

THE BUBBLER

Blue Lake Springs Mutual Water Company Newsletter

August 2018

Information~Communication

The office staff at Blue Lake Springs Mutual Water Company has made many attempts to obtain your most update and current contact information!! Anytime you have a change in contact information, it is necessary to alert our office. At this particular time, it is **CRITICAL** that we can reach you by phone, mail, and most importantly **EMAIL**.

Blue Lake Springs Mutual Water Co. will soon begin our infrastructure upgrades which will impact most Units in the subdivision. We will be mailing, calling or emailing important and changing information on a regular basis.

WE CANNOT STRESS HOW IMPERATIVE IT WILL BE TO HAVE YOUR MOST CURRENT INFORMATION INCLUDING AN EMAIL ADDRESS.....

The office staff will also be utilizing Social Media for daily, weekly, and ongoing updates and information.

You can find our website at: blsmwc.com

or on Facebook at: [BlSMwc](https://www.facebook.com/BlSMwc)

We will also use Constant Contact and post on Nextdoor as we progress.

You can email (info@blsmwc.com) or call (209-795-7025) with your most current information including:

Phone/Cell phone/address/email.

THANK YOU !!!

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General Manager's Report

Dear Shareholders,

We are into August, and it's certainly not the typical August like we are used to. The air has been thick with smoke for weeks with so many fires around us. We dodged a bullet last week with a small fire in Blue Lake Springs that was put out quickly by our excellent fire department, and a larger fire at Hunter Dam Road in Avery by the CCWD Treatment Plant, also stopped quickly by fire personnel.

Fortunately, the CCWD Treatment Plant was not damaged by that fire, but if it was put out of commission for a time, we have enough water in our wells to supply Blue Lake Springs on our own for the rest of the year and into next without a problem. Our water storage tanks have available 1.3 million gallons of water at all times for emergency use.

With the threat of wild land fire becoming greater every year, BLSMWC has addressed this problem with our Infrastructure Improvement Project. We are adding larger water mains in the street and 84 new fire hydrants. This project is scheduled to begin in September, and shareholders will be notified as to when it will affect them.

July Usage

Water usage was down very slightly in July from last year, which shows sensible water use. I thank all who are conserving.

July

2013 7,992,000 Gallons

2014 5,878,000

2015 4,343,000

2016 6,109,000

2017 6,296,000

2018 6,183,000

We have saved 23% water usage compared to 2013 which is the State drought comparison year.

Please remember to shut off the water to your cabin whenever you leave, even if it's only a few days.

This will protect you from any damage from broken pipes or leaks inside your cabin.

Lets hope this smoke will let up soon.

Dave

Dave Hicks

General Manager

BLSMWC

davehicks@goldrush.com



Thank you for your patience during our project!!
If Rome was built in a day, we would have used the
same contractor!!

Presidents Report

The good news!!! The long awaited, wondering if it will ever happen, Project, will start in the coming soon if all goes as scheduled.

Blue Lake Springs Mutual Water Co. plans to utilize every method possible to get the word out to you as to when your neighborhood will be impacted. We are preparing a specific mailing to each neighborhood as the project starts moving.

PLEASE read the mailing!!

Over the past 2-3 years, BLSMWC has made a concerted effort to obtain your email address. The results are ok but our need for your email address still exists.

Additionally, we will be using Social Media sites and you will see our presence on Facebook, Constant Contact, and NextDoor.

A friendly reminder about NextDoor. When we post on NextDoor, our accessing procedure to the site is the same as yours: account name/password. When we ask for email addresses, as we do, NextDoor does not provide such. You must reach out to us.

There is yet another reason that we need your email address:

When the Project is completed, the billing process/structure will change. Our plans will include: Options of Auto-Pay; using your credit card; and, other online services. For this we need your electronic address.

We realize that not everyone has email and we'll deal with that accordingly.

To access the latest and most up-to-date information, ONCE THE PROJECT BEGINS, we suggest that go to our website: blsmwc.com

Once in place, you will see a box in the center of the page with the word PROJECT. Click on the word PROJECT. All current information will be posted on that link. Again, this link will be provided once the project begins.

At this point, I usually chat about CONSERVATION. This is still --- IN.

