

Water Works



*The Official Publication of Southwest Water Authority
and the Southwest Pipeline Project*

Issue IV; December, 2006

Southwest Water Authority customers to see first rate increase in five years

The Southwest Water Authority (SWA) Board of Directors and Management continuously strive to stabilize the cost of water. Annually, the rates are carefully reviewed to determine if any changes are needed to maintain operations. It has been determined, due to rising fuel, electrical and chemical costs, it will be necessary to adjust rates in 2007.

At the November 6, 2006 meeting the board approved the upcoming budget including an increase. This means contract customer rates will increase from \$2.98 to \$3.07 per 1,000 gallons of water. Rural customers with a standard hook-up will note a minimum payment increase from \$38.25 to \$39.45 per month, with the water rate increasing from \$3.60 to \$3.65 per 1,000 gallons. It is unfortunate that this adjustment must be made, however it is necessary, as costs throughout the system continuously rise.

If you have questions or need additional clarification regarding water rates, please contact our office at 701-225-0241 or 1-888-425-0241 toll-free. We appreciate our customers and the support they provide to the Southwest Pipeline Project.



*Ray Christensen,
Manager / CEO*

2007 Water Rates

	2006 Rate	2007 Rate	Increase
Contract Customers	\$2.98 per 1,000 gallons	\$3.07 per 1,000 gallons	\$.09 per 1,000 gallons
Rural Customers			
Minimum	\$38.25 per month	\$39.45 per month	\$1.20 per month
Water Rates	\$3.60 per 1,000 gallons	\$3.65 per 1,000 gallons	\$.05 per 1,000 gallons
Over 10,000 Gallons	\$2.60 per 1,000 gallons	\$2.65 per 1,000 gallons	\$.05 per 1,000 gallons

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*Merry
Christmas!!
& Happy New Year
from us to you*

Water Works



Medora-Beach Phase II one year ahead of schedule

Work on Phase II of the Medora-Beach Regional Service Area started in the fall of 2005, but little pipe was actually put into the ground before the construction season ended. Through the end of the 2006 construction season, both Contract 7-8B (Beach, Golva and Fryburg Service Areas) and Contract 7-8C (Morton County Areas) were essentially complete as only some water sampling, clean up and seed bed prep work remains. Between the two contracts this season 386 miles of pipe and 375 services have been installed. Also, 388 of the 406 users on the two contracts have been turned over to Southwest Water Authority (SWA) as ready for service, along with the city of Golva as of November. The remaining users will be turned over after their service lines are properly disinfected, flushed and tested. Both contracts are well ahead of schedule as the completion dates are next summer.

The Beulah Interim Service Area representing the first phase of the Oliver, Mercer and North Dunn Regional Service Area was bid and constructed this season. Bids were opened in May and Abbot, Arne, Schwindt Inc. began work in August. All 60 users and the city of Zap were turned over to SWA as ready for service in November.



*Tim Frieje,
SWPP Project
Manager*

The ND State Water Commission allocated an additional \$400,000.00 to the Southwest Pipeline Project (SWPP) budget on October 12, 2006, at a meeting in Bismarck. The allocation will be used for a back-up power supply for the Richardton Raw Water Pump Station in the 2007 biennium. Once ample, system storage reserves have been greatly reduced in recent years by an increase in the number of users on the system and drought conditions. The power supply to the Richardton Raw Water Pump Station is the weak point in the system. The goal is to have the back-up power system installed prior to the next peak demand season alleviating future concerns.

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Providing quality water for
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with quality water.

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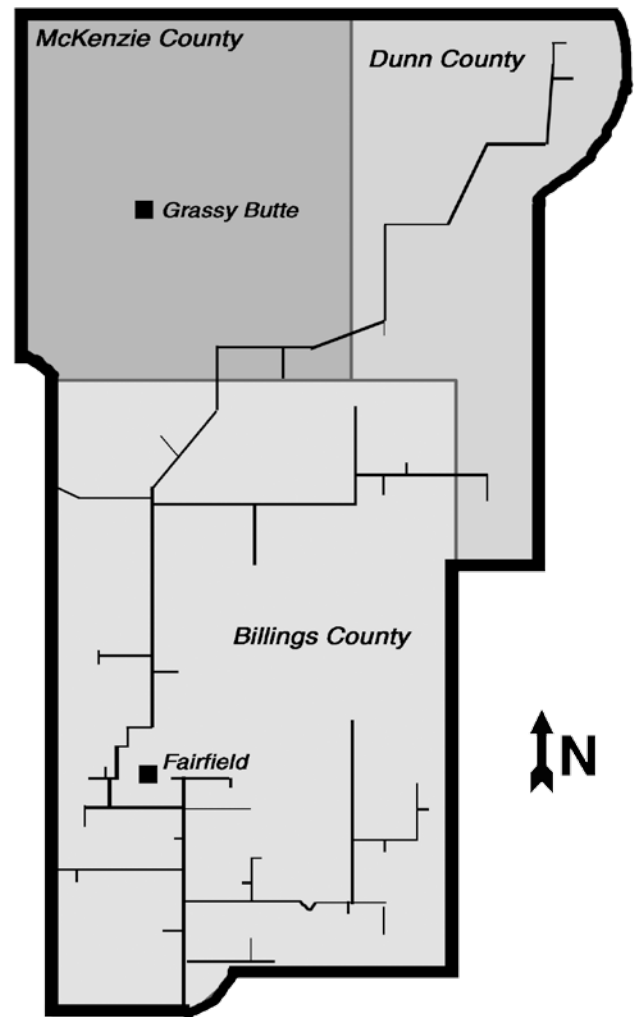
Vickie's water notes

