

# OUR NATURAL

# environment

## WATER: A PRECIOUS RESOURCE

Water plays an integral role in all aspects of life as it is broadly felt by all who see, touch and taste it. Second to the air we breathe, water is the basis for the survival of humans, animals, nature, the environment, and the economics of our community and the world.

### THE MANY FACES OF WATER IN THE VILLAGE

Greenwood Village has many beautiful sights of water that abound throughout the community. From ponds and streams to gulches and waterfalls, amazing reflections can be seen and heard from the many faces of water in the Village.

#### Natural Drainageways

The natural environment of open space includes several drainageways that carry surface water. The drainageways in the Village also have wet and dry ponds located within them which provide flood control and water quality treatment. These waterways are not only some of the richest areas in the community for wildlife to live and explore, but also some of the most beautiful and pristine waterways in the region. Waterways also provide a survival mechanism for cattails and many other native plants.

#### Art Features

Water in the Village is also displayed through art features that serve as a source for inspiration and as landmarks to commercial and residential settings. These monuments, which use water as a major sculptural element, captivate



*Greenwood Village has some of the most pristine waterways in the region.*

visitors making a visit to the Village a memorable and lasting experience.

#### Attractions And Destinations

The colorful water fountain at the Plaza of Village Center Station serves as a masterpiece for the Village, and a gateway to a new and vibrant Greenwood Village downtown experience. Because of their pleasing, visual and auditory effects, decorative water fountains play an economic role in the attraction of people and businesses to the community.

#### Recycling And Conservation

Water from several ponds in the Village is reused for the irrigation of landscaping in medians and parks. The Village's actions, in collaboration with the business community, have contributed to thousands of gallons of water not being wasted every year.

#### Recreational Opportunities

Water in the Village provides many recreational opportunities for people. The water feature at Westlands Park enjoys immense popularity in the summer. Every year, hundreds of children visit this favorite park amenity to splash in a fun environment. Although not officially located in the Village, Cherry Creek State Park and Reservoir is an 880 surface-acre body of water that offers an abundance of water activities for all ages. Visitors can enjoy boating, fishing, jet skiing, and sail boarding.



*Water features as art are inspirational landmarks for visitors.*

### Historical Significance

The historical use of water in the Village can be traced back to the High Line Canal in 1880. This 66-mile long waterway runs from Waterton Canyon to the Rocky Mountain Arsenal in the metropolitan area. Originally built for transporting and selling water to landowners who had purchased water rights, today the High Line Canal and adjacent trail serves as a regional destination for recreationalists, wildlife watchers, and equestrians as it did in the Village's beginnings.



*Decorative water fountains play an economic role in the attraction of people and businesses to the community.*

### LEAF RECYCLING PROGRAM THROUGH NOVEMBER 15 AT VILLAGE GREENS PARK

Village residents can dispose of their leaves through the Village's Leaf Recycling Program. Residents may recycle their leaves at Village Greens Park. Leaves can be dropped off loose or in bags through November 15 in the dedicated area of the north parking lot any day of the week. This option is the most environmentally friendly and does not impact the landfill. No bags are needed and you do not have to wait until your trash day to dispose of them.

As an alternative, residents may bag their leaves and place them out with their weekly trash pickup. These bags of leaves will end up in the landfill. Do not place loose leaves in the street so that they go into the storm system or waterways.

For more information, please contact Public Works at 303-708-6100.

### CARPET CLEANING FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Holidays are around the corner with guests arriving and many people are getting their carpets cleaned. Did you know that professional carpet cleaning could potentially pollute stormwater as water used in the process contains chemicals and materials from products that could contaminate waterways? Make sure to ask the carpet cleaning company how they dispose of the carpet cleaning liquid waste. Carpet cleaning liquid waste should be either sent to the sanitary sewer in your

home or hauled to a disposal facility and not disposed of in the storm drain, street, or gutter. Also encourage your carpet cleaning company to use "green" carpet cleaning products so that it limits the business or residence from being exposed to toxic chemicals.

Be sure to filter the wash water before discharging it to the sanitary sewer since fibers and other debris in the wash water can clog pipes. The filtered material can be disposed of in the garbage, provided that the carpet was not contaminated with hazardous materials. Any carpet cleaning wash water that enters the storm drain is considered an illicit discharge and is harmful to waterways. *SN*

### NOVEMBER SEASONAL TIP

Did you know a leaky toilet can waste more than 100,000 gallons of water a year? Check your toilet for leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the tank and waiting five to 10 minutes. If the color shows up in the toilet bowl, you have a leak.