

Fort Collins Utilities



City Works April 2016

Our Organization



FUN FACT: Customer service reps respond to more than 113,000 calls every year.

- Appx. 420 employees
- 4 Service Units
 - Light and Power
 - Water Resources and Treatment
 - Water Engineering and Field Services (includes Stormwater)
 - Customer Connections
- 3 Departments
 - Electric Field Services
 - Safety and Security
 - Strategic Financial Planning



- Advisory boards to City Council
- Review issues and provide recommendations
- Water Board has quasi-judicial functions
- Citizen volunteers appointed by City Council







Water Utility

- Established in 1882
- Maintains raw water supply (2 sources)
- Maintains water distribution system
 - 544 miles of water mains
 - over 12,700 valves and 3,660 fire hydrants
 - importance of hydrant flushing (currently underway)
- Manages proactive leak
 detection program





Water Treatment





- First waterworks (1882)
- Poudre Canyon plant (1904-1987)
- Constructed Soldier Canyon Water Treatment Facility (1969)
 - functioning to present day
- Ongoing testing at WQL
- Treatment capacity 87 million gallons/day
 - 7.9 billion gallons in 2014



 Provides long-range planning for the City's water supply

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 Outlines demand management and efficiency measures—guidance for water conservation planning





Wastewater Utility



FUN FACT: Average of less than five mainline blockages per year – that's in the top 1% in the nation!

- Installed first sewer lines (1888)
- Constructed first treatment plant (1948 still operates today)
- Maintains wastewater collection system - 445 miles of sewer lines
 - Treats wastewater to meet/exceed federal and state standards before returning to the environment



Wastewater Treatment

- Mulberry Water Reclamation Facility (1948)
 - \$25 million update in 2012
 - 6 million gallons/day
- Drake Water Reclamation Facility (1968)
 23 million gallons/day
- Pollution Control Laboratory
 - tests water before it leaves the plant





Biosolids Application



FUN FACT: Meadow Springs Ranch and Soapstone Prairie Natural Area comprise the first municipal land ever used for the introduction of black footed ferrets, Sept. 2014

- Biosolids a nutrient-rich, organic material from the treatment process
- Meadow Springs Ranch (1990)
 - 26,500 acres, 26 miles north of FC
 - recycle all biosolids produced
 - by the wastewater treatment process

Electric Utility



- Electric Utility (1935)
- Operated Power Plant on North College Ave. (1936-1973)
- Formed Platte River Power Authority (1973 - Fort Collins, Loveland, Longmont, Estes Park)
- Rawhide Power Plant (1984)



Undergrounding Project

- Between 1986-2006, overhead electric lines converted to underground
- Appx. 99.2% underground; 1,904 miles underground; 13.57 miles overhead





Before



- Serve more than 68,000 homes and businesses
- 24/7 outage response

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- Maintain 1,904 miles of high-voltage circuits
- Install and maintain streetlight system
 - 11,097 municipal streetlights
 - 663 floodlights





Energy Policy

- Addresses reliability, rates and environment
- Aligns with City's Climate Action Plan and Colorado carbon reduction goals
- Sets targets for energy consumption and demand reduction
- Modifies renewable energy goals to align with state renewable energy standard



FUN FACT: In 2015, Fort Collins had 30.8% of its electricity come from "non-carbon" sources. (This includes hydro and renewable energy sources.)

Stormwater Utility



- Created in 1980
- Maintain stormwater system
 200+ miles of underground drainage pipes
- Protects people/structures from flooding
- Educates citizens and youth
- Works on drainage improvement projects
- Manages floodplain regulations
- Active stream rehabilitation program

Looking to the Future

21st Century Utilities

- Asset Management
- Water Supply Planning
- Electric System Modernization – AMFC
- Energy Policy
 Implementation
- Repurposing Stormwater Program



Inspiring community leadership by reducing environmental impact while benefiting customers, the economy and society.