

Tri-Lakes Facility Joint Use Committee, June 9

# Final draft of 2014 audit approved

By Jim Kendrick  
On June 9, the Tri-Lakes Wastewater Treatment Facility Joint Use Coordinating Committee (JUC) unanimously

**Russell Herndon, PGA**  
Director of Instruction  
Monument Hill Country Club





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1756 Lake Woodmoor Dr, Monument, CO

approved the final draft of the 2014 audit presented by auditor John Cutler. He noted that the facility was slightly over budget but had collected enough cash from the owner districts and state grants to preserve a \$24,000 cash balance at the end of 2014. Cutler said the final report will be submitted to the state and the three owner districts for inclusion in their individual 2014 audits.

Facility Manager Bill Burks gave an overview of the excavation by Aslan Construction at the south end of the property for the new chemical total phosphorus removal clarifier and the problems being created unexpectedly by excess groundwater from the heavy recent rains.

## Plant manager's report

Burks reported that the plant's April discharge monitoring report was the last report under the facility's now-expired discharge permit. The new discharge permit limits took effect on May 1. The plant was in complete compliance with both sets of permit limits, despite the high in uent ow rates caused by record rainfall. Burks noted that the following discharge limits would be dropped starting in May: manganese, zinc, copper, hydrogen sulfide, and sulfate.

However, Burks said copper results would remain a high interest item for the Tri-Lakes staff in the broad array of samples taken monthly for the Arkansas and Fountain Coalition for Rural/Urban River Evaluation (AF CURE) Monument/Fountain Creek basin baseline characterization study to ensure that no discharge permit limits are re-imposed on Tri-Lakes by the state and/or EPA in the future. If there is a high copper reading, several more copper tests will be taken that month to show whether the high reading was an anomaly.

**Note:** Such occasional high readings in the past have been caused by illegal use of copper sulfate to kill tree roots in private wastewater service lines. However, use of copper sulfate only kills tree roots momentarily, not permanently, and exposes all wastewater district residents to heavy fines from the state and EPA, as well as substantial additional costs to "prove" that the high reading was not a chronic recurring violation, but rather a thoughtless act by a property owner. For more information, see: <http://ocn.me/v13n7.htm#juc>.

Burks reported that the April total phosphorus in uent testing results for ow in millions of gallons per day (MGD), loading (ppd), and percent of loading were:

- Monument – 0.179 MGD, 23.9 ppd, 37 percent
- Palmer Lake – 0.238 MGD, 8.7 ppd, 14 percent



**Above:** Aslan Construction Co. has broken ground for construction of the new total phosphorus chemical removal tertiary clarifier expansion underway at the Tri-Lakes Wastewater Treatment Facility at the south end of Mitchell Avenue on the west side of the Monument railroad tracks, near Mount Herman. It is being built in a vacant field at the south end of the facility just east of the ultraviolet light disinfection building shown in the left rear of this photo. On June 19, framing for the base of the two parallel clarifier basins and the reinforcing rebar for the oor and walls of the two basins had just been completed at 4 p.m. The overall project cost was first estimated by the facility's engineering firm, Tetra Tech, to cost \$1.08 million. The cost of the project being built under Aslan's low bid is now \$3.642 million. For more information on costs, see <http://ocn.me/v15n5.htm#tlfjuc0414> and <http://ocn.me/v15n6.htm#tljuc0512>. Photo by Jim Kendrick.

- Woodmoor – 0.626 MGD, 31.3 ppd, 49 percent

**Note:** The above figures do not yet include the effects of the heavy rains in May or June.

Burks reported that the facility's April Control Regulation 85 total phosphorus ef uent testing result was 3.6 mg/l and 4.75 mg/l for total nitrogen. The April Discharge Monitoring Report total inorganic nitrogen ef uent testing result was 3.3 mg/l. The April nitrogen test results for samples taken upstream at Arnold Avenue, from the Tri-Lakes ef uent discharge, and downstream at Baptist Road showed small amounts of non-point source total phosphorus and total nitrogen in Monument Creek from other



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