
The MainLine

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BARTONVILLE WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



2005 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERSHIP

Bartonville Water Supply Corporation held its 40th Annual Meeting on April 18, 2005 at the Crossroads Bible Church in Double Oak, Texas.

Two directors' positions were up for election, Larry Kaufman, Unincorporated Denton County, and Thomas Greaves, Town of Bartonville.

Larry Kaufman was re-elected. Thomas Greaves did not run for re-election and James McKinney from the Town of Double Oak was elected for the vacant position. Welcome James McKinney and thank you Thomas Greaves for your hard work.

Mr. John Cooper, Denton County Agricultural Extension Agent, gave a presentation on Native Oak Trees.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Michael Paulson	President
Lloyd Hanson	Vice-President
Larry Kaufman	Secretary/Treasurer
Bill Wilkinson	Director
Scott Kilpatrick	Director
Gracie Egan	Director
James McKinney	Director

INCREASE IN WHOLESALE WATER RATE BY UPPER TRINITY REGIONAL WATER DISTRICT ("UTRWD")

As many of you as members/customers may know, since 1993 Bartonville Water Supply Corporation (BWSC) has had a contract with the UTRWD for treated surface water. This water is used in combination with our ten (10) active water wells to meet the growing demand for water within our service area. Currently BWSC has a subscription for 2.5 million gallons of water a day. This in addition to the 1.5 million gallons of water BWSC can produce from its wells each day keeps us prepared to meet the heavy (peak) summer demands.

Since its beginnings, the UTRWD, as regional surface water provider for Denton County, has experienced tremendous growth. And in an effort to stay ahead of the water needs of our county, UTRWD has had to grow/expand along with these needs as customary with any utility. In addition to treatment plant and pipeline expansions, administrative and overhead, facilities operations and maintenance expense have grown proportionately.

As a result, for UTRWD's 2006 budget year that begins October 2005, the "demand" charge for every one million gallons per day (MGD) of water subscribed to will cost BWSC and all district wholesale customers \$259,000. This is up from the current \$225,000 per MGD for an annual increase of \$34,000 per each one million gallons of water per day.

Therefore, the current \$225,000 x BWSC's subscription of 2.5 million gallons per day or

\$562,500 annually will cost BWSC \$647,500 annually. This “demand” charge is incurred whether or not BWSC takes a drop of water. Gallons of water BWSC actually uses (demands) from their 2.5 MGD subscription is then charged at a rate of \$0.59 per 1,000 gallons taken during November through March and \$0.76 per 1,000 gallons taken during April through October. This is called the “volume” charge.

One might ask, why would this “demand” charge for 2.5 MGD be incurred year round and not only when that quantity or any quantity is needed, since during the winter months the need for water from the UTRWD must be greatly reduced? Good observation, however, the “demand” charge derives its name from exactly that, a “demand” or upon request. Therefore, even though BWSC/other UTRWD members may not need their entire subscription eg. the winter months, the UTRWD must have the facilities/staff in place to meet and maintain the maximum “demand” if requested, regardless of the time of year, just as though it were a peak summer month. Similarly, BWSC must have water supplies, UTRWD/wells and facilities, pipelines, and staff in place to meet the “demand” of our members/customers, even though this “demand” may be seasonal.

Therefore, as a result of this substantial rate increase in the cost of UTRWD water; BWSC anticipates the need to implement an increase in its water rates in the future. This possibility will be discussed in more detail during upcoming Board/budget sessions. The next regular meeting of the board of directors is scheduled for November 28, 2005 at 7 pm.

ATTENTION NEW HOME BUYERS

Did your new home come with a completely sodded, landscaped yard and irrigation system? If so, there is a very good chance that the on/off times for your irrigation system were set by the irrigation contractor.

Since irrigators/landscapers want to prevent new plant loss due to lack of water they typically set new irrigation systems to “over water” new landscapes believing this will help them get established. As a result, it is not uncommon to find new irrigation

systems set to operate with such frequency that they consume as much as 3,000 to 6,000 gallons of water per day/every day. Larger landscaped areas can use even greater quantities of water.

If these settings are not changed, water is wasted, the plants do not benefit, and you the new homeowner get a wake up call when your first water bill arrives.

So when you move in make it a point to contact the builder for the irrigator’s name. Set up an appointment and have them come out and show you how your system is set. In fact, have them run it through a complete cycle, taking a water meter reading before and after. Multiply this consumption by the number of times per day the system is set to operate and you can see how much water you will be using. You can call the BWSC office and we can tell you how much that number of gallons will cost.

