



## City of Coeur d'Alene Municipal Milestones Newsletter

Issue 21/February 2016

### IN THE NEWS

#### “Cleanup CDA” Begins February 10th

Mayor Widmyer and the Coeur d’Alene City Council have declared February 10th through February 17th as “Cleanup CDA.” The City of Coeur d’Alene, Avista Utilities, and Cannon Hill Industries are partnering to assist citizens in their efforts to clear up the effects of the damaging wind, ice and snowstorms of 2015.



Large wood bins will be strategically placed around town to help citizens remove wood debris from their yards at NO COST. The bins will be located at:

- Abbey Road off Nez Perce
- Phippeny Park Parking Lot off 7th & Montana
- Hazel Avenue off 15th Street (Snow Storage Site)
- Walnut Avenue 200’ West of 7th Street (Old Armory)
- Shaddock Park East of 15th Street
- North Pines Park off Lunceford
- Sunset Park off Best Avenue

For updates or assistance, please call the Street Maintenance Information line, 769-2233.

#### CDA Celebrates “Let’s Move!” Gold Medal Status

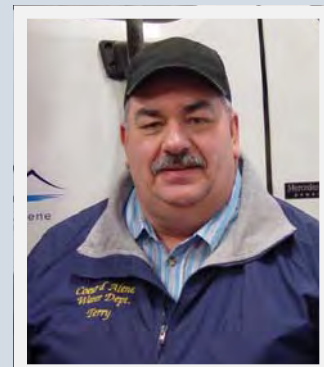
*Let’s Move!* CDA recently succeeded in earning gold medal status in all five of the *Let’s Move!* Goals, becoming one of 61 U.S. cities to be awarded the top ranking. The goals focus on early childcare health education, public displays of nutrition suggestions, serving nutritious meals in schools and city venues, and promotion of physical activities. *Let’s Move!* is a comprehensive initiative for the purpose of combating our country’s obesity epidemic. The campaign focuses on long-term, sustainable approaches to incorporate healthy eating and physical activity in communities.



### Newsletter Archives



### CITY FACES



#### **Terry Pickel: Clean, Tasty & Healthy Water is His Business**

Terry Pickel, the City’s new Water Superintendent, is no stranger to the business of providing clean, tasty and healthy water to municipalities. Pickel, an Inland Empire native, began his career as an operator for public water systems for the City of Cheney in 1981 and joined the City of Coeur d’Alene in the Fall of 2005 as an Assistant Water Superintendent. Municipal Milestones recently caught up with Terry to learn more about his new role with the City.

**Tell us a little bit about your professional**

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## CdA Appoints New Parks & Recreation Director

Bill Greenwood, Parks Superintendent, has been named Coeur d'Alene's next Parks & Recreation Director. He assumed the position on January 25th. Greenwood moved to the Inland Northwest in 1997 and began his career with the City of Coeur d'Alene Parks Department in the spring of 1999 as a Park Lead Worker in charge of the waterfront corridor. In November of 1999, he was promoted to Parks Superintendent overseeing all parks & operations. Greenwood also served as Interim Parks Director in 2013 bringing the newly revitalized McEuen Park online.



Coeur d'Alene City Administrator, Jim Hammond, noted, "We are pleased to find an internal candidate with the skills and enthusiasm necessary to lead our Parks & Recreation Department."

## CdA Water Quality

With all of the disturbing information in the news recently about water quality problems in Flint, Michigan, the City of Coeur d'Alene wants to assure our citizens that water quality is not an issue here.



All of our drinking water sources are from ground water wells located in the Spokane Valley/Rathdrum Prairie aquifer. The aquifer is a very pristine water source and requires very little treatment to meet strict drinking water standards under US Environmental Protection Agency and State of Idaho drinking water regulations. The City of CdA Water Department

performs routine Lead and Copper sampling as required by the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality. To date, the City has never had a violation of the maximum contaminant level regulations for Lead and Copper, an indicator of potential corrosion problems. The Water Department also performs routine tests for numerous other regulated contaminants as well as monthly bacteria samples, and publishes an annual Consumer Confidence Report detailing water quality testing information, which is available on the City's website.

