



January & February 2010

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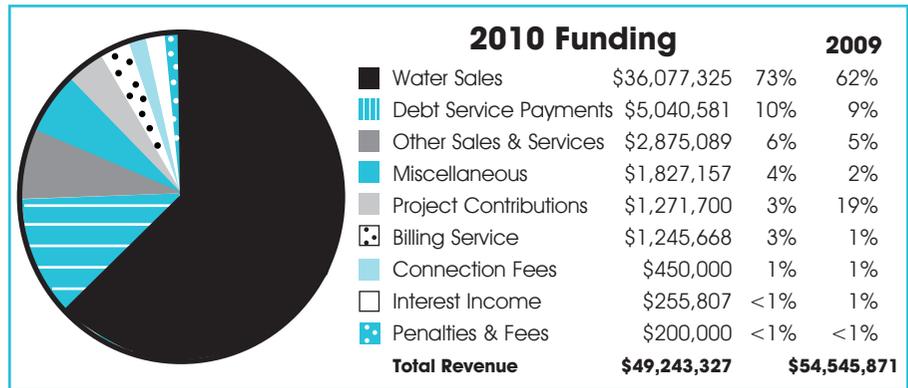
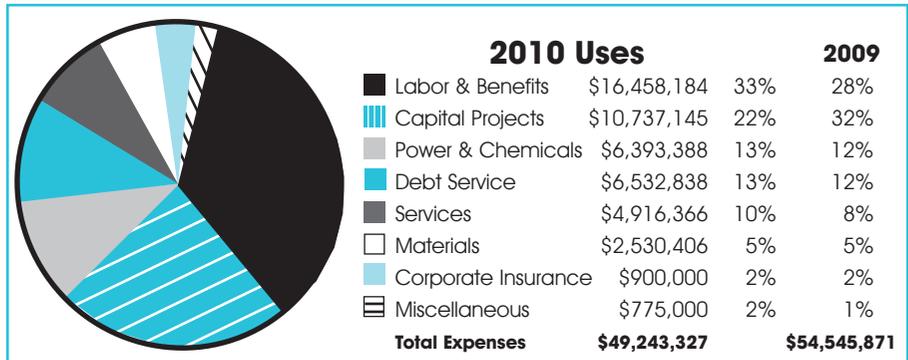
WATER YOU CAN TRUST FOR LIFE

## 2010 Water Works Budget

**D**es Moines Water Works is an independently operated, public utility committed to the mission of providing quality water and exceptional customer service. Supported solely by the revenue generated, Des Moines Water Works strives to anticipate and meet the needs of customers, while maximizing product and service offerings. Des Moines Water Works does this by setting water rates to adequately fund operation and infrastructure investments and ensuring high quality water to customers.

The 2010 budget includes water rate increases in nearly all classes of customers ranging from 5 percent to 15 percent. Residential customers in all service areas will experience no increase in their volume rate; however, the water availability rate in each service area is increasing \$2.00 per month. Water rate increases take effect beginning on your April 2010 statement.

For more information on Des Moines Water Works' 2010 budget or water rate increase, please contact a customer service representative at (515) 283-8700.



## Story Time in the Gardens



**V**isitors to the Des Moines Botanical & Environmental Center in 2010 will be welcomed with a new horticultural and educational experience as the gardens transform seven times throughout the year, all inspired by popular children's stories, including Dr. Seuss, Charlie Brown and Eric Carle books.

Throughout 2010, children and families will enjoy "Story Time in the Gardens" which will include seven plant bed changes in the Dome – many bringing the stories alive with life-like and life-size props – educational activities, theme-related gift shop items, Riverwalk Café menu choices and special events, all inspired by children's books. The theme continues into the Show House, with four unique, seasonal designs, and outside to the Herb Garden which is open May through September. Please visit the **DES MOINES BOTANICAL & ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER** throughout the year to be sure and see each new garden.

**Des Moines**  
**Water Works**  
Water You Can Trust for Life

For more information, visit [www.dmww.com](http://www.dmww.com).



## Warm Up this Winter at the Botanical Center

### Botanical Blues

**Every Sunday in January & February • 1:00-3:00 p.m.**

Join local musicians as they escape from the cold winter to the warm, tropical environment of the Botanical Center. Every Sunday in January and February, a different artist will perform in the Dome. Come down and join in on the food, fun, and entertainment! For a complete schedule of performances, visit [www.botanicalcenter.com](http://www.botanicalcenter.com).

### Story Time in the Gardens

**January 1 - February 14**

Gardens inspired by *A Charlie Brown Valentine* will include a scene from Charlie's front yard with Snoopy's dog house, front door step and a mailbox where kids can make a valentine for Charlie Brown. The front yard will be surrounded by grass and pink and orange blooming flowers. *Designed by horticulturist, Karey Alvarado*

### Toddler Time

**January 26 & February 23 • 10:00 a.m.**

Enjoy a story with a garden theme, music and movement. Accompanied by an adult caregiver, children ages 1-3 are invited to dance, sing, and play, as they enjoy the company of children their own age. This very special morning always ends with a treasure hunt in the dome. Children 1-5 are \$1.00, regular admission rates apply for other children and adults.

### Valentine's Dinner in the Tropics

**February 13 & 14 • 6:00 p.m.**

Seating is limited for this romantic dinner served in the warm, tropical setting of the Botanical Center's dome and Show House. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. and dinner is served at 7:00 p.m. Dinner is \$60.00 per person, all inclusive. Reservations required by calling (515) 323-6289, beginning January 2.

### Story Time in the Gardens

**February 15 - March 31**

The Dome will be filled with brightly colored bulbs, including tulips, daffodils, alliums, hyacinths and a variety of unusual bulbs. The garden design is inspired by *There was an Old Woman Who Lived in a Shoe* and will include a giant shoe, porch swing and children's toys. Easter lilies will be incorporated for the holiday and children can visit with the Easter Bunny and live animals including bunnies and chicks on March 20. *Designed by horticulturist, Jessica Barnett*

## Reduce First, then Recycle

A study commissioned by the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality to assess drinking water delivery systems helps bolster the principle that "reducing first, then recycling" is the best environmental path to follow.

The study concludes that drinking tap water and recycling single-use bottles are equally effective ways of keeping waste out of landfills and incinerators, but most effects on the environment from bottled water occur from manufacturing and transportation, not disposal. Recycling single-use water bottles, at best, offers only moderate reductions in environmental impacts.

If you have single-use water bottles, please recycle them. But it's better to avoid them in the first place. Just because a product can be recycled doesn't necessarily make it the best environmental choice.

If bottled water must be purchased, the study recommends using the thinnest bottles and purchasing water that is bottled locally. Impacts of driving to the store can also be large, so avoiding extra shopping trips helps, as does recycling when the single-use bottles are emptied.



## Important Winter Reminders

Precious minutes gained when fire crews can access a fire hydrant immediately during an emergency can save lives and property.

If you live close to a fire hydrant, please take a few minutes to clear any snow that has accumulated around the hydrant as you clear your driveway and sidewalk. If you notice a damaged fire hydrant or accidentally damage one, please call Des Moines Water Works at (515) 283-8700. Your call is important to fire protection and ensuring Des Moines Water Works delivers water you can trust for life.

Ice and snow present dangers to Des Moines Water Works' field service workers, so please keep your sidewalks clear. Keeping your outside meter reading equipment free of snow and ice will ensure accurate readings and billings.

**Des Moines**  
**Water Works**

Water You Can Trust for Life

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(515) 283-8700 | [www.dmww.com](http://www.dmww.com)

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