

## April 2015 – Mayor’s Message

The subject I get asked about most frequently right now is our water situation. How is the City going to manage when it has been such a dry winter? In contrast, in the spring of 2011, the biggest concern for the City was water as well, but how to manage the huge amount of runoff from that year’s snowfall. The City works hard to prepare and manage both extremes.

Overall, the Wasatch Front is about 60 percent of normal precipitation for this year, but the bright side is that the soil moisture percentages are still high. Because of the very wet fall that helped slow water demands, most of the reservoirs are enjoying a level higher than where they would normally be at this time of year. The snow pack has been low for the past two winters and that is of concern in trying to meet future demands.

Murray City is fortunate, unlike other cities in the valley that we do not rely solely on water from yearly snowfall or from reservoirs. Our water is supplied through artesian wells and springs. We actually have eight springs and 20 wells that provide water for our daily use. Although, we will not be hurt by a low snow supply from a single year, it is in the second and third years that our ground water sources begin to show signs of depletion. Low snow pack translates into smaller amounts of water available to melt and seep deep into the ground which recharges our source aquifers. The water we use has been around for centuries and through a natural water cycle, will continue to be available and used for many more years.

Murray City has several programs to help residents make changes in their homes and lives to save water. Something everyone can do that is very simple, turn off the tap while brushing your teeth, this can save 8 gallons of water per day. Another is updating to more water efficient toilets and shower heads.

Here in the City, we have great employees who work hard to provide and protect our drinking water sources and distribution systems. They are skilled professionals who are trained to conduct periodic hazard assessments and inspections to secure that the water levels are where they should be and the presence of contaminants do not pose health risks. These experts work hard to protect and maintain the water infrastructure so it can be counted on in all situations. We keep an updated master plan which includes a prioritized list of projects that will either replace or make improvements to our system.

I hope as citizens of Murray City, we will each make efforts to conserve and protect our water on a daily basis. Our water is a valuable and limited resource and we all need to be aware of how we can help to preserve it. Thank you for all you do to help make “Murray, a City without Equal.”

Sincerely,



Ted Eyre, Mayor