



BROWN AND CALDWELL

The importance of using BMPs in the Cherry Creek Reservoir Basin

1 Who is the Authority?

The Cherry Creek Basin Water Quality Authority (Authority) promotes water quality protection in the Cherry Creek Reservoir Basin for the benefit of the public for recreation, fisheries, drinking water supplies, and other beneficial uses. The Authority implements water quality plans to achieve and maintain water quality standards under the State's *Cherry Creek Reservoir Control Regulation*.

The Authority implements requirements for point sources and stormwater, including efforts such as constructing pollutant reduction facilities, promoting SmartGrowth initiatives, information and education programs within the Cherry Creek Reservoir Basin, and addressing point source and stormwater pollutant impacts through a big-picture watershed plan. In addition, one of the Authority's tasks is to serve as a referral agency that reviews land use applications for development within the Cherry Creek Reservoir Basin.

2 What is good water quality?

- Supports designated beneficial water uses, such as recreation, fisheries, drinking water supply.
- Complies with water quality standards for the Cherry Creek Reservoir Basin.
 - ✗ Instream water quality standards (e.g., nutrients, bacteria)
 - ✗ Reservoir Total Maximum Annual Load – chlorophyll a (algae)

best management
B practice = things
M we can do or build
P to maintain or
improve water quality

3 How do you maintain good water quality in the Cherry Creek Reservoir Basin?

Use BMPs to reduce pollutants from wastewater treatment plants (point sources).

Use BMPs to reduce pollutants and sediment from urban areas; manage stormwater runoff.

Construct special projects to reduce pollutants.

Education programs.



Apply regional approaches through intergovernmental agreements.

Partner with State and Federal agencies.

Maintain open space.

Preserve and restore stream corridors.

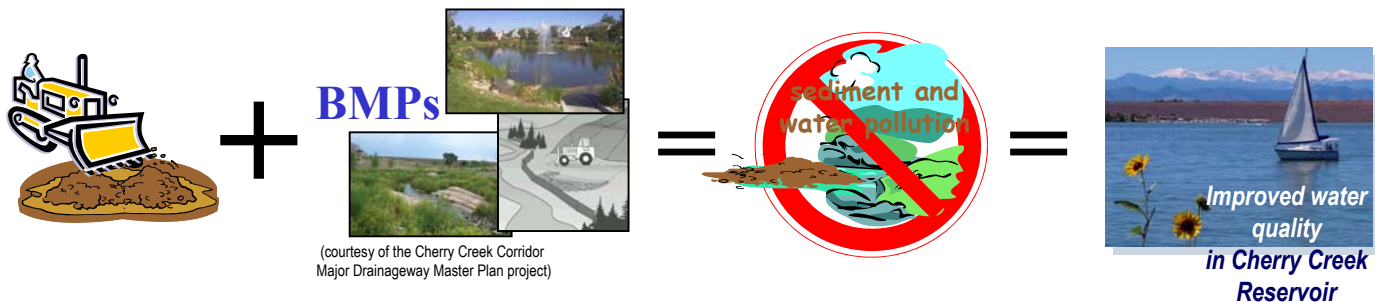
Encourage Smart Growth opportunities for minimum impact development.

4 Why support BMPs?

- BMPs promote water quality so that beneficial uses can be enjoyed.
- BMPs protect aquatic life in Cherry Creek Reservoir.
- BMPs promote good water quality and a healthy reservoir is an asset to all Colorado residents, and a source of pride to residents of the Cherry Creek Reservoir Basin.
- BMPs help meet water quality requirements and comply with the *Cherry Creek Reservoir Control Regulation*, as well as NPDES Phase II requirements.

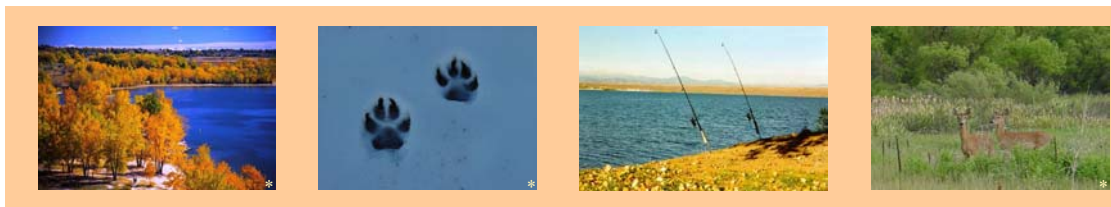
5 How do my actions affect water quality?

There are significant water quality impacts that result from poor planning, not using construction BMPs, and not using permanent BMPs.



As a commissioner or council member, you can have a positive impact on water quality in the Cherry Creek Reservoir Basin.

- Ensure that new development to utilize construction and permanent BMPs.
- Encourage water quality planning at the earliest stages of planning and development.
- Facilitate the use of SmartGrowth initiatives in new development.



*Photos courtesy of Gary Bamhart

Additional Resources

getting informed about local activities

Center for Watershed Protection
www.stormwatercenter.net/
 (getting involved on a more technical level with stormwater management)

Cherry Creek Stewardship Partners
www.cherry-creek.org/ 303-291-7437

Colorado Watershed Network
www.coloradowatershed.org/

Trust for Public Land, Legacy Grant
www.tpl.org/ 303-837-1414

Urban Drainage and Flood Control District
www.udfcd.org/ 303-455-6277

legislation

About Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL)
www.epa.gov/owow/tmdl/intro.html

Cherry Creek Control Regulation
<http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/op/regs/waterregs/100272.pdf>

Denver Regional Council of Governments
www.drcog.org/ 303-455-1000

EPA Nutrient Criteria
www.epa.gov/waterscience/standards/nutsi.html

EPA Stormwater Program, Phase 2 Resources for Colorado
<http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/wq/PermitsUnit/PhIIresource.PDF>

Water Quality Control Commission
www.cdphe.state.co.us/op/wqcc/wqccsupregs.html

This fact sheet is part of **The BMP Series**, a program developed by the Authority to provide education on BMP requirements within the Cherry Creek Reservoir Basin.
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