



# H<sub>2</sub>O *i*LINE

**May & June 2011**

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WATER YOU CAN TRUST FOR **LIFE**

## Carbon Footprint Reporting

**D**es Moines Water Works (DMWW) recently reported its greenhouse gas (GHGs) emissions to The Climate Registry, a nonprofit organization that is a collaboration of North American states, provinces, territories, and Native Sovereign Nations. The purpose of the organization is to set consistent and transparent standards to calculate, verify and publicly report GHG emissions. Reports for CY 2007 through 2009 can be viewed through the Climate Registry Web site: [www.theclimateregistry.org](http://www.theclimateregistry.org).

DMWW analyzed and reported its GHG emissions to gather information regarding sustainability of treatment and distribution processes, as well as contribution of GHGs to the environment. The analyses did provide a few surprises. Electrical power usage contributes over 90% of total energy use and GHG emissions. Clearly the greatest opportunity to diminish GHG emissions is to reduce electrical demand and improve energy efficiencies. Most of the electricity is used to pump large volumes of water where distance and elevation are the primary variables to energy requirements. Location of facilities as well as design is an important factor in overall efficiency. The two lime softening treatment plants (Fleur Drive and L.D. McMullen at Maffitt Reservoir) were very similar in their GHG emissions per million gallons of treated water, even though the newer McMullen facility is a more efficient design with newer and better equipment. This analysis provides a baseline to compare energy efficiencies of differing technologies, such as the all-membrane treatment process at the new Saylorville Water Treatment Plant versus lime softening at the Fleur Drive and L.D. McMullen plants.



Climate Registered™

Documenting GHG emissions according to rigorous reporting protocols provided invaluable information on power use and inefficiencies, and identified opportunities to improve energy efficiency. The process identified potential capital investments that will reduce the utility's risk to a limited energy supply, so DMWW can continue to provide a sustainable supply of water to customers in a cost effective and environmentally responsible manner.

## Water You Can Trust for Life



**L**ook for Des Moines Water Works' 2010 Consumer Confidence Report in your next month's statement. This annual water quality report summarizes the results of our water monitoring program as required by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) during 2010. Many of the analyses are required by the Safe Drinking Water Act and other regulations; however, we monitor for contaminants above and beyond the basic requirements.

For more than 20 years, water supplied by Des Moines Water Works meets and surpasses all state and federal drinking water standards. Please take time to read your annual water quality report – it is important to understand the facts about the quality of water delivered to you, your home and/or business. If you have questions regarding the report or water quality, please contact (515) 283-8700.

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

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

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## Des Moines Botanical & Environmental Center Events

### Colors Alive! 2011: "Color Palette"

**Everyday May-July • 9:00 am-5:00 pm**

In the third installment of Colors Alive! 2011, wander along a pathway of oversized flowers in a palette of colors. A color wheel of annuals, such as caladiums, zinnias, dahlias and elephant ears will delight your senses. Bold primary and secondary color schemes will be highlighted throughout the outdoor gardens. *Designed by gardeners, Jessica Barnett and Angie Buchanan.*

### Mother's Day

**May 8 • 10:00 am-5:00 pm**

Moms can enjoy free admission to the Des Moines Botanical & Environmental Center!

### Toddler Time

**May 31 & June 28 • 10:00 am**

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. No pre-registration required. Children 1-3 are \$1.00, regular admission rates apply for other children and adults.

### Coleus Sale

**June 4 • 11:00 am-4:00 pm**

The Polk County Master Gardeners will host a coleus plant sale in the Botanical Center potting shed.

### Father's Day at the Botanical Center

**June 19 • 10:00 am-5:00 pm**

Dads can enjoy free admission to the Des Moines Botanical & Environmental Center!

### Flower Power 5K Run and 1 Mile Walk

**June 25 • 8:00 am**

Sign up for Des Moines Botanical & Environmental Center's 3rd Annual Flower Power by visiting: [www.botanicalcenter.com](http://www.botanicalcenter.com) or calling (515) 323-6265.

# Celebrate Drinking Water

**T**he importance of water is too often taken for granted.

What's more essential to our lives and our health than water? Water is essential for life and is needed by everyone. It's the first ingredient in nearly every product we use, a vital element of our daily lives and it's the original source for refreshment and hydration. Let's celebrate what's essential May 2-6, during National Drinking Water Week.

Des Moines Water Works will celebrate as a major sponsor of the Iowa Children's Water Festival, an annual education field trip for fifth grade students throughout Iowa. The Festival is in its 15th year of educating children about the importance of water. The one-day celebration of water is full of classroom presentations, exhibit hall tours, large group water games and much more. Over 2,000 students from 45 schools in 35 cities will attend this year's Festival.

Additionally, Des Moines Water Works will celebrate the official start-up of its newest treatment plant, Saylorville Water Treatment Plant, located on NW 26th Street, just south of NW 66th Avenue. DMWW's third treatment plant was commissioned in response to the growing water demand in the northern portion of the Des Moines metropolitan area.

These celebrations are just a few ways Des Moines Water Works promotes the importance of drinking water in our community.



# Celebrate!

**at Des Moines Botanical & Environmental Center**

**T**he Des Moines Botanical & Environmental Center offers a unique and colorful backdrop for your child's birthday celebration with packages starting at \$200.00, including: admission to the Botanical Center for all attendees during public hours, private party room, vinyl birthday banner, option to bring in your own cake, gift for the birthday child, goodie bag for each attendee, scavenger hunt activity in the Dome, party game in private party room, party themed paper plates, napkins and forks for your cake. Contact an events coordinator today at (515) 323-6290 to book your celebration!

# Are We Friends Yet?

**B**e sure to subscribe to our blog, follow us on Twitter, "like" us on Facebook and join the conversation!

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