

Media Contact:
Allison Baker
Director of Public Works
(970) 375-4801
Allison.Baker@DurangoGov.org

949 E. 2nd Avenue
Durango, CO 81301
DurangoGov.org

Follow us:
[Twitter.com/CityofDurango](https://twitter.com/CityofDurango)
[Facebook.com/CityofDurango](https://facebook.com/CityofDurango)
[Instagram.com/CityofDurango](https://instagram.com/CityofDurango)



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, APRIL 6, 2022

NEWS RELEASE

Durango given Award of Excellence for water fluoridation practices

Durango, CO: For the eighth year in a row, the Durango Department of Public Works was recognized for water fluoridation excellence. The Water Treatment Division was given the following awards:

- Award of Excellence for Outstanding Performance in the Practice of Water Fluoridation presented by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment Oral Health Unit.
- Colorado Water Fluoridation Excellence Award for providing high quality water fluoridation for 12 consecutive months in 2020 representing a high level of operator care and accomplishment.

“The Water Treatment Division puts a premium on health, safety and quality of life as affected by consistently high-quality water production,” said Allison Baker, Durango Public Works Director. “This is the eighth year in a row that they have been recognized for their efforts.”

Community water fluoridation provides a public health benefit that can be accessed by every member of the community. Community water fluoridation is:

- Safe – at optimal levels, there is no scientifically peer-reviewed credible evidence of a link between fluoride and any adverse health effects. Over 100 reputable organizations

[MORE](#)

support community water fluoridation including the American Medical Association, American Pediatrics Association, The American Water Works Association and many more.

- Beneficial – Fluoridation prevents at least 25% of tooth decay in children and adults throughout their lifespan.
- Cost Effective – Communities that invest \$1 per person per year in optimally fluoridated water save their population approximately \$32 per person per year in averted dental costs. This equates to approximately \$1.1 million in savings to our community.

The City of Durango Utilities Department is 1 of 15 total facilities to receive both of these awards for the year 2020. These awards are typically given two years after the year of record.

###