

## Montrose Area Local Governments and Districts

Like most places, the Montrose area is home to multiple local governments and districts which serve varying functions within the community. Some well known examples in the Montrose area include the City of Montrose, Montrose County, Montrose Fire Protection District, Montrose Recreation District and Montrose County School District. While all of these are examples of public organizations, **these entities operate independently of one another and are governed by separate groups of elected officials.** For example, Montrose County does not make decisions with regard to the programs and facilities of the Montrose Recreation District. As another example, the City of Montrose does not make decisions with regard to the Montrose Fire Protection District. As citizens, it is important to know the difference between these organizations and how they function. The following is a brief overview and description of our local public organizations and how they are managed.

**City of Montrose:** The City of Montrose is what is known as a “home rule” municipality. This means that the City is governed by a locally adopted charter and is not subject to many of the statutory provisions of the State of Colorado. Decisions for the City of Montrose are made by the City Council which is comprised of five elected members. The jurisdiction of the City of Montrose is within the incorporated boundary which is sometimes referred to as the city limits.

**Montrose County:** Montrose County is a political subdivision of the State of Colorado. As a statutory county, Montrose County is subject to the laws/requirements of the Colorado Revised Statutes. County government covers a broad range of functions and therefore has multiple elected officials (Sheriff, Clerk, Assessor, Treasurer, Coroner, Surveyor). The general functions of County government are overseen by the Board of County Commissioners which is comprised of three elected members. In general, the jurisdiction of Montrose County is the unincorporated areas (outside city limits) of the county.

**Montrose County School District:** The Montrose County School District provides kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade public education services. The school district covers a majority of the eastern portion of Montrose County. The district is governed by an elected Board of Directors comprised of seven members.

**Montrose Fire Protection District:** The Montrose Fire Protection District (MFPD) provides fire protection, emergency medical services, technical rescue, and hazardous materials response within the district as well as to surrounding areas. MFPD is governed by an elected Board of Directors that is comprised of five members.

**Montrose Recreation District:** The Montrose Recreation District (MRD) covers the eastern half of Montrose County and provides recreational facilities, programs and services. MRD facilities include the Montrose Aquatics Center, Holly Park, Ute Park and various others. MRD is governed by an elected Board of Directors comprised of seven members.