

Our Vision: We will be a national leader among water utilities, focused on customer satisfaction and delivering outstanding quality and value.

### Castle Rock residents promised to save more than 3 billion gallons of water

The Mayor's Challenge for Water Conservation, held April 2021, is a national, online pledge to conserve. The cities with the highest percentage of residents making pledges during the campaign are ranked. In 2021, Castle Rock finished in 10<sup>th</sup> place, reaching within the top 10 mark for six years in a row!

The challenge, presented by the Wyland Foundation and Toyota, with support from the EPA, National League of Cities and others, addresses the growing importance of educating consumers about the many ways they use water. Residents from winning cities are entered into a drawing for eco-friendly prizes including \$3,000 toward their



annual home utility bill, home irrigation and indoor water efficiency equipment, along with one deserving charity to receive a 2021 Toyota Highlander Hybrid.

In addition to reducing overall water waste, challenge participants in 50 states pledged to reduce their use of single-use plastic water bottles by 7.4 million and

> eliminate 176 thousand pounds of hazardous waste from entering watershed. By altering daily lifestyle choices, residents also pledge to put 80 million fewer pounds of waste in landfills. Potential savings of 11 billion pounds of carbon dioxide, 199 million kilowatt hours of electricity, and \$14 million on consumer cost savings rounded out the final pledge results.

### Spring Up the Creek resumes in 2021



After having been canceled in 2020 due to the COVID pandemic, residents were excited to see the Town-wide clean up event, Spring Up the Creek, return in 2021. Held on May 1, with 178 local volunteers and 20+ staff (and family), the event cleaned up 10 trails throughout the community. The 2021 event format was a bit different this year to accommodate social distancing and abide by State health guidelines. Instead of being headquartered at Festival Park, participants met at 10 designated trailheads. Without a central location, the event did not host a vendor fair or children's activities. A strong support of sponsorships provided not only the gloves and bags, but water, snacks and a commemorative neck gaiter (or head wrap).

The purpose of the event is to keep the community's watershed free of trash to improve water quality. Castle Rock Water hosts the event in partnership with Douglas County, Castle Pines Metro District, Plum Creek

Water Reclamation Authority and the Chatfield Watershed Authority. Corporate sponsors

included Jacobs, South Metro Water Supply Authority, Muller Engineering, W.W. Wheeler, Enginuity, Dana Kempner, Burns & McDonnel, Starwood, Allstate, Castle Rock Nutrition and others.











### Garden In A Box helps conserve water

One way of showing customers how to save water in the landscape is to encourage them to replace that turf with colorful, low-water options. Castle Rock Water partners with Resource Central and provides Garden In A Box. This grouping of 14-30 perennials are all acclimated to our high-desert, arid environment. The box of flowers, that bloom year after year, comes with a recommended design layout and care instructions. Though not required, the intent is for customers to replace turf and plant this attractive, ColoradoScape. By replacing just 100 square feet of grass with a Garden In A Box, homeowners can expect to save at least 7,000 gallons of water over the garden's lifetime. The first 50 gardens sold to Castle Rock Water customers receive a \$25 discount. The program costs Castle Rock Water \$3250 for the sponsored discount and administrative fees for the program. Castle Rock Water is one of 27 water providers participating in the program that is expected to sell more than 5,000 waterwise gardens this year. Castle Rock Water has been participating in Garden In A Box since 2016.

Castle Rock residents purchased 87 gardens and the pick up event was held May 4, 2021.



## 2021 CASTLE ROCK WATER IMPACT

GIAB sold	87
Customers	50
New customers	33
Return customers	17
Est. square feet of grass converted to ColoradoScape	6,600
Estimated gallons of water saved (over the lifetime of the gardens)	480,000

## **Good Job!**

### **NEW CERTIFICATIONS**

The water, wastewater and stormwater utility business is highly technical and regulated. As such, Castle Rock Water has to maintain an extensive staff of professionally licensed individuals. Most of these licenses require specialized education and the passing of state testing, as well as proof of continuing education.



*Matt Poland* Distribution 4 Operator Certification



Jonathon Weikle Distributor 1 Operator Certification



Chaz Busse Water Treatment A Operator Certification



Jared Poyner Distributor 2 Operator Certification



The Water Star Award recognizes a coworker within Castle Rock Water for doing an excellent job in fulfilling the Department's Vision and Mission.

