

THE BUBBLER

Blue Lake Springs Mutual Water Company Newsletter

April 2017

Page 1

State Plans to Make Water Conservation a Way of Life

SACRAMENTO – As Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. ended the drought state of emergency in most of California today, state agencies released a long-term plan to better prepare the state for future droughts and make conservation a California way of life.

California's climate is the most variable in the nation and naturally swings between flood and drought. Climate change is increasing average temperatures, shrinking the Sierra Nevada snowpack, and creating more extreme droughts and storm events. California's recent historic drought included the driest four-year period, the warmest three years and the smallest Sierra snowpack in state history, while this winter's storms created one of the highest precipitation totals in the last 150 years. Recognizing these long-term risks, the plan seeks to move the state from the temporary, emergency conservation measures in effect during the drought to a more durable approach that will ensure all communities are improving water use efficiency and extending their supplies. These measures will help achieve a top priority in the Governor's Water Action Plan – to "make conservation a California way of life."

Central to the plan is a requirement that the state's 410 urban water suppliers meet new water use targets. Suppliers would calculate their unique water efficiency targets based on a common methodology that takes into account the diverse climatic, demographic and land-use characteristics of each agency's service area. Urban water suppliers would set new targets by 2021 with a full compliance deadline of 2025. "Californians stepped up big time during the drought," said Felicia Marcus, chair of the State Water Resources Control Board. "This plan allows us to build on that success and prepare for the longer and more frequent droughts we know are coming under climate change, in a way that is equitable and cost-effective. Efficiency is the cheapest and smartest way to extend our water resources." The plan involved extensive stakeholder outreach and engagement, with more than 20 public meetings held around the state. In order to implement the key actions of this plan, the agencies will continue to solicit stakeholder and public input. Other key elements of the plan include:

- Bans on wasteful practices, such as hosing sidewalks and watering lawns after rain.
- Technical assistance, financial incentives and standards to guide water suppliers' efforts to detect and repair leaks.
- Requiring urban water suppliers to prepare water shortage contingency plans, including a drought risk assessment every five years.
- Requiring more agricultural water suppliers to submit plans that quantify measures to increase water use efficiency and develop adequate drought plans.
- Monthly reporting by urban water suppliers on water usage, conservation achieved and enforcement efforts
- Improved drought planning for small water suppliers and rural communities.

The plan, Making Water Conservation a California Way of Life, Implementing Executive Order B-37-16, was prepared by the Department of Water Resources, the State Water Resources Control Board, the Public Utilities Commission, Department of Food and Agriculture and the Energy Commission. For more information on the development of the plan visit :

www.water.ca.gov/wateruseefficiency/conservation/.

In This Issue

Page 1: Conservation

**Page 1: Current Drought
Restrictions**

Page 2: Free Car Wash

Page 2: Well #1 Hydrograph

**Page 3: General Manager's
Report**

Page 3: March Usage Chart

Page 3: Contact Us

Page 4: Presidents Message

BLUE LAKE SPRINGS

MUTUAL WATER CO.

CUSTOMERS ARE STILL

UNDER

DROUGHT STAGE 2

RESTRICTIONS

CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR UPDATES
AS WE WILL POST IF THIS CHANGES.

www.blsmwc.com

CONSERVATION CONTINUES

Free Car Wash!!!

(offer good while supply lasts.....)

Conservation Still Counts!

To celebrate the end of a very long drought, and to encourage our Shareholders to continue "good business practices" of conservation, the Blue Lake Springs Mutual Water Company is offering free car wash tokens to be used at our local Arnold, CA Carwash.