Bob Maginnis

President

BLSMWC

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:

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

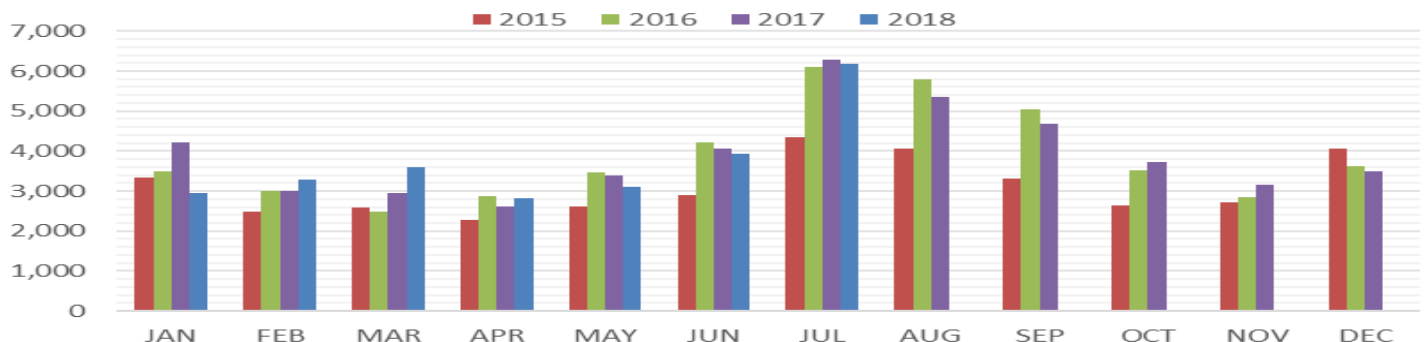
www.blsmwc.com

Or

JULY WATER USAGE CHART

TOTAL USAGE

(4 YEARS)



Long Range Planning Report

.Over the past month, the Long Range Planning Committee's (LRPC) primary focus has been (1) assisting the BLS-MWC staff and MC Engineering in oversight of the USDA Project's transition from the design to the construction phase; and (2) formulating a recommended "Reserves Policy" to present to the Board of Directors (BOD) at our October 13th meeting.

A Pre-Construction Meeting was held on July 11th with our selected contractor, Mozingo Construction, Inc. and subcontractors, along with BLSMWC management and staff, MC Engineering and subcontractors, and the responsible USDA and Calaveras County Dept. of Public Works representatives. The participation and discussions were very positive and covered the USDA and County requirements that must be met prior to the construction Notice to Proceed (NTP), as well as the processes, directives and documentation that must be followed throughout the construction contract. Based on the construction schedule, NTP is expected to occur 8/20/18, followed by mobilization spanning from 8/27 – 9/7/18.

A follow-up meeting was held with Mozingo on July 17th to review the construction sequencing to ensure a coordinated plan was understood and agreed to. Construction on the first zone is scheduled to start approx. 9/10/18 with final construction efforts planned to be completed in Dec. 2019. Shareholders will be notified of the timing of construction work planned for their area via the distribution of the sequencing plan, which will identify the timespans for each zone, regular updates of the planned work posted to the BLSMWC website, and road signs placed in the zones providing notice of upcoming work and potential detours.

The LRPC was tasked by the BOD at our last meeting to propose a recommended formal Reserves Policy. Our 2017 annual audit from Atherton & Associates noted a Capital Reserve as a "Control Deficiency" and recommended that BLSMWC establish a Capital Reserves Policy significant enough to support the USDA capital project for unexpected cash flow shortages, major repairs or downturn in economics conditions, which would be in addition to the debt service and short-live asset reserves as already required by the USDA. Since then, we solicited and received an Asset Management Plan proposal from MC Engineering, which the LRPC is currently fact-finding, and will review with the BOD. This Asset Management Plan is intended to provide the basis for a Capital Reserves Policy, and will be a recommended component of our overall "Reserves Policy". In parallel, the LRPC is currently compiling and reviewing detailed guidelines for developing a Reserves Policy, along with several sample Reserve Fund Policies, including an example from a similar California water district. As mentioned previously, the LRPC will continue to review and discuss the information we've collected, with the goal of presenting a recommended Reserve Policy to the BOD at our October 13th Meeting.

Cont@ct Us