Water Quality

Department Overview

The Gallatin Local Water Quality District is a non-regulatory department of the County. Created by the County Commission in 1997, the District mission is to protect, preserve and improve the quality of groundwater and surface water within the District boundary. The District is governed by a nine-member Board of Directors consisting of representatives from Bozeman, Belgrade, Manhattan and Gallatin County. Funding comes from a \$6.60 fee on improved parcels within the District. The District also pursues grants to fund activities wherever possible in order to conduct research and monitoring projects.

Numerous activities are planned for FY2018. The District's recently expanded groundwater monitoring well network will be monitored quarterly for water-level measurements and will include water quality sampling per the District's long-term groundwater monitoring plan. A surface water monitoring network with designated monitoring stations that will broaden the scope of data collection in the District for longterm water quality trend analysis is slated for development and implementation as budgetary restrictions allow. Water quality monitoring on Camp Creek will be done in partnership with NRCS and on the East Gallatin River in partnership with the City of Bozeman. The District will continue to provide technical and programmatic support for the Gallatin Stream Teams volunteer monitoring program in partnership with the Greater Gallatin Watershed Council. Public education and outreach efforts include: development of education materials on water-related topics, participation in numerous annual education events, and collaborating with Environmental Health Services to increase homeowner awareness on well and septic care and maintenance. The "Gallatin Watershed Sourcebook: A Resident's Guide" will be updated, printed, and made available to the public. The District will seek funding to conduct the following projects: expand awareness on arsenic in groundwater in the western Gallatin Valley; investigate sources of increasing nitrate in the District for public water supplies; and conduct a hydrogeological investigation in the Bridger Range Foothills focusing on drought vulnerability and assessment. Continued efforts include maintaining the groundwater database, working with stakeholders to investigate sources of E. coli bacteria in Bozeman Creek, and serving as a host site for Well Educated test kits.

Department Goals

- Provide education related to groundwater and surface water issues to the residents, taxpayers, businesses and visitors of the local water quality district.
- Maintain and expand a groundwater monitoring well network to evaluate and document long-term trends in groundwater quality and quantity.
- Develop and maintain a surface water monitoring network to evaluate and document water quality trends over time.
- Advocate for protection and improvement of water quality within the District.
- · Collect, compile and disseminate water-resource information for benefit of citizens in the District.
- Obtain grants to assist with expanding our understanding of local water resources.

Recent Accomplishments

- Conducted quarterly water-level monitoring of 62 groundwater wells as part of the District's groundwater monitoring network.
- Conducted water quality sampling on 22 groundwater wells as part of the District's groundwater monitoring network.
- Maintained stream gages at four locations as part of the District's urban stream monitoring network.
- Conducted water quality monitoring at 19 locations on the East Gallatin River and tributaries with City of Bozeman.
- Trained 15 volunteers in water quality monitoring activities for the Gallatin Stream Teams.
- Distributed 116 private well testing kits to homeowners through the Well Educated Program.
- Received funding to begin process of developing a plan for a surface water monitoring network.

Water Quality

Department Budget

	Actual		Final		Actual		Request		Preliminary		Final	
Object of Expenditure		FY 2016	FY 2017		FY 2017		FY 2018		FY 2018		FY 2018	
Personnel	\$	194,487	\$	205,352	\$	200,333	\$	209,675	\$	213,318	\$	213,811
Operations		66,460		175,888		100,880		78,654		78,654		77,654
Debt Service		-		-		-		-		-		-
Capital Outlay		2,082		137,775		2,800		137,775		134,275		174,104
Transfers Out		-		-		-						
Total	\$	263,029	\$	519,015	\$	304,014	\$	426,104	\$	426,247	\$	465,569
Budget by Fund Group)											
General Fund	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
Special Revenue Funds		263,029		514,515		302,939		420,604		420,747		463,569
Debt Service Funds		-		-		-		-		-		-
Capital Project Funds		-		-		-		-		-		-
Enterprise Funds		-		-		-		-		-		-
Internal Service Funds		-		4,500		1,075		5,500		5,500		2,000
Trust & Agency Funds		-		-		-		-		-		-
Total	\$	263,029	\$	519,015	\$	304,014	\$	426,104	\$	426,247	\$	465,569
Funding Sources												
Tax Revenues	\$	246,054	\$	259,384	\$	250,132	\$	259,414	\$	259,570	\$	266,798
Non-Tax Revenues		87,015		62,422		73,235		16,350		16,350		17,350
Cash Reappropriated		(70,040)		197,209		(19,354)		150,340		150,327		181,421
Total	\$	263,029	\$	519,015	\$	304,014	\$	426,104	\$	426,247	\$	465,569

Department Personnel

No. of Positions	FT/PT	Title	FTE 2016	FTE 2017	FTE 2018
1	Full-Time	District Manager	1.00	1.00	1.00
1	Full-Time	Water Quality Specialist – Hydrologist	1.00	1.00	1.00
1	Full-Time	Water Quality Technician Specialist	0.50	1.00	1.00
0	Part-Time	Administrative Assistant	0.50	0.00	0.00
3		Total Program	3.00	3.00	3.00