



Colorado Department  
of Public Health  
and Environment

*“To protect and improve  
the health and environment  
of the people of Colorado.”*

# NEWS

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For Immediate Release

Tuesday, Sept. 28, 2010

## **Water Systems in Boulder, Larimer Counties Impacted by Fires Can Apply for Grant Funding Authorized by Gov. Ritter**

DENVER – Applications now are being accepted for the \$900,000 available to help protect water supplies and systems in the fire areas of Boulder and Larimer counties.

Gov. Bill Ritter issued an executive order Sept. 16 making funds available to communities to help them protect drinking water supplies in the aftermath of the recent Fourmile Canyon and Reservoir Road wildfires. The money comes from the Water Quality Improvement Fund, which is supported by the collection of civil penalties for violations of the Water Quality Control Act.

Public water systems experiencing severe acute operational problems as a direct result of the fire should submit an application as soon as possible. The deadline for all applications is October 15, 2010.

To apply for a grant from the \$900,000 available, applicants must demonstrate the impacts caused by the fire and describe the system improvements or projects to be paid for by the requested funding. The complete application can be found at <http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/wq/WhatsNew/Firewatershedassistapp.pdf>.

These funds have been appropriated to the Fire Impacted Watershed Assistance Disaster Emergency Fund administered through the governor’s office in coordination with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment’s Water Quality Control Division.

Grant funds are available for repairing public water system infrastructure damaged or destroyed by wildfire, assisting public water systems experiencing operational difficulties due to runoff from storms in burned watersheds, and for watershed restoration and protection projects in burned areas. Boulder County, Larimer County, other local governments or state agencies and nonprofit organizations working on behalf of government entities may apply for the grant funding.

The Water Quality Control Division of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment will be responsible for reviewing and prioritizing applications, technical reviews and approvals of proposed projects (e.g., drinking water treatment design approvals, watershed restoration activities), review of requests for grant payments and on-site inspection(s) to ensure the work funded by these grants is constructed in accordance with the intent of the fund.

Gov. Ritter's office will be responsible for administering the Fire Impacted Watershed Assistance Disaster Emergency Fund. This includes managing the fund, awarding the grants and issuing payments to the grant recipients for work completed and accepted by the Water Quality Control Division.