

THE MAINLINE

VOLUME 16, ISSUE 2

FALL 2008

BARTONVILLE WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION NEWSLETTER

2008 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERSHIP



Bartonville Water Supply Corporation held its 43rd Annual Meeting on April 21, 2008, at the Crossroads Bible Church in Double Oak, Texas.

Two directors' positions were up for election, Larry Kaufman, Unincorporated, and David Moore, Double Oak. Both directors were re-elected by acclamation.

Mr. Kerry Maroney, P.E., Biggs & Mathews Engineers, gave a very informative presentation about Bartonville Water Supply Corporation's history to present.

In other business, President Kaufman asked for a volunteer to draw the tickets and proxies for the water prizes.

The proxies of the following members and their credits drawn were:

- * Joe Carmichael 5,000 gallons
- * James Gainer 10,000 gallons
- * Curtis Kockler 15,000 gallons
- * Nick Kochron 20,000 gallons

The tickets of the following members and their credits drawn were:

- * Kevin Alberts 5,000 gallons
- * Christian Schmitz 10,000 gallons
- * Patrick McDonald 15,000 gallons
- * Darrell Hilbun 20,000 gallons



Call Before You Dig



For your safety, call the Texas One-Call Notification Center at least two business days before digging or excavating more than 16 inches deep with machine powered equipment. They will arrange to have the utility lines marked for you.

It's **FREE**. It's **Easy**. It's the **LAW!**

BARTONVILLE WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Larry Kaufman
Vice-President	Patrick McDonald
Secretary/Treasurer	Gracie Egan
Director	Michael Paulson
Director	Bill Wilkinson
Director	David Moore
Director	Lloyd Hanson

EMPLOYEES

General Manager	Jim Leggieri
Superintendent	Robert Sillaway
Field Rep./Operator	Eric Laird
Field rep./operator	Jeremy LaBelle
Controllor	Connie Salsman
Utility Billing	Dawn Hicks
Customer Service	Becky Rankin

Bills are Due the 8th
of Every Month.

Paying the bills...

Don't you just love banking online? Just click and pay your bills? What a time saver!

Did you know that most online bill paying processes generate a check that is then sent through regular mail to the recipient? It's true that some limited agreements exist between the bank and some credit card companies that allow electronic transfer of funds, but most payments go through the regular postal service. Generally, these check-processing centers are centrally located and, often, out-of-state. When the check is written, the funds are immediately transferred from your account to the check-writing service. The service then gets the benefit of the "float" between when the funds are transferred to them and when the check is received and deposited and clears their bank. This could take several days, during which time you are blissfully unaware that your bill remains outstanding.

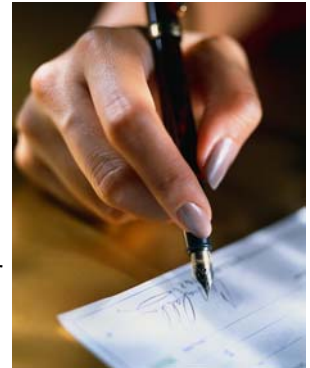
All of this is okay, until the one month when the mail is slow in delivering the mail or the processor experiences some unexpected delay. Last summer, one of the larger processors experienced delays due to hurricanes and the payments were not delivered to us until 4 days after the due date.

As you know, our policies here at BWSC are fairly clear-cut and payments are only credited when they are received. We have no way to post based on post-mark or any other method, only check/cash in hand. It can be frustrating when you've done your part and there is a delay that results in a late charge on your account. We wish there was a logical and equitable way to adjust to these occurrences. Ultimately, it becomes a cost of the convenience for you. In some cases, you may be able to recoup late charges or other fees generated by late delivery from your bank; we recommend you contact them if this happens to you.

We have other alternatives to this payment method that you might want to consider. For instance, we offer automatic bank draft. Each month, about 2 days before the due date, we generate a transaction that will automatically pay your bill from the bank account you designate. The payment is posted to your account on the day we submit the transaction, so you know that you are paid on time. You can print the authorization form from our web page and get started right away!

We also offer automatic credit card payment. Maybe you have a card that gives you rewards or cash back or airline miles. Why not pay your water bill this way and add to the benefit? This form is also available on our website.

If you would like more information please contact the office at (817) 430-3541 or visit our website at bartonvillewater.com



MEMBER'S BEWARE

As a public service, BWSC would like to alert its members/customers to beware of inaccurate information and excessive charges associated with certain plumbers and the work they perform. We recently received a call from a member who became the victim of an excessive charge while having some plumbing work done by a local plumbing company. The plumbers proposed to install a **pressure reducing valve (PRV)** for this BWSC member in order to regulate the pressure in her house to a lower setting. Our member was told by the plumbers that the water utility (*wrong!*) would not do anything about her request, so she authorized the install. The PRV was installed in short order and our member was presented with a bill for **\$600.00**.



