

Broadband Update

The City of Fountain continues its search for a broadband utility partner who will provide ubiquitous, cost-competitive, reliable, high-capacity gigabit broadband service throughout Fountain's electric utility service territory (Fountain, and portions of Security & Widefield). The ideal partner will also offer a low-cost internet option to qualifying customers.

Negotiations are underway and a new partner will be proposed for City Council's consideration later this year. The goals of the initiative are intended to be met within two years of securing a partner. For more information, visit fountaincolorado.org/broadband.



Emergencies happen to everyone.

We can help Lighten the Load.

Lighten the Load provides utilities payment assistance to individuals and families throughout our community who are experiencing a financial emergency, regardless of income.

As your hometown utility, it is our privilege to continue serving you with reliable and safe service. We understand the challenges many in our community face due to COVID-19, and we are here to help. If you would like assistance, contact one of our partner agencies (below) to schedule an appointment. To learn how you can help your neighbors in need, visit fountainutilities.org.

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY



501 East Iowa Avenue
Fountain, CO 80817
(719) 382-8515
reachpikespeak.org



DOING THE MOST GOOD™

208 Cunningham Drive
Colorado Springs, CO 80911
(719) 382-1182
fountainvalley.salvationarmy.org



Curtis Mitchell, P.E.

Fountain Utilities

Your Hometown Utility

FountainUtilities.org | 719-322-2010



Electricity Costs Going Down

Bringing Fountain Closer to Carbon Emissions Goal

Fountain Utilities customers will soon experience a reduction in electricity costs as the result of a new wholesale power supply contract spearheaded by newly retired Utilities Director, Curtis Mitchell. With goals of maintaining reliable service, reducing carbon emissions, and ensuring rate stability for the community, Mitchell established a partnership with Guzman Energy, a Denver-based wholesale power provider that focuses on sustainable, community-centric energy solutions.

The partnership will enable the development of over 36,000 megawatt hours of renewable energy generation in the community, bringing Fountain closer to its carbon emissions reduction goal. The most valuable part of the partnership is the long-term rate stability promised, with reductions in wholesale power starting in July 2020 and extending through year 2039.

"This unique partnership brings cost savings and sustainable resources to our community, and demonstrates what can be accomplished when two innovative and willing partners roll up their sleeves for the betterment of the community," said Curtis Mitchell. Customers will experience a four-percent (4%) reduction in wholesale electricity costs starting this August, which is reflected on the bill as an energy cost adjustment.

A Fond Farewell

After a successful decades-long career in the utilities industry, City of Fountain Utilities Director, Curtis Mitchell, P.E., retired last month.

Mr. Mitchell's collaborative nature, calm spirit, and extensive knowledge bonded communities across Colorado and forged triumphs out of challenges. It is with gratitude and admiration that we congratulate our dear friend and mentor as he closes this chapter of his life and begins another. Please join us in extending our appreciation for his dedication to our community.

UtiliNews

JUNE 2020

Curtis Mitchell Retires
COVID-19 & Customer Safety
811 - Call Before You Dig
Payment Assistance





Dan Blankenship

Colorado Native Focused on Quality of Life

Please join us by extending a warm welcome to our new Utilities Director, Mr. Dan Blankenship, P.E. Dan grew up in Canon City, Colorado, and graduated with a civil engineering degree from Colorado State University.

Dan's unwavering commitment to public service is deep-seated in his values and experiences. After college graduation, Dan spent several years travelling throughout Colorado building on his professional achievements in the public and private sectors. In the early 2000's, Dan left Colorado with his family to accept the Public Works and Development Services Director position with the City of Stillwater, Oklahoma.

He devoted over a decade of his career serving as the Director of the Stillwater Utilities Authority, and later, Deputy City Manager. He oversaw the construction of the Stillwater Energy Center from conception to completion - a \$70 million state-of-the-art power plant which enables continued growth of renewable energy generation resources in the electric supply market. And to improve the quality of service and reliability for residents, he initiated and directed "Water 2040," a massive \$90 million water distribution improvement plan.

Dan's aspirations are rooted in improving the quality of life for those that call Fountain home, and inspiring those around him with his energy and optimistic nature. He is honored to serve the Fountain community and is committed to continuing to build a legacy of high quality, efficient, cost effective, and reliable utility services that meet the community's needs and expectations.



Stay Safe - Call 811 Before Digging!

If you're digging into DIY projects around the house, dial 811 beforehand. Utility services that you and your neighbors depend on, such as electricity, internet, cable, water, sewer and other utility services, are buried underground throughout our community. Don't be the one who knocks out your neighborhood's internet and TV while we're all at home! No matter the type of digging project - planting a tree, installing a fence, building a deck or starting a new garden - be sure to call 811 first!

When dialing 811, homeowners and contractors are connected to a nationwide hotline which notifies local utilities of your intent to dig. Professional utility line locators are sent to your property to mark the approximate location of underground utility lines for free.



Fire Hydrant Flushing



Valve Exercising

Ensuring Public Health and Safety

Providing our customers with reliable and safe service is our top priority. In addition to providing safe drinking water, our water utility maintains critical infrastructure to ensure proper emergency response.

Fire hydrant flushing is an annual maintenance program which helps to ensure fire hydrants are in proper working order for emergency response. Some hydrants throughout our community are not used for years. As a result, caps may harden over time and prevent firefighters from accessing the water supply to respond to fires.

Water main valves throughout our distribution system must be exercised for similar reasons. During emergencies, utility personnel may need access to these valves to control water flow, so it's important that these valves are in working order. For more information about our ongoing maintenance programs, visit FountainUtilities.org.

COVID-19 UPDATE

We're taking precautions to keep our staff and customers safe, including disinfecting surfaces, maintaining social distance, and contact-less service. Visit us online for the latest information about your utilities service at FountainUtilities.org



June

WATERING SCHEDULE

FIXED
8 minutes



ROTOR
15 minutes



MANUAL
30 minutes



ROTARY
22 minutes



Maintain a Healthy Lawn

Cycle + Soak to Strengthen Roots

Our lawns grow thirsty in Colorado's dry climate. Every month from May to September, we recommend watering schedules to promote a healthy and drought-tolerant lawn. During the month of June, lawn health can be maintained by watering two (2) days a week between the overnight hours of 6:00pm and 10:00am to reduce moisture loss caused by evaporation.

Each segment of your landscape (a "zone") has different watering needs based on plant material. Determine your sprinkler head type and water each zone for the number of minutes listed. This should be done three times a day, allowing the water to soak in for at least one hour between cycles.