**Colorado City Happenings**

 **July 2024**

**Say Hello to Our Water Plant Operator: Gary Golladay**

Gary welcomed me, We spoke for a few minutes in between working with a water technologies vendor, his assistant (Alan Garst), and his busy multitude of daily job activities to visit about the Colorado City Water Plant, Colorado City in general, and how he became our ORC (Operator in Responsible Charge) for the water plant.

Gary is a Pueblo native, moved to Colorado City about 25 years ago and has been a valued part of the CCMD team for approximately 18 years. In 2006 he was involved in the commissioning of the new “state of the art” water plant and proceeded, on his own, to study and quickly acquire operator certifications. Gary has an A license (highest level) for water treatment, B license for wastewater treatment, and level 4 (highest level) for distribution and collection. Along with the knowledge required to pass the tests and obtain the licenses, the knowledge and aptitude necessary to operate a water plant is extensive. Proficiency in Biology, Chemistry, Math, Mechanical aptitude, and documentation are important. With a tight budget and small staff Gary handles the variety of tasks with great dedication and a good attitude. He mentioned the tremendous increase in regulations and costs as headaches, but they are reality and will be handled. When asked about successes he offered quite a list of accomplishments over the last few years and optimism for the future. The upcoming DAF filter project, Cold Springs efficiencies, pressure reducing valves repairs allowing for fewer line breaks, and being able to report less than half of previous years of disinfectant byproducts were only a part of that list.

Free time is sparse for Gary as he is on call 24/7 so when you see him (maybe on the golf course) say “Hi” and thank him for his dedication to Colorado City.

**CCR (Consumer Confidence Report often referred to as the Drinking Water Quality Report)**

The CCR is an annual water quality report required by EPA and Colorado Department of Health and Environment (CDPHE) to inform our customers about the quality and safety of our drinking water and to make informed choices that affect their health and the health of their families.

The CCR report has been filed with CDPHE and is posted on our website (coloradocitymd.org). The report is lengthy and can be confusing so if you have any questions, please contact the office and we will do our best to explain the data.

**Meeting with Colorado Parks and Wildlife**

Colorado Parks and Wildlife Officers Mike Brown and Cody Purcell met with Jim Echer, Neil Elliot, and Greg Collins to discuss Greenhorn Valley wildlife issues. Deer overpopulation is being studied and they noted getting more calls about sickly-looking deer. A town meeting presentation by Cody and Mike to further discuss the issue is planned for the fall. Bear encounters were also discussed. Solutions to both problems are complicated. Please don’t make it easy for wild animals to access human food. It is illegal to feed wild animals and there can be a hefty fine if cited for doing so. Call Cody at 719-561-5300 if you’d like more info.

**Recreation**

We’ve reached the toasty days of summer. Probably the best place to be during the heat of the day is at the swimming pool! And morning or evening disc golf or Hollydot golf, pickle ball, fishing, hiking, with a mid-day dip in the pool!

**Colorado City Architectural Control Committee**

We have had a rash of illegal trash dumps around the area. PLEASE respect your neighbors and our beautiful valley by properly disposing of trash and unwanted items. If you see someone dumping trash please call the Sheriff with pictures, license, etc. The CCACC is actively working with Pueblo County and local residents to maintain a desirable place to live and thrive. Behind the scenes efforts are sometimes painstakingly slow but are ongoing. Send Questions, Comments, Suggestions to [colocityccaac@ghvalley.net](https://d.docs.live.net/9d8c7249a6a2aac2/Documents/colocityccaac%40ghvalley.net)

**Drop Box**

A reminder:

For your convenance, a secure 24/7 drop-box is located on the north side of the CCMD office to pay your district bill. You can also pay by phone (719-676-3396) or online at [www.coloradocitymd.colorado.gov](http://www.coloradocitymd.colorado.gov) Don’t use any punctuation when you enter your account number. (for example, 1234.56 should be entered as 123456).

**Smile, Be Safe and Be Thankful!**