Safety Demonstrated outstanding safety conscious behavior in performing a job or task. **Exceptional Service** Provided exceptional service to either an internal or an external customer Quality Delivered excellent quality service or product Value Provided remarkable value for our customers Environmental: Demonstrated extraordinary environmental responsibility

**Fiscal** Demonstrated superb fiscal responsibility **Matt Hayes,** CIP Project Manager, received the Water Star award from Alex for his speedy, friendly and helpful response to coworkers requests. Matt has exceptional customer service and is more than



willing to help out both internal and external customers. He is adaptable and willing to change to accommodate the needs of the situation. Alex and the Distribution Team are especially thankful for the multiple times they have reached out regarding PRVs and requests for running hydraulic models. Matt was quick to respond making the job run smoothly and efficiently. It is refreshing to have a great working relationship across departments.

## **Good Job!**

Welcome to the team







CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR PROMOTION!

Kaitlin MacPherson Billing Specialist



Gail Poettman Water Monitor



Dennis Novak Water Monitor



Alex Sarabi Water Monitor



Annie Julseth Water Monitor

## Conservation

#### Water waste violations

Castle Rock Water has regulations in place to manage our most precious resource, to instill a conservation culture and to maintain appropriate demand concerns. To this end, there are violations for water waste. Warnings are the first course, as education is the most beneficial method of changing behavior - and we know that many of these violations are simply an oversight. For repeat occurrences, surcharges are assessed.

Water waste is the application of water that does not result in beneficial use. The primary waste seen is overwatering in which water that is not absorbed into the ground flows away from the area being irrigated. Over spray, where sprinklers are spraying onto sidewalks, driveways and streets instead of the landscape is another primary violation, as is watering during the day.

Violations in 2020, totaled around \$100,000 and these fees help fund the conservation rebates which are available to all Castle Rock Water customers. Customers can find more details about watering violations at CRconserve.com/ WateringViolations.

2020 Violations Summary									
Residential	1 <sup>st</sup>	\$0							
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	641	\$15,050						
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	121	\$5,500						
	4 <sup>th</sup>	29	\$2,600						
	5 <sup>th</sup>	9 \$1,60							
	Subsequent	0	\$0						
	TOTAL	4,078	\$24,750						
Non-residential	1 <sup>st</sup>	218	\$0						
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	103	\$10,200						
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	51	\$10,000						
	4 <sup>th</sup>	32	\$12,000						
	5 <sup>th</sup>	21	\$16,000						
	Subsequent	35	\$28,000						
	TOTAL	425	\$76,200						

## Water Demand



### Max daily water demand

Maximum demands inform us of the size of the infrastructure necessary to provide water service over short periods of time and help us to plan future water resources needs.

May 2021

11.0 million gallons/day

May 5 yr. avg.

12.3 million gallons/day

11% lower than average

Max daily water demand in 2020 17.3 MGD in August (record breaking)

### **Renewable water supply**

- The CR-1 diversion produced an average of 1.04 MGD for the month of May.
- The Town's thirteen alluvial wells, CR-1, and the Plum Creek Raw Water Return Line (PCRWRL) produced a total of 93.82 MG of renewable water (and an average of 1.74 MGD).
- In total, renewable supplies accounted for 45.1% of the total water supply for the month and 32.7% of the annual water supply (846 MG or 2,596 AF) to date.

## Water demand total

Water demand total is how much water was used over the entire month. Population and weather changes can significantly affect usage.

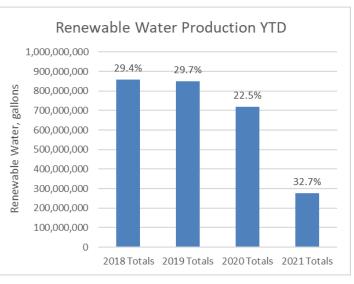
May	2021	2	4
May	2020	3	

243.8 million gallons

374.9 million gallons

35% decrease from last year

Water demand total for 2020 3,251.7 MG



#### Our goal is to reach 75% renewable water by 2050.

Note: In 2020, renewable water production was down due to the construction of Advanced Treatment processes to the Plum Creek Water Purification Facility.

# Water Demand

Renewable supplies are those water sources that are replenished by precipitation (think of our alluvial wells, CR-1, PCRWRL, and WISE), whereas reusable supplies are those waters that are either from the Denver Basin (deep wells) or imported supplies (such as WISE, RHR, PCRWRL) that can be used over and over, to extinction. The average reusable supplies used by Castle Rock for 2021 through May is 35.8% with 63% of available reusable supplies used and an additional 62% of available reusable supplies stored in the month of May.