\$600 for the brief time it took to install a part that is readily available at the local hardware store for approximately **\$30.00** — *that BWSC will install at no charge!*

So..... when you are getting information regarding water related matters, repairs, pressure readings, etc. please give BWSC a call. Remember, there is a lot of expensive misinformation out there given by people that will take advantage of an opportunity. We are YOUR water company, just give us a call. Don't be taken advantage of by unscrupulous contractors.

Rainwater Harvesting is an innovative approach of capturing free water. You can save money by collecting and storing rainwater and using it to irrigate your trees, shrubs and flower beds. An easy way to do this is by constructing a rain barrel.

Texas A&M, through their AgriLIFE Research & Extension service, has instructions online at <http://dallas.tamu.edu>. Just click on "Water Conservation Practices". While you are on their site, take a look at some of the other tips they have

for reducing your water usage.



Water is a precious resource and growing ever more scarce. Why not capitalize on Mother Nature's gifts when you can?

Water Conservation Tips

Many water conservation methods can be accomplished by modifying just a few everyday habits and using inexpensive upgrades to fixtures in your home.

Laundry:

- If possible, replace older units with newer, high efficient models.
- By only washing full loads of laundry, you will conserve both water and energy.
- Use the water level setting if you washer is equipped with one.

Kitchen:

- Install aerators in all home faucets, by doing this, you will be able to increase spray velocity while reducing splash, water and energy use.
- If you wash dishes by hand, do not let the water run while you rinse. Fill one sink with soapy water and the other with clean rinsing water.
- Soak your pots and pans instead of letting the water run while you scrap and scrub.
- Scrap food off of dirty dishes instead of rinsing them. Newer models of dishwashers are able to handle some leftovers and pre-rinsing is not necessary.
- Only run your dishwasher when it has a full load in it.
- Do not use running water to thaw meat or other frozen foods. This not only is a waste of water, but it can increase the potential for a food borne illnesses. Instead, defrost them in the refrigerator overnight.
- Keep a pitcher of water in the refrigerator instead of running the tap every time you want a drink.



Bathroom:

- Like aerators, by installing low flow showerheads, you will be able to conserve water and energy.
- Baths use more water than showers so try not to fill the tub more than halfway, and plug the bathtub before turning the water on and then adjust for temperature.
- Turn the faucet off while you shave and brush your teeth.
- If your home has older toilets, replace them with newer more water efficient models, or consider using a dual flush toilet.
- Do not use your toilet as a trash can.
- Check your faucets and toilets for leaks.

Over 1/4 of the average household water use comes from the toilet. Switching to a new toilet can make a big impact on your consumption.

Irrigation Check-up

A landscape is kept healthy and beautiful with efficient irrigation practices. Irrigation problems damage a landscape by creating too dry and/or too wet areas and result in water loss and high cost. An irrigation check-up will identify problems with the system, sprinklers and help you estimate how long to run each station or zone.

In many communities during the summer, **30 to 50 percent** of the total water used is used for landscape irrigation. To save water resources and money, apply water to a landscape as efficiently as possible. Check the irrigation system at least twice a season for problems.

Step 1. If you have the original irrigation system design, make a copy so you can make notes on it. If you do not have the original design, you may find it useful to sketch the irrigation layout and number of sprinkler heads in each station. Number the heads on the sketch so you can make notes about each head.

Step 2. Run each station and observe each sprinkler head to see if the sprinkler head is running and distributing water properly. Note which sprinkler heads are working correctly and which require attention. Look for these problems:

- * Sprinkler heads spraying water onto the sidewalk, driveway, or road
- * Sprinkler heads missing, not operating, with reduced water flow or poor distribution pattern •
- * Sprinkler heads broken, gushing water out the top or not popping up
- * Sprinkler heads no longer straight up and down
- * Sprinkler heads that cause a cloud of mist
- * Grass, shrubbery or tree blocking distribution pattern
- * Dry landscape areas
- * Possible causes: low system water pressure, a plugged nozzle or wind
- * Irrigation heads installed too far apart or not in a recommended square or triangle pattern



Step 3. Repair all problems yourself or hire a licensed irrigator. Most repairs require cleaning out a sprinkler head. Once all repairs are made, you are ready to run the system and time how long each station should run.

Step 4. Check for uniform distribution. Collect several empty, straight sided cans, such as cat food or tuna fish cans. Use a minimum of 3 cans per sprinkler head. 5 cans per station are even better. Mark the inside of each can like a rain gauge with markings for 1/2", 3/4", and 1".

The Mainline

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Employment Opportunities
on the Web



Bartonville Water Supply Corporation would like to be notified of any changes to 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.

Acct #:

Name:

Mailing Address (including City and Zip):

Home Phone:

Work Phone:

E-Mail Address:

Emergency Phone: