



TOWN OF ERIE

645 Holbrook Street
Erie, CO 80516

Town Council

Board Meeting Date: 3/26/2019

File #: 19-044, Version: 1

SUBJECT: Presentation

2019 Water Conservation Programs Update

DEPARTMENT: Public Works

PRESENTER: Todd Fessenden, Public Works Director

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Information only

SUMMARY AND BACKGROUND OF SUBJECT MATTER:

As approved in the 2019 budget, the water conservation programs for 2019 include the following:

- Slow the Flow Outdoor Irrigation Audit Program
- Garden In a Box Program
- Flush for the Future High Efficiency (HE) Toilet Program
- High Efficiency Washing Machine Rebate Program
- Smart Irrigation Controller Rebate Program

Beginning in 2004, the Town of Erie partnered with the Resource Central to provide outdoor inspections for commercial and residential irrigation systems. The outdoor irrigation inspections are designed to pinpoint inefficiencies in an irrigation system which contribute to water waste, unnecessary runoff, and increased run-time and maintenance costs. This program is valuable in studying the irrigation water use in the town and provides a service to town residents. The program also meets conservation goals set by Northern Colorado Water Conservation District for the Windy Gap Project, Northern Integrated Supply Project, and the Town of Erie's Water Conservation Plan.

In 2012, the Town added the Garden In a Box Program and with great success, continued in 2017 and 2018. Garden in a Box is one of Resource Central's most popular programs. Each year, they offer an array of do-it-yourself Xeric garden kits, created by professional landscape designers for sun, shade, and everything in between. These plant-by-number gardens can have a significant conservation impact, especially when used to replace turf.

Last year beginning in mid-September, we participated in the Flush for the Future, low flow toilet program, offering 20 toilets to Erie Residents at a discounted price. We were sold out of toilets by October 30th, demonstrating this program as exceedingly successful. Water use through toilets is the number one indoor water demand. The Town will be offering another 20 discounted toilets to Erie residents this year.

We will continue offering a \$50 rebate on qualified Energy Star Certified HE Washing Machines as well as a rebate of up to \$200 on qualifying EPA WaterSense Smart Irrigation Controllers. There will be 50 rebates

available for both programs.

All programs continue to show strong participation from our Town of Erie water customers and we are looking forward to another successful year of saving water!

ATTACHMENTS:

- a) Resource Central 2018 Annual Report