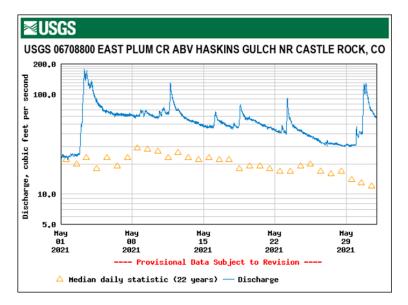
### Alluvial supply

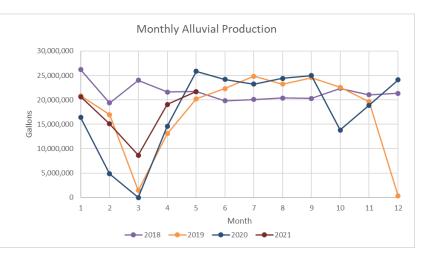
#### May 2021 production: 21.7 MG

- The graph shows the monthly production of the Town's alluvial well system, which helps to supply PCWPF. The production from the alluvial wells in May was 21.7 MG.
- We have three alluvial well rehabilitation's scheduled for this year.

### East Plum Creek Flows Average May streamflow: 55 cfs

The flow hydrograph represents stream flows in East Plum Creek (EPC) taken from the stream gauge located above Haskins Gulch. The hydrograph shows that estimated flows in the East Plum Creek basin ranged between 22.1 and 177 cubic feet per second (cfs) during the month of May, with an





average streamflow of 55.0 cfs. This month's average streamflow of 55 cfs is 5 times above the 20-year median of 11 cfs.

There were active calls on the South Platte River in May. Some of the active calls have had a more senior water right than some of the Town's water rights. This means that those diversions are out-of-priority, so the stream depletions will be replenished by nontributary return flows. This also means that the Town will have slightly less reusable water going down Plum Creek during an active call. The priority date on a river call may change each day depending on the stream flow available and the seniority of the diversions that need water on that day.

As a participant in the Chatfield Storage Reallocation Project, the Town is able to store up to 2,000 AF of water in Chatfield Reservoir. This means that our reusable water that flows down Plum Creek and past CRR1 can be captured and stored at Chatfield for later use. First storage started on May 15, 2020 and to date we have 1,646 AF of water stored in Chatfield.

## Water Demand

### **Drought Monitor**

The average WSI for May 2.52, well above the 1.1 trigger level, which is considered "good."

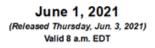
According to the U.S. Drought Monitor maintained by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), approximately 43.36% of Colorado is experiencing Moderate Drought (D1) to Exceptional Drought (D4) conditions, with no drought conditions in Douglas County or eastern Colorado. The Town of Castle Rock Drought Management Plan uses a Water Supply Index (WSI) for the Town that is similar to the U.S. Drought Monitor in that it provides us an indicator to drought level; however, the WSI accounts for local conditions relative to the Town's capability to address our water resources and daily water demands. The WSI is calculated by taking the sum of our supply (deep groundwater, alluvial wells, surface water, and WISE) and dividing that by our maximum daily demand. We generally want to see a WSI above 1.1, which means that we have enough resources to meet our demands. Anything below a 1.1 will trigger a drought stage relative to its severity.

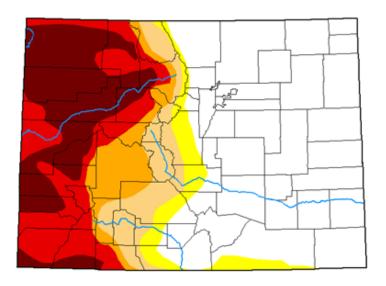
### The NRCS Colorado Precipitation Report June 2, 2021

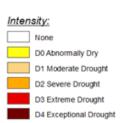
South Platte River Basin:

- YTD precipitation is at 98% of average
- YTD snowpack is at 164% of average

U.S. Drought Monitor Colorado







The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx

<u>Author:</u> Brian Fuchs National Drought Mitigation Center



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

# **Plan Review**

For each commercial and residential project submitted for development review, Castle Rock Water provides plan review, as appropriate, for:

- Water
- Sanitary sewer
- Stormwater
- Landscape/irrigation
- Temporary erosion and sedimentary control

Castle Rock Water reviews site plans, construction drawings and technical reports for each project to ensure the public infrastructure built by the developer is following the criteria set by the Town.