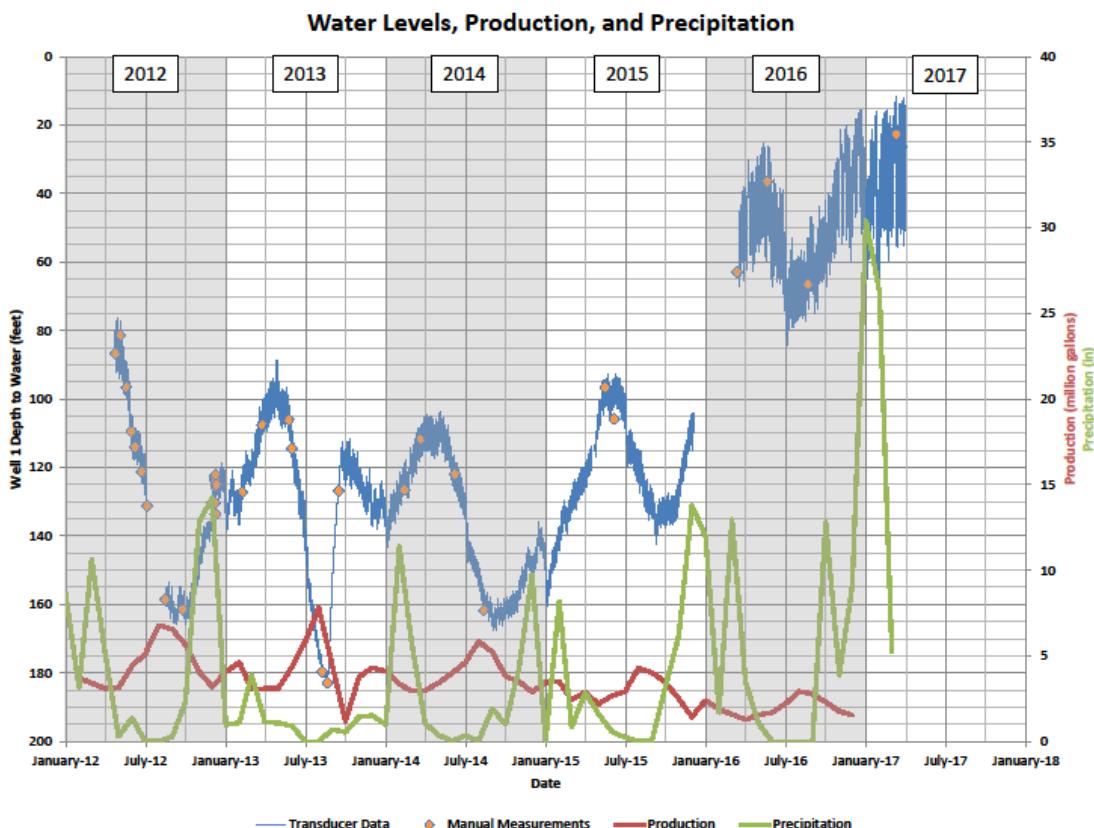
You need only to visit our office at 1011 Blagen Rd. (next to the Arnold Post Office) Monday through Friday, 8am to 4pm to pick them up.

Limit 5 tokens per household. ID required.

- ⇒ SEQUOIA CAR WASH IN ARNOLD, CA
- ⇒ 2309 FIR DRIVE
- ⇒ SPREAD THE WORD, DON'T MISS OUT.
- ⇒ CONSERVATION MAKES GOOD CENTS!!! SAVE A FEW TODAY !
- ⇒ FOR MORE INFO CONTACT THE BLSMWC OFFICE @ (209)795-7025

**THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR
CONSERVATION EFFORTS DURING OUR
DROUGHT**

Blue Lake Springs Mutual Water Co. Well #1 Hydrograph



Dear Shareholders,

Governor Brown has declared an end to the drought. We have had 2 very good rainy seasons, which we are all thankful for. I think these last few years of drought have taught us a lot about being water wise.

March Water Usage (shown on the graph below)

The water usage in March was higher than last year by 15%.

I think a lot of this was because more shareholders came up to enjoy the great skiing and snow sports last month.

Here is the breakdown of the usage by year.

2013 3,233,000 gallons

2014 2,973,000 gallons

2015 2,587,000 gallons

2016 2,488,000 gallons

2017 2,942,000 gallons

Drought

Water levels in the Wells are higher than they have been in many years, thanks to the 2 recent wet winters, and our agreement with CCWD to purchase water for half of our demand. We are considering reducing water restrictions in Blue Lake Springs to a voluntary Stage 1 condition. I will let you know when and if we take this step, but I don't feel that heavy restriction is in order right now. I will continue to monitor our well recovery and water usage for the rest of 2017, but heading into the Summer months we are looking great.

Please remember the lessons of this past drought and be aware of your water use.

Thanks

Dave

David Hicks

General Manager

Blue Lake Springs Mutual Water Co.

P.O.Box 6015, Arnold, CA 95223

Ph: 209-795-7025

Email:davehicks@goldrush.com



Have an idea?

The Bubbler is published once monthly (after scheduled Board Meetings) to keep Blue Lake Springs

Mutual Water Company shareholders informed about issues and upcoming events.

