

MEMORANDUM

To: Ben Wade, CWCB
From: Mark Fuller
cc: Robi Darcy – Town of Basalt
Date: August 15, 2017
Subject: 50% Progress Report for Town of Basalt Irrigation Water Savings Project

The Ruedi Water and Power Authority and the Town of Basalt have partnered on a program to install water-saving shut-off devices for local residents and businesses. The program is an element in the Town's Water Efficiency Plan and is being staffed and administered by the Town's Water Department. The Town has purchased 100 'Quik-Clik' water-shut-off devices which can be retrofit to existing automated irrigation systems. Those devices are currently being installed on systems in Basalt and the surrounding area.

The Town and RWAPA have taken the following steps to publicize the program:

- Notice has been posted on various websites including RWAPA and the Town of Basalt
- Radio Public Service Announcements
- Door Hangers announcing the program have been distributed throughout the service area
- Local newspapers have been provided Press Releases describing the program (see below)
- Notice has been posted on the Basalt Community Page on Facebook (see below)

These efforts have resulted in 13 installations or planned installations as of this date. The slow response to the program is attributable to the busy summer season, a lack of urgency (i.e. plenty of natural precipitation this year and low water bills) and other Water Department issues and priorities which have reduced the time available for this program. The Town and RWAPA continue to work on publicizing the program and emphasizing that it does not require anything of the client except an expression of interest and a willingness to help facilitate installation of the devices. The slow response to the program indicates that the sponsors may want to extend the timeline associated with the original grant to allow for the development of a greater awareness of the program and a higher level of participation.

The installations that have been made so far have been trouble-free and have not caused any negative feedback or technical problems. There has not yet been an opportunity to follow up on the installed units to make sure they are operating as planned. An extension of the program timetable would provide time to market the program more aggressively in areas that may be outside the Town of Basalt's water service area and to perform follow-up analysis to determine the degree to which the devices have reduced water demand.

The following details the progress on project tasks to date:

Public Outreach Planning:	75%
Hire Program Coordinator	100%
Material Bids	100%
Order and Receive Units	100%
Purchase of Units	100%
Public Events	25%
Publicity and Advertising	50%
Sales and Installation	10%
Evaluation and Reporting	25%

Work is continuing on brainstorming and implementing new and innovative public outreach and advertising methods to promote this project.

Please contact me with any questions.

Appendix 1: Facebook Page Post

Robi Darcy

• July 26 at 10:56am

Rain Sensor Program Free through September!!

The Town of Basalt and Ruedi Water and Power Authority (RWAPA) have received a grant from the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) to purchase and install 300 rain sensors for irrigation systems. These devices are for installation on automatic sprinkling systems. When the sensor detects rain the automatic sprinkler system is temporarily suspended. Our target audience is large water users and raw water users that do not have monetary incentive to reduce water use. This program will include a water audit and will be made available free of charge to the mid-valley area. To request an audit, apply for the program, or for general questions please contact Robi Darcy at 927-9013 or email h2o@basalt.net.

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Appendix 2: Press Release

August 3, 2017

PRESS RELEASE

As part of their implementation of the Town's Water Efficiency Plan, the Town of Basalt is making rain sensors available for installation on automatic sprinkler systems at no charge. The rain sensor program is being funded by a grant from the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) and is also sponsored in part by the Ruedi Water and Power Authority.

Rain sensor devices and installation will be free through the month of August. The program will also include a water audit which will determine current water use and projected savings from the rain sensor, which shuts off the irrigation system in response to rain events. Installation only takes a few minutes and does not require any significant alteration of the sprinkler system.

These devices are for installation on automatic sprinkling systems. When the sensor detects rain, the automatic sprinkler system is temporarily shut off. The system resumes operation when the device dries out. The target audience is large water users and raw water users with automatic sprinkler systems in the Holland Hills, Basalt, Willits and Sopris Village neighborhoods. The objective of the program is to reduce water use, improve efficiency, and foster a water-wise ethic. To request an audit, apply for the program, or for general questions please contact Robi Darcy at 927-9013 or email h2o@basalt.net.

For Questions and further details, contact:

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