## Writers Competition 2016 Begins

Entry forms for the 28th annual Writers Competition at the Coeur d'Alene Public Library are now available. The Writers Competition is for fiction and nonfiction prose. Entry forms, rules and a guide to creating an entry are available by

**background:** I have over 34 years of experience in public water system operations and maintenance. Prior to that I was building custom homes right out of high school in the Cheney and Spokane area. I then became an equipment operator for a local excavation company installing water and sewer infrastructure. It was a natural leap to take a job with the local water utility. I joined the City of Cheney in October of 1981, and moved up from a Utility Worker I to Water Supervisor. While a Utility Worker, I also worked in wastewater collection and treatment, street department maintenance (including 24 winters plowing snow) and also fleet maintenance. I was the Water Supervisor for 10 years before joining the Coeur d'Alene "family." I am currently a licensed water system operator in both Idaho and Washington and achieved a Class IV certification for Idaho 2 years ago, an accomplishment that I am very proud of. I am also a member of several local organizations aimed at protecting the resources and customers in our area. Just to name a few, I am the current Chair of the Washington/Idaho/Oregon Cross Connection Control Committee, a board member of the Kootenai County Utility Council, and a Director for the AWWA Inland Empire Subsection that promotes water operator training for the eastern Washington and north Idaho regional area.

**Tell us about some of the functions of the Water Department and its crew:** The water Department's main function, of course, is to provide clean, safe, reliable and abundant potable drinking water for the community. Customer service is our top priority. We take a proactive approach to water system management and maintenance—including visiting wells every day to make sure that all is functioning properly, monthly meter reading to detect any potential water leaks that could

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visiting the Coeur d'Alene Public Library or the Lake City Public Library. Entry forms can also be downloaded from the library website: <http://www.cdalibrary.org>. The deadline for entries is March 31.

## Firefighter Healthy Recipe Cookbooks for Kids and Calendars

Designed and created by twelve Coeur d'Alene firefighters, and inspired by the *Let's Move!* initiative adopted by the City of Coeur d'Alene, along with support from the University of Idaho Extension's Eat Smart Idaho Program and the District 271 nutrition program, the healthy snack cookbook will be distributed to every class and every student in the elementary schools in District 271. The Fire Department also created a calendar that is for sale that contains the same information as the snack cookbooks. The calendars are being offered for \$10.00 and are available at the Fire Department headquarters at 300 Foster Avenue. All proceeds from the calendars will go toward purchasing playground equipment such as basketballs, soccer balls, jump ropes, etc. for the elementary schools in District 271. Coeur d'Alene Fire Department headquarters office hours are from 8-5, Monday through Friday. Supplies are limited.



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## PD to Host Community Feedback Forum

This summer, the Coeur d'Alene Police Department will be hosting a forum soliciting community feedback in an effort to improve how the agency interacts with the public, how they respond to calls for service, and how they communicate with citizens. Their goal is to become the best law enforcement agency in the country! More Information regarding the forum will be provided soon.



## Sewer Rate Increases to Take Effect April 1

The City of Coeur d'Alene is in the middle of a series of multi-year sewer rate increases which all take effect on April 1st. The final year of the increases is 2018. These increases are a result of the new permit requirements to reduce oxygen-demanding contaminants from going into the river and help to pay for the bonds needed to finance the necessary improvements to the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The new single-family rate will increase from \$30.70 per month to \$33.10 per month.

impact customers financially, and replacing old and undersized water mains and services. Our operators are routinely trained on the latest techniques to minimize damage to streets and property. They take a great deal of pride in the water system and serving our customers. The quality of our operators makes it easy for me to manage the system.

## Any interesting facts about the city's water distribution system you would like to share?

The system is divided mainly into 2 large pressure zones. The General Zone serves most everything south of Neider Avenue and the High Zone serves everything north of Neider to nearly Prairie Avenue. There are three smaller boosted zones. The system has 10 operational wells capable of producing nearly 44 million gallons per day. Last summer we hit our highest production ever at just over 33.2 million gallons per day. We have nearly 300 miles of pipe line to maintain, a little over 3,500 fire hydrants, 7 reservoirs and approximately 17,000 services. Plans are under way to build one additional reservoir in the next couple of years and add 2 more wells by the time we reach build out of our service area.

## What about your family and interests?

I have a 24 year old daughter attending the University of Idaho for elementary teaching and a 22 year old son that is still trying to find his niche. My wife and I live on a small farm that has belonged to my family since 1939 and we enjoy the quiet country life. I enjoy woodworking and hobby farming. We also enjoy traveling in our RV around the northwest. My son and I also dabble in dirt track racing with cars and pickups.