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

Pam Bowman

pbowman@blsmwc.com

Blue Lake Springs Mutual Water Company

1011 Blagen Road

P.O. Box 6015

Arnold, CA 95223

Tel (209) 795-7025

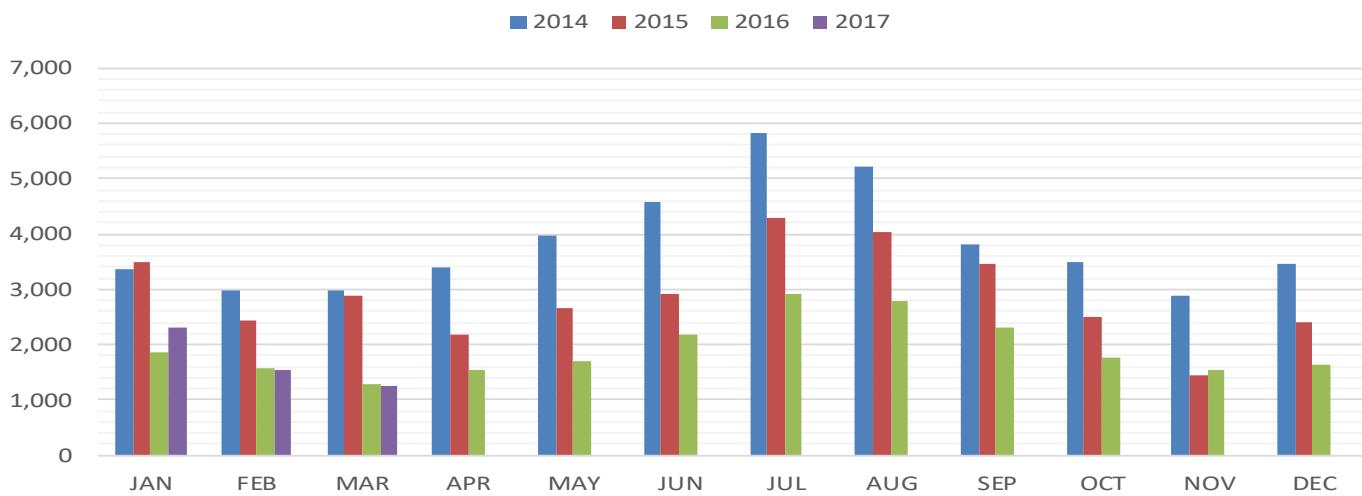
Fax (209) 795-7019

info@blsmwc.com

Visit us on the web at

www.blsmwc.com

WHITE PINES WELL PRODUCTION



President's Message

The DROUGHT is over. According to the Governor and his Executive Order all of the former restrictions have been set aside.

CONSERVATION is still OK.

All of you, with a couple of exceptions, have contributed to a marvelous effort in saving water. Habits developed over the past 3-4 years should continue, as it will still be OK to save water.

Over the past year, I have referred to the matter of the USDA (United States Department of Agriculture) Loan that amounts to 12.23M and is designed to replace and upgrade our entire system. We have just authored a formal Request for Proposal for the engineering part of the project and the RFPs have been sent out to firms that have a history and reputation of handling large such loan projects.

The overall impact of this loan is quite impressive, as it replaces all of the 1960-80 era small pipe lines; develops larger transmission lines for installation in the utility right of way, thus allowing for a larger number of Fire Suppression Hydrants; modernizes and updates the water treatment facility and, completes the installation of water meters' system wide. The magnitude of this loan requires staff that has expertise in dealing with USDA projects. Our goal is to secure the most qualified available. The loan structure allows for the hiring of a qualified expert.

All of this will be discussed in length at our Annual Meeting, which will be held on Saturday, June 3rd at the Lodge at 8:30am.

Meters are a part of the overall plan and we have been installing them as work allows. Eventually the system will have one identified meter unit device, thus insuring consistency. The present unit has the capability of recording water use and is able to notify the staff of any sudden, excessive flow. When prompted, an icon reflecting excessive use or a leak will appear on the computer screen that is monitored by our water masters. Were there to be a sudden line rupture in the water line from the meter to the dwelling, or within the dwelling's piping complex the water masters would have that information readily available.

This sensitive reading element rises beyond the daily demands, which the meter routinely tracks. We will be reading meters for purposes of consumptive billing and this additional safeguard will give us faster detection in the event of a rupture.

On all of our main lines that enter/exit our holding tanks and wells, we have system wide monitoring called SCADA: Supervisory Control And Data Acquisition.

This software is designed to alert staff to any abnormal change in the water flow or use demand.

Again our intention is to apply this application to all meters. There is a possibility that this new program would allow iPhone type access to your meter.

I mention all of this to reinforce the importance of attending the Annual Meeting.

After all, this is your water company.

A couple other items of interest: We have purchased a number of tokens that operate the Car Wash in Arnold. These tokens are available to you the shareholder and you are encouraged to use the Car Wash as an alternative to using your own driveway. All you have to do is visit the Office.

Speaking of driveways. The long standing approved tool or weapon for cleaning your driveway remains....the broom, or for extreme cases...the rake.

Please refrain from using....the hose.

Remember: June 3rd.... 8:30am. Mark your calendar.

You won't want to miss this one.

Robert Maginnis

Blue Lake Springs Mutual Water Co.

Board President