



**Water, water, every where,
Nor any drop to drink.**

from
The Rime of the Ancient Mariner
by
Samuel Taylor Coleridge

While we don't have this problem in Will-O-Wisp, we have recently been asked some questions regarding water usage, and would like to take this opportunity to answer and clarify our water usage and restrictions.

Background: As you may know WOW is under strict water usage and guidelines as decreed to us by Water Court in the early 80's. We are required to return 95% of the water we get from our wells back into the system. We do this by processing the waste water through our treatment plant and return it to the stream. We measure the water removed and returned monthly and report the gallon usage / returned to the State Water Commissioner. If we deviate from these restrictions, we are required to purchase water to makeup the difference. This results in additional costs borne by your District, which may increase your monthly bill. If we are repeated violators, we could loose our water rights.

Recent Questions and Answers:

Q1. Can I water my lawn, garden, wash my car, etc?

A1. No, outside water usage is Not Allowed as per our Covenants and Water Court. this water will not get returned back through our system.

Q2. Am I allowed to collect rain water and use it?

A2. No, this is a Colorado Law, not a WOW issue. Colorado water law decrees rights to a share of almost every drop of river water. Rainfall is part of that equation. If it is captured and used, the law requires the same volume must be put back in the river for downstream users. The Colorado legislature would have to rewrite the laws, carve out exceptions for collected rainwater or create credits that compensate those with purchased water rights. As a Metro District, we can't allow or endorse the collection of rain water.



Q3. Can I purchase water from another source, i.e. Bailey Water, The Water Man, etc. store it and use that water to water my garden, wash my car, etc.

A3. Yes, however we have some very specific procedures that must be conformed to.

1. Any storage tank Must be Approved by the ACC to conform to WOW's Covenants. An application must be submitted and approved, that specifies the size, type and location of the storage tank, along with the planned usage, quantity, frequency of use, purchase, etc. This may include required screening of the tank, or building a structure to keep it out of the view of your neighbors.
2. Upon approval, the District will issue a Special Use Water Permit, that Must be displayed so it is visible from the outside.
3. You Must also maintain detailed receipts of each water purchase including date and quantity, which will be reviewed and verified by the WOW District to ensure that only purchased water is being used outside.

Any violations or abuse of our water will result in additional fees assessed to the homeowner.

Remember Colorado is a semi-arid state, and our water is a precious resource that must be conserved.

As always, if you have any questions, you can call us at the number below, or email us at willowispboard@yahoo.com. For additional information, visit our web site at www.will-o-wisp.net for our Covenants, ACC Applications, Rules and Regulations, latest newsletter, etc. You are also invited to attend your District Board meetings held the second Thursday of the month. The meeting starts at 6:30 pm in the Board meeting room above the plant at the end of Wisp Creek, (just past your skating and fishing pond).

Thank you for your cooperation,

Your Will-O-Wisp Board

Rick Angelica
John Gerritsen
John Howell
Lynn Louvar
Marty Prater