

Maintenance of Stonegate Open Space and Public Landscapes

The Stonegate Village Metropolitan District oversees and maintains approximately 150 acres of parks, public landscape areas and open spaces. As part of the operational maintenance of these areas, the District has a complex irrigation system of underground 35 miles of pipelines, over 13,000 sprinkler heads, over 1,300 electronic valves and numerous other components that cover and support the watering and irrigation of our turf, plants and other landscape areas.

The weather this summer went from rain and mild temperatures, too shocking and extremely high heat in mid-June and early July. Obviously, the dramatic change in temperature can stress and bring unfavorable changes to our turf, plants and surrounding areas. The District's irrigation system has a weather station located near the District's Community Center, which manages watering operations with preset requirements, as well as actively monitoring outside temperatures, wind speeds, relative humidity levels, and rainfall precipitation from a weather station located near the District's Community Center. During normal operations with extreme high temperatures, the irrigation system can adjust and provide the necessary watering coverage for our District's turf and landscape areas. Unfortunately, in late May our irrigation system computer malfunctioned with intermittent problems and subsequently failed. Fortunately, our District Manager and landscaping contractor identified the problems early and started replacing the computer parts and software immediately. The irrigation system is manufactured and supplied by Rain Bird, a large and sophisticated computer management platform with software that manages zones and areas throughout the District. This computer is not unlike the zone system used at your residential home, but a hundred times larger and a little more complicated. The troubleshooting process for this large system took several weeks to go through and properly identify the many needed components for repair or replacement. Additionally, resetting timing for zones, verifying system water pressure, and valve and sprinkler head issues took some additional time for the corrective action. Unfortunately, some of our Bluegrass and turf areas began to go dormant from lack of water and caused some of the large brown areas you see throughout the District.

The good news is the problem was identified early enough, the computer system has been upgraded, and the District has resumed normal watering operations of its turf and landscape areas. Also, the District is taking additional steps with sustainable and environmentally friendly fertilizers and turf growth technologies to help expedite and speed up the situation. However, residents should keep in mind that current irrigation water flow capacities for our District are at their limits, and not all areas are watered each day. Therefore, it will take additional time for some areas to recover. As part of the District's ongoing commitment to improve and maintain its parks, public landscape areas and open spaces, the District will continue to proactively monitor and service its irrigation system and ground maintenance programs.

The Stonegate Village Metropolitan District is an independent entity, a separate organization from the Stonegate Homeowners Association. The District's Board of Directors and its management company, Community Resources Services, oversees the care, operations and maintenance of four important services for its residents and commercial businesses, which include recreational facilities, open space and public landscapes, water and wastewater resources, and drainage-way maintenance. For more information on Stonegate Village Metropolitan District, and on the many other District projects and programs supporting the community, please visit the District website at www.svmd.org. Any questions or inquiries please contact Community Resource Services of Colorado (CRS) by mail at 7995 E. Prentice Avenue, Suite 103E, Greenwood Village, CO 80111-2710, or by telephone 303-858-9909.