



Client Benefits

- Increased water use efficiency through pricing incentives
- Equitable rates
- Revenue stream to provide for financially sustainable infrastructure replacement program

Location: Carbondale, CO

Year: 2006

Construction Dollar Value: N/A

Owner: Roaring Fork Water & Sanitation District (RFWSD)

Contact: Joey Fetzko, District Administrator, 970.945-2144

Key SGM Staff: Louis Meyer, PE; Chris Lehrman, PE

SGM assisted the RFWSD staff and board to develop a water rate and fee schedule tailored to its needs. A key goal was to implement a conservation-oriented structure to help curb the very high per capita summer demands observed in prior years. SGM recommended an inclining block rate structure. Pricing was established so that efficient water users would see a drop in their monthly bills, average consumers no change, and excessive users an increase. The fee structure was geared to generate enough revenue that within 5 years, the District would be on-track with funding 100% of its annual depreciation rate to allow for a sustainable infrastructure replacement program.

Challenges

- SGM evaluated numerous rate structure models and worked closely with the RFWSD board to help the decision-makers come to a conclusion as to the appropriate pricing policy and rate design for the community