming weeks, via letter, to invite those impacted to attend an open house that will go into detail about what to expect as we work to upgrade our infrastructure. That date has not been set but we anticipate holding it at the District offices, in the Boardroom, around the first part of April. As the project progresses, we will update our website to reflect upcoming activities related to this project. As part of this project, not only will we be replacing the main, we will replace the service line connection to the main, as well as replacing the service line from the main to the customer’s curb stop at the property line. Notifications will be provided, beforehand, on when the contractor will need to shut the water off during construction. While outages will be minimized, there will be periods of shutdowns. At the end of the project, customer landscaping will be restored to pre-construction condition. Photos will be taken of each property impacted in order to properly restore said property.

Your General Manager,

Kip Peterson