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## **Arapahoe County celebrates National Public Works Week** *Children learn about Public Works equipment at Byers Elementary School*

**Byers, Colo** – The Arapahoe County Public Works and Development Department celebrated National Public Works Week, May 18 at Byers Elementary School.

Children got the chance to sit in the driver's seat and learn about Public Works equipment, such as motor graders, John Deere mowers, a tandem with wing plow blades, a street sweeper and an Animal Control truck. Public Works and Development staff were available to answer questions and explain how each piece of equipment is used.

“It's wonderful when we are able to teach the children in our community about services the county provides,” said Rod Bockenfeld, who represents District 3, which includes eastern Arapahoe County. “National Public Works Week allows the Public Works and Development staff to show children the vital role each piece of equipment has in maintaining our roads and providing services.”

Arapahoe County's Public Works and Development Department consists of six divisions which include; Building, Engineering Services, Planning, Road and Bridge, Support Services and Transportation. Their common goal is to enhance the quality of life for all citizens and build strong, attractive and harmonious communities through well maintained roads, a solid infrastructure and enforcement of zoning, land development and animal control codes.

Instituted as a public education campaign by the American Public Works Association in 1960, National Public Works Week calls attention to the importance of public works in community life. The week seeks to enhance the prestige of the often unsung heroes of our society – the professionals who serve the public every day with quiet dedication.

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**To download photos, click on the following link:**

<http://www.co.arapahoe.co.us/Pub/CM/Photos/Public%20Works%20Week/>

Children explore a motor grader during National Public Works Week at Byers Elementary School.

Arapahoe County Animal Control Officer, Ben Gutierrez shows children the Animal Control truck and explains the role Animal Control plays in the County.