

THE BUBBLER

The Value of Water

Water is life.

It nourishes us. It cleans us and sustains us. Put simply, water is you.

- The average American uses 176 gallons of water per day—that's 64,240 gallons a year!
- 40% of water in America is used to produce the food we eat and the beverages we drink.
- How is water used in your home? On average, 17% goes toward showering, 27% is used by the toilet, your faucet drains 15%, your clothes washer another 22%, miscellaneous needs take up 5%, and those pesky leaks steal another 14%. If drinking water and soda pop cost equally, your water bill would skyrocket more than 10,000%.

70 percent of the Earth is water. From seas to lakes, to rivers and creeks, water is everywhere. Valuing water means valuing our future.

- 349 billion gallons of freshwater are withdrawn every day in the United States.
- 41 percent of that water (143 billion gallons) is used to produce thermoelectric power, another 37% goes to irrigation.
- 4% of US energy is used for transporting, treating, and pumping water. More than one-third of all counties in the lower 48 states will face higher risks of water shortages by mid-century as a result of global warming.

Water is the lifeblood of our economy. We rely on it for manufacturing, energy production, to transport materials across the globe, and more.

- One-fifth of the US economy would grind to a halt without a reliable and clean source of water.
- 46% of water consumed in America is used to produce the manufacturing products we buy.
- 1 to 3.68—the water jobs multiplier. Every job we create in the water sector helps add another 3.68 jobs in the national economy.
- 1 to 6—every \$1 spent on infrastructure improvements in the US generates \$6 in returns.

Water connects us. Water is a ride on a boat. Water is a sprinkler, making children laugh with joy. Water brings families and friends together in countless ways.

- 22,284—the number of gallons used per day by schools based on an evaluation done of schools in the Tampa Bay region.
- The San Antonio Zoo uses approximately 2 million gallons of water a day to care for the animals.
- The National Hockey League collectively uses more than 300 million gallons of water each season—it takes 12,500 gallons to make ice for each rink. Sixty-one percent of Americans rely on lakes, rivers, and streams as their source of drinking water. The other 39% rely on groundwater—water located underground in aquifers and wells.



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General Manager's Report

Dear Shareholders:

Summer is over and we are moving into fall. I can report that for the months of June, July, and August, the usage was lower this year by 2.6% compared to 2016. In 2016 we were under Stage 2 of our Drought Action Plan, and this year we reduced restrictions back to Stage 1. This shows sensible water use in spite of the bark beetle problem, and some above average temperatures for July and August.

THANK YOU to everyone who used water wisely this summer!!!

Below are the usage numbers:

August usage in Gallons:

2013—7,117,000
2014—5,262,000
2015—4,066,000
2016—5,804,000
2017—5,354,000

August 2017 shows a 25% water savings over August 2013, which is the comparison year for the State Drought Report.

Winterizing: Its not to early to talk about winterizing. Temperatures can fluctuate this time of year, and if you are going away for any length of time, winterizing is necessary to prevent damage.

Irrigation: Please check your irrigation systems for leaks and breaks in the line. You might want to adjust your timers down because t he sun is lower in the sky this time of year and we have had some rain already.

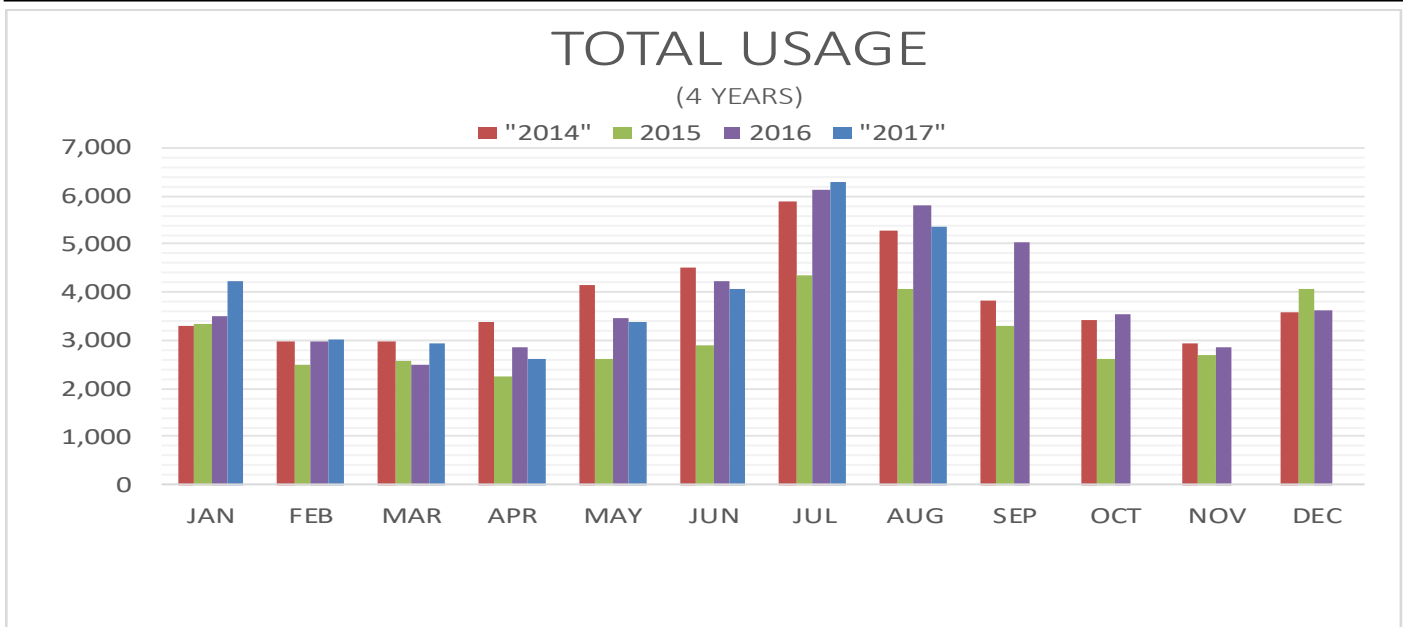
Water Problems: If you have a water problem, we have someone on call 7 days a week. If the office is closed, dial 795-7030 and a recording will take your message and transfer it to the person on call.