*By: Vickie Franchuk,
Customer Service Representative*

Are you going on vacation for an extended period of time? Make your life a little simpler by signing up for an Automatic or Pre-payment Plan of your monthly minimum bills. We will even turn off the water until you return. Simply contact the Southwest Water Authority Customer Service Department at 701-225-0241 or toll-free 1-888-425-0241 for more details or to make arrangements.



Southwest Pipeline Project Proposed Construction Area



Final canvass of northern Billings and western Dunn Counties

Southwest Water Authority (SWA) hosted a public information meeting November 27, 2006, at the Grassy Butte Community Hall. During this meeting discussion was held on the proposed construction plans for northern Billings and western Dunn Counties.

"This is the final canvass of this area," said Glenn Eckelberg, SWA Marketing Coordinator. "Additional sign-ups are needed to maintain project feasibility."

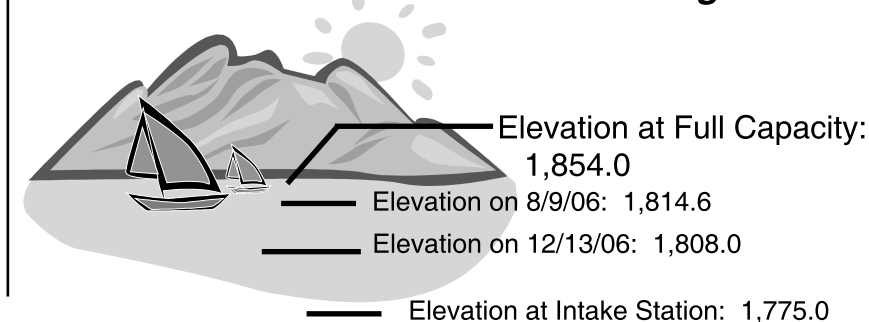
"We strongly encourage anyone interested in water to sign up before January 15, 2007," said Eckelberg. "This ensures that you will be included in the final design and are eligible to receive water. Those who sign up after the bid deadline will not be guaranteed water," he said.

The sign-up fee for northern Billings County residents is \$750.00 and western Dunn County residents' fee is \$430.00 until January 15, 2007. The fee will increase to \$750.00 after that date.

"Residents paying only the original Good Intention Fee of \$75.00 are not officially signed up for service and must do so now to be included in the final plan," cautioned Eckelberg.

To sign up for service or for more information, call Eckelberg at 701-225-0241 or toll-free 1-888-425-0241.

Lake Sakakawea - Elevation Gauge

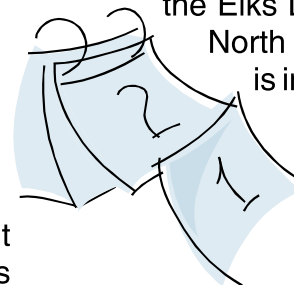


The Lake Sakakawea Elevation Gauge illustrates the amount of water remaining above the Southwest Pipeline Project's (SWPP) Intake Station.

We are often asked, "How much water does the SWPP take from Lake Sakakawea per year?" In 2006, the project has pumped a total of 1.33 billion gallons from the lake, decreasing the lake level less than one-half inch. In reality, more water evaporates from the lake on a hot day in August than SWPP pumps during an entire year.

Meeting notice

The Southwest Water Authority Board of Directors meets at 9:00 a.m. Mountain Standard Time on the first Monday of every month at the Elks Lodge in Dickinson, North Dakota. The public is invited to attend the meetings and follow the progress of the Southwest Pipeline Project.



2007 Meeting Schedule

January 8	July 9
February 5	August 6
March 5	September 10
April 2	October 1
May 7	November 5
June 4	December 3



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