

# DONALA WATER & SANITATION DISTRICT

(719) 488-3603

[www.donalawater.org](http://www.donalawater.org)

SEPTEMBER 2018

## WE NEED SOME HELP

Each year the District is required to conduct tests to determine the level of copper and lead in the homes within the District. We have a specific number of tests that we are required to conduct, and the District is losing access to homes that we have traditionally tested. We are in need of between 8 and 10 homes that could volunteer to act as testing sites. The homes need to be built before 1988. As you can imagine, this creates a challenge as a majority of the homes in the District were built after 1988. Homes built after 1988, tend to have less copper pipe and "no lead" fixtures or solder, used in the plumbing. The purpose of these tests is to determine if the water provided to our customers is reacting with the plumbing in the older homes in the District. We test once a year and prefer to test the water in the home, first thing in the morning. We would drop off the test bottles the night before and pick up the filled bottles the next morning. You would need to fill the test bottles before you run any water in the home. This provides for the greatest contact time for water in your pipes. If you are interested in volunteering to participate, please contact our office staff and speak with Mark Parker, or any of our front office staff.

## LATE SUMMER WATER REQUIREMENTS

Existing landscapes have gotten by with three days of water per week all summer and watering more often than three days a week, during September, will not contribute to plant health. Even though early fall has some of the hottest days of the year, the days are becoming shorter, so landscape water requirements are less than in June, July and August. Remember that less frequent watering results in more drought tolerant root systems, so please continue to irrigate on a three day per week basis this fall. Resist the temptation to water whenever just because the restrictions are lifted on the first of September and help to continue our conservation efforts.

Your invitation to the next class in our Sustainable Landscape Series as our guest

### **It's Landscape Transition Time!**

*...make the most of it!*

Join us for an evening, as we coach you how to transition your landscape from fall through winter. We'll cover winter care of your landscape and irrigation system, guarding against fire blight and southwest tree injury, general pruning techniques and adding winter interest outside your home; we'll even touch on growing a few things inside your home while awaiting spring's arrival!

**Reservations Are Required By September 19, 2018** (See Instructions on Reverse Side)

*Attendees will have a chance to win a free 1-hour home landscape or irrigation consultation!*

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## IT'S CONSTRUCTION SEASON, WHAT COULD GO WRONG?

Over the last two editions of this newsletter, we've provided updates on the capital projects the District is undertaking this summer. We have three projects in various stages of completion. The Gleneagle Drive water main replacement is currently underway, as is the water line installation between the Jessie pump station and the R. Hull Water Treatment Facility. The last project consisted of replacing aging water taps in the Desert Inn Way area. Additionally, there are several utility installations being installed by a private contractor in the Huntington Beach and Mission Hills area. These projects are in areas of the District that have the Asbestos-Concrete water lines that were installed in the mid to late 70's. While we may have plans for the location of the water and sewer lines, these old mains do not have tracer wire on them, making it difficult to locate them until they are actually exposed. Difficulty in locating the lines, coupled with several equipment breakdowns with the contractor's equipment have made for a more than challenging construction season. The District staff, working with our engineers, are inspecting all of the projects to ensure that installation is being done to our specifications. We experienced multiple strikes of both service lines, and our mains, by a private contractor. While it is their responsibility to repair what they have broken, on several occasions District staff commandeered the job site to effect repairs in a timely manner, simply to reduce the amount of time the water was shut off to the customer(s). We understand your frustration when situations like this occur and please believe us when we state that we are just as concerned when a project is not on schedule, or when the unexpected occurs.

Your General Manager,



### It's Landscape Transition Time!

Fill out the form below and mail, email or return it to us in person...

— OR —

Reserve your seat using the online link above **no later than September 19, 2018**

Donala Water & Sanitation District Offices  
 Wednesday September 26th at 6:00—8:00pm  
 15850 Holbein Drive, CO 80921

719-488-3603 / [billing@donalawater.com](mailto:billing@donalawater.com)

Online Registration: <https://tinyurl.com/ybs36zy8>

Name		Address		Guest Name (if applicable)
Phone		Email		