Thanks,

Dave Hicks, General Manager

Blue Lake Springs Mutual Water Co.

Usage Chart for August 2017



Presidents Report

Shareholders:

There is a lot going on and it is all good!!

At the September Board meeting, the Board of Directors took a number of actions:

Board's New Annual Meeting Schedule

The Board is required to meet once a year according to the water company's Bylaws and that meeting is to be held in June. Past practice has shown that the Board meets on the same day as the Homeowner's Association. The Board has considered and evaluated the need for monthly meetings and has voted to reformat the yearly meeting schedule and hold regular Board meetings in January, March, May; June in conjunction with the Annual Meeting; September and November. The reduction of the number of meetings translates to less staff time and costs associated with monthly gatherings. Should a need arise to schedule a meeting, due to some unforeseen issue, an electronic meeting will be scheduled, in accordance with the Open Meeting Act [OMA]. The OMA is a set of State statutes that governs the noticing, posting and holding of meetings. We have used this process before and it is open to the public, like a regular attended meeting.

Search for a replacement member for the Board of Directors

Tom Schneider, one of the current Board members, has moved and is no longer eligible to be on the Board of Directors. A search is underway to identify a replacement to fill Tom's term which expires in 2019. If you are interested in working on the Board, please let us know.

Progress status of the USDA loan project

The loan program that will include extensive infrastructure repair, re-piping and modernization has started. The engineering group that was successful in the competitive bidding process, MC Engineering, has had staff in the BLS neighborhoods conducting preliminary surveys. Measuring roadways, identifying the utility right-of-way portions of the road side(s) and scoping out the design of the placement of new piping equipment is underway.

Where does the new stuff go?

Some, if not all, of the original BLS lots had small 2" pipe running through the rear of the property, often connected together with a neighbor. An ample system in 1962 but not at all practical today. All of the original lines are earmarked for removal out to the road way and will be fed off of 6" pipes that also power fire hydrants, as a number of hydrants will be added. Over the ensuing fall and winter, most of the preliminary engineering will be completed. Actual construction, with its bidding process(es) will begin in late spring or early summer 2018. Meanwhile, homeowners will be seeing water company staff working throughout the neighborhoods.

TOWN HALL MEETING: NOVEMBER 11th

We are planning on a Town Hall Meeting on November 11th, Veterans Day, at Snowflake Lodge at Noon. I encourage you to attend. At this meeting, the Senior Project Engineer, John Pedri of MC Engineering will be the prime presenter. This offering will give everyone a real insight into the project and a probable timetable. The time spent will be worth it.

What is all this going to cost me?

The overall costs are covered by the loan. Once a new or replacement service is initiated onto your property, the homeowner is responsible for the connection from the meter to the residence. This is NOT due to the loan but a long-standing water industry standard. I am sure that you have questions about the roll out and the process. I encourage you to bring your questions to the meeting on November 11th.

If you can't make the meeting, the audio of the meeting will be posted on our website: www.blsmwc.com. If, after listening you have questions, email the Water Company at: info@blsmwc.com or you can call the office at (209) 795-7025.

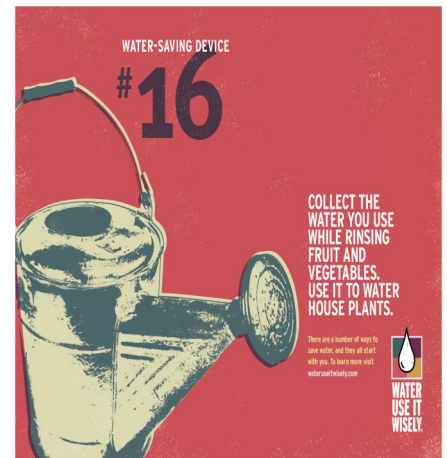
As I mentioned earlier, there is a lot going on.

Hope to see you on the 11th of November Noon !

Bob Maginnis

President

Board of Directors



Have an idea?

The Bubbler is published to keep Blue Lake Springs Mutual Water Company shareholders informed about issues and upcoming events. The Bubbler is a "monthly" newsletter and comes out following a regular scheduled Board Meeting so that we can keep you up to date on the most current information.

If you would like to submit an article or suggest ideas for improvement, please contact:

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