### Reviews

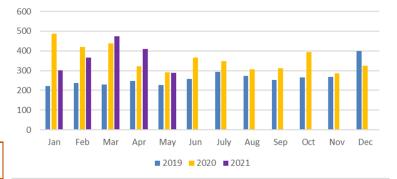
138 Development Services PROJECT plan reviews 150 Building PERMIT reviews for 61 separate projects

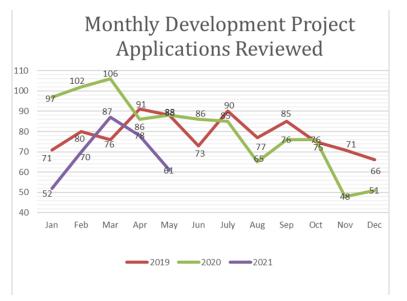
Total Distinct	2020:	2021:	Decreased
Projects	88	61	31%
Total Dev Review	2020:	2021:	Decreased
project reviews	195	138	29%
Total Bldg permit reviews	2020:	2021:	Increased
	95	150	58%

Building permits are reviewed to calculate the system development fees for each lot, as determined by the number of fixtures, irrigated area, meter size, etc. This is necessary for proper billing.



CRWater Plan Review DS projects reviews + BLDG permit reviews





### May 2021 total reviews: 288

## **Service levels**

The average number of days assigned to review: 12.5 days The average days to complete assigned reviews: 11.3 days

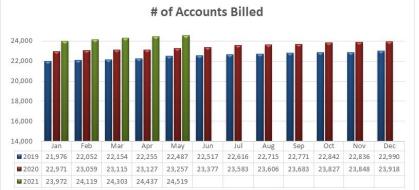
Plan Review: 96% of the reviews were completed on-time

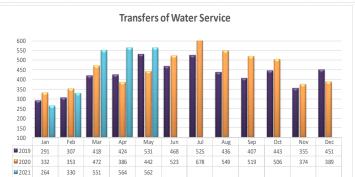
*Review time for each plan is 1 to 5 weeks, a permit is 3-5 days.* 

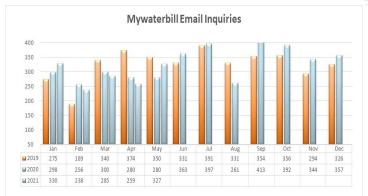


## **Business Solutions**

## **Customer Service & Billing**







## **Customer Outreach**

#### Keeping customers informed about the value of water.

With irrigation season starting May 1, the primary focus of outreach was on the watering schedule, irrigation controller programming for every third day and sprinkler start up maintenance. Similar to the ongoing Water Wiser workshops for residents, an HOA Irrigation Management seminar was held outlining the newly adjusted water budgets, irrigation best practices and changes to regulations for non-residential spaces.



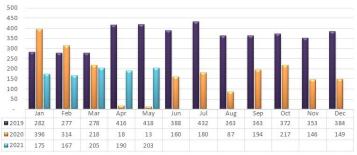
Customers benefit from having an online H2Oaccess account with 24/7 access to statement information, 12 months of statement history, helpful email account reminders and safe and secure online payment options.

#### 2021/Q1 statistics

- 16,070 or 65% of our total customers
  have enrolled in an online account
- 10,162 or 63% of the customers with an online account have chosen to go to paperless billing



Walk-In Customers



Water Outreach Stats	REACH
Go Paperless post—5/5	1,969people
May irrigation post—5/12	3,776 people
Sprinkler Spruce Up post—5/19	1,659 people
Every third day video post—5/26	2,124 people 1,058 views
Metzler Detention Pond post-5/3	8,021people
Drinking Water Week post-5/3	2,017 people
EMAIL: When should I start watering	7,920 opened (39% open rate)

## Meters

## **Meters Read**

Meters are read the first three days of every month. The number of meters read continues to increase month to month and is a significant increase over last year.

26,000

25,500 25,000 24,500

24.000 23,500

23,000 22.500

22,000 21,500

21,000

20,500 20,000

19.500 19.000

2020 23,098

## **Skipped Reads**

#### May 2021: 0.38%

Measuring skipped reads is a strong indication of the level of preventative maintenance being done by our team. A skipped read is indicative of a problem with the metering infrastructure (i.e. battery, wiring, etc.). Fewer skipped reads means more properly working meters, which is good for all our customers.

The AWWA standard is 2%, so we still continue to stay well below the industry average.

### **Meter Set Inspections**

#### **Re-inspections:** 53%

Meter set inspections are required on all new meters installed. This ensures that the meters are installed per specifications and according to Town code. At the time of the inspection, the curb stop is tested for operability and the MXU is installed which provides reading capability for our drive by technology. Re-inspections are needed to ensure installation meets code when original inspections are failed.

## Work Orders

#### May 2021: 1,116

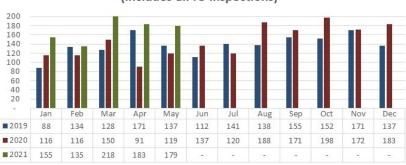
Meter services performs a variety of service work orders every month beyond meter reading. These include curb stop maintenance, meter replacement and repair, final reads for transfers of service,

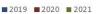
disconnection and reconnections, meter set inspections, etc.



23,167 23,234 23,342

2021 24,120 24,203 24,297 24,391 24,478









23.021

24,013

(includes all re-inspections)

2019 22.074 22.126 22.218 22.316 22.424 22.520 22.603 22.671 22.748 22.842 22.924

23,411 23,528 23,580 23,638 23,764 23,850 23,938

Meters Read

## **Operations & Maintenance**

May 2021

## **LEVELS OF SERVICE**

	020002	
Drinking Water Compliance	Castle Rock Water will deliver water that meets or surpasses the requirements of both Primary Drinking Water Regulations and Secondary Maximum Contaminant Levels 100% of the time.	<b>Ninety routine samples were completed.</b> All samples were within the parameters set forth by the Safe Drinking Water Act and Colorado Drinking Water Standards.
Pressure Adequacy	< 1% of our customers will experience less than 43 pounds per square inch (psi) of pressure at the meter during normal operations.	<i>There were no water pressure issues this month.</i>
Sewer System Effectiveness	<1% of our customers will experience a sewer backup caused by the utility's sewer system per year. <i>Castle Rock Water remains in the</i> <i>Top Quartile for least number of</i> <i>sewer backups based on the</i> <i>American Water Works</i> <i>Association benchmarking.</i>	<i>There were no sewer system issues this month.</i>
Drinking Water Supply Outages	<5% of our customers will experience water outages for one or more events totaling more than 30 hours/year. <i>Castle Rock Water remains in the</i> <i>Top Quartile for water system</i> <i>integrity based on the American</i> <i>Water Works Association</i> <i>benchmarking.</i>	There were no water system integrity issues in May.
Water Quality Complaints	Castle Rock Water remains in the Top Quartile for water quality complaints based on the American Water Works Association benchmarking.	There were no water quality issues in May.

## **Operations & Maintenance**

### **Locate Report**



Before you start a project, call 811. Whether you are planning to do it yourself, or hiring a professional, we will help you do it safely. The local 811 Call Center will contact Castle Rock Water and will schedule a time for us to come out to locate public water, wastewater and stormwater lines in the road and in your project area.

#### Castle Rock Water's locate requests from 811 have continued to rise, year over year. This year to date, there have been no incidences of damage to lines, as a result of incorrect locate marks.

ANNUAL UTILITY LOCATES												
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
January	577	475	617	1,190	1,289	1,162	1,199	1,334	1,442	1,472	1,612	1,803
February	521	485	538	1,034	1,093	1,383	1,334	1,378	1,233	1,404	1,443	1,358
March	660	552	818	1,437	1,343	1,306	1,625	1,851	1,514	1,560	1,626	2,253
April	838	681	1,025	1,482	1,552	1,784	1,631	1,760	1,856	1,984	2,600	2,524
May	853	863	385	1,541	1,531	1,603	1,809	2,002	1,801	2,122	2,288	2,524
June	363	844	982	1,314	1,399	1,654	2,075	1,872	1,854	1,716	1,931	
July	680	582	859	1,350	1,392	1,477	1,675	1,582	1,556	1,937	1,894	
August	301	723	1,123	1,476	1,468	1,494	1,651	2,001	1,386	1,603	2,036	
September	880	723	1,023	1,240	1,373	1,343	1,701	2,102	1,747	1,979	2,026	
October	715	688	1,155	1,501	1,376	1,314	1,579	1,792	2,064	1,839	1,913	
November	536	518	1,041	1,072	866	1,134	1,131	1,460	1,463	1,643	1,734	
December	415	405	325	1,005	1,043	1,063	1,053	1,277	1,233	1,175	1,859	

Totals 8,545 7,533 11,037 15,702 15,731 17,323 18,469 20,411 19,875 20,440 23,022 11,062

### Collections

Castle Rock Water tracks within the top quartile in the Sanitary Sewer Overflow rate, according to the American Water Works Association. Our team runs a camera through the sewer mains to look for problems. When problems are identified, they are cleared with a high pressure water jet. The goal is to clean and inspect one-fifth of the collection system or 55 miles each year.

### YTD

Lines Cleaned Lines Inspected SSO Rate 30.66 miles 13.43 miles 0.0 SSO/100 mi

May: No sanitary sewer issues.

## Operations

The Distribution team has targeted six hydrants for updates this year for the 2021 Hydrant Replacement program.

> Jonny Cornwell, Ryan Livingston, and Ken Ritchie working on a fire hydrant replacement.

