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### **Barr-Milton Watershed Association Announces New Coordinator**

The Barr-Milton Watershed Association has named Amy Conklin, MS, principal of the firm of Amy S. Conklin, LLC, as its new coordinator. Ms. Conklin will be assisted by Susan Thornton, MS, principal of Susan Thornton Associates, LLC.

Conklin holds a bachelor's degree in biology and a masters degree in Water Resources Management. She was manager of the Chatfield Watershed Association, has been a senior scientist with several engineering firms, and served as a water quality planner with the Denver Regional Council of Governments. While elected to the Littleton City Council, she was active in water and environmental issues with the Colorado Municipal League and the National League of Cities.

The firm of Susan Thornton Associates, LLC, provides marketing, public relations, and writing services for a wide range of clients. With a master's degree in journalism, Thornton writes a column on suburban issues for The Denver Post. She will assist the Watershed Association with newsletter and website development, and public outreach.

The Barr-Milton Watershed Association incorporated as a nonprofit in 2005. Participants include representatives of cities and towns, major wastewater treatment facilities, irrigation companies, drinking water providers, agricultural users and recreational groups. The mission of the Association is to encourage collaborative efforts to improve water quality at Barr Lake and Milton Reservoir in the northeast metro area.

Six years of intensive study by the Association have resulted in a draft plan laying out the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) of phosphorous to be allowed in the two reservoirs in the future. It is believed that high phosphorous levels are linked to the overgrowth of algae and excessively high pH levels in the reservoirs. As most of the treated wastewater and storm runoff from the Denver area feeds into Barr Lake and Milton Reservoir, the new requirements for lower levels of phosphorous will have implications for taxpayers across the metro area. This watershed problem is going to take a watershed solution. The TMDL plan should be available for public viewing by July.

The team of Conklin and Thornton replaces Integral Consulting, which previously coordinated the work of the Association.

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