Remember, it’s up to you. If you don’t look into the fine points of operation of your irrigation system, what could be a useful maintenance tool may turn into a water-guzzling nightmare.

TO DO!

If you haven't already, now is a great time to have your irrigation system thoroughly checked out for leaks, faulty heads, etc. Losses from these systems are not only costly but wasteful as well. Unattended hoses can also account for large water losses. Believe it our not, a 1/2" hose has a flow rate of 600 gallons per hour and a 5/8" hose has a flow rate of 1,000 gph. If left running overnight a hose could waste as much as 5,000 gallons in an 8 to 10 hour period.

CUSTOMER CUT-OFF VALVES

BWSC is urging all members to have their own cut-off valve for the service line located on their property. According to Chapter 291.86 (B) of the Texas Administrative Code, "The customer's responsibility begins at the discharge side of the meter..." This valve should be installed between your house and BWSC's meter set, preferably in a separate box. Customers should not use the Corporation's cut-off located in the Corporation's meter box as a means to turn water off. Improper

operation of Corporation property can cause expensive damage and result in a water outage for a large number of our customers. Should damage due to tampering occur to Corporation property, the customer will be invoiced for the repairs. Only BWSC personnel are authorized to operate Corporation equipment in the meter box. **Remember, such an installation is fairly inexpensive and is invaluable when needed in an emergency.**

Freezing temperatures are around the corner and we would like to remind our customers to insulate their exposed pipes and outside household hydrants or those on outbuildings. Irrigation systems can be drained to prevent damage. It is much easier to accomplish these maintenance tasks now in the sunshine than in the cold later.

WATER CONSERVATION TIPS...

IN THE KITCHEN

- Only run the dishwasher with a full load.
- Scrape your dishes clean instead of rinsing them before washing.
- Use your garbage disposal sparingly.
- Place a stopper in the sink to wash pots and pans, rather than turning on faucet each time a rinse is needed.

IN THE BATHROOM

- When brushing your teeth, turn off the faucet until it is time to rinse.
- Install low-flow showerheads.
- Take showers instead of baths; showers with low-flow showerheads often use less water than baths.
- Use a toilet tank displacement device; these devices will reduce the volume of water in the tank but still provide enough water for flushing.

IN THE LAUNDRY

- Wash only a full load when using an automatic washing machine.
- Use the lowest possible water level setting on the washing machine.
- ➤ Use cold water as often as possible.

OUTDOORS

- Water lawns early in the morning or late at night to avoid evaporation.
- Avoid watering lawns in windy weather.

- Use drip irrigation systems for bedded plants, trees, or shrubs.
- Use a broom rather than the hose to "sweep" walks and driveways.
- Use a bucket of soapy water to wash your car and save the hose for rinsing.

Source: Texas Extension, the Texas A&M University System

QUESTIONS ABOUT WATERING AND PLANTS?

If you would like to know more about which types of plants are well suited for this area, Xeriscaping and how to water wisely, contact the local Texas Cooperative Extension Agent of Denton County.

John Cooper - Master of Science
County Extension Agent
Horticulture
Denton County
Phone 940.349.2883

BWSC OFFICE PARKING LOT

Plans are now being reviewed for final approval by the Town of Bartonville for paving of BWSC's office parking lot. As a result, by the end of the year, we anticipate the start of this project. Please excuse this temporary inconvenience; however, it will be of lasting benefit to all.

PAYMENT DROP BOX

The payment drop box is now located between BWSC's office and the Bartonville Town Hall. By using the short connecting drive you can actually pull up along side it now!!

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE ARGYLE FIRE DISTRICT

The Texas Insurance Services office recently lowered the AVFD's rating from a Public Protection Class 7/9 to a Public Protection Class 4/8 B rating. This acknowledgement comes as a result of the dedicated effort put forth by all members of the AVFD in all areas of service and their commitment to provide superior coverage to the areas they service. Your efforts and services are appreciated.

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✂ ✂

Bartonville Water Supply Corporation needs to know if you have changed your phone number or address. Please take a moment to fill out the form below so we can update our files. This information really comes in handy when there is an emergency.

Name:	
Mailing Address (including City and Zip):	
Home Phone:	Work Phone:
E-Mail Address:	Emergency Phone: