

From Mary Massad, Manager/CEO



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Happy Spring! This year's cold winter temperatures were challenging. Yet, throughout the winter Southwest Water Authority's (SWA) distribution staff was able to keep pipelines and reservoirs from freezing and keep the water flowing.

Construction of the much needed Residuals Handling Facility (RHF) is nearing completion. Water treatment facilities, like the ones in Dickinson, generate dewatered lime in the process of creating drinking water. The new RHF incorporates state-of-the-art technology to dewater the lime.

It is difficult to gauge the actual economic impact provided by the Southwest Pipeline Project (SWPP) because its value depends on a wide array of dimensions such as unrealized potential growth of our region. Still, most economists agree that water is critical to any economy.

At this time there are hundreds of potential customers on SWA's waiting lists and there is critical infrastructure yet to be built to ensure an adequate supply of quality water throughout southwest North Dakota. Industrial projects are on hold. Housing developments are on hold. People wanting to connect to reliable, safe drinking water are on hold. SWA does not have the capacity in areas needed for the additional customers and still needs funding in order to meet these needs of the people living and working in southwest North Dakota.

There are many reasons continuing to fund the SWPP makes sense. For one, it makes economic sense, not only for the region but for the state of North Dakota. It also helps ensure a quality of life for those living in southwest North Dakota, both today and for future generations.

Drinking Water Week is observed in May of every year to recognize the critical role drinking water plays in our daily lives. This year's theme, "Protect the Source," encourages people to learn more about the source of their drinking water and why its protection is critical to our health. Celebrate with us and sometime during the week of May 5-11th raise up a glass and make a toast to this award-winning tap water. SWA will be celebrating with you!

What is Drinking Water Week?

For more than 40 years the American Water Works Association and its members have celebrated Drinking Water Week – a unique opportunity for both water professionals and the communities they serve to join together in recognizing the vital role water plays in our daily lives. The 2019 celebration will take place May 5-11.

History

In 1988, AWWA brought Drinking Water Week to the attention of our government and formed a coalition along with the League of Women Voters, the Association of State Drinking Water Administrators, and the US Environmental Protection Agency. Rep. Robert Roe and Sen. Dennis DeConcini subsequently sponsored a resolution to name the first week of May as Drinking Water Week, and the week-long observance was declared in a joint congressional resolution signed by then President Ronald Reagan.



North Dakota's Return on its Water Investment

A political subdivision of North Dakota, Southwest Water Authority (SWA) was established by the legislature in 1991. SWA was set up to facilitate, not only the oversight of the SWPP, but the state's return on its investment in the construction through its collection of water rates.

From the beginning, the construction of the SWPP was funded with the requirement that the water users, those benefitting from the SWPP, would repay the state for the cost of the Project's construction as a set amount of their monthly water bills.

So, today, every customer from rural households to cities, pay the state for its investment in southwest North Dakota's quality water. All of that money goes back to the North Dakota's Resources Trust Fund (RTF). What is important to know is that eventually, SWA's customers, the people who have benefited from the quality water, will have paid back the state's funding to construct the SWPP. And today the state's return on its investment is over \$69 million!



Lake Sakakawea

Coming Soon – Water Quality Report



By June 1st, customers will be receiving Southwest Water Authority's (SWA) annual Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) in their mailboxes. We are pleased to announce the drinking water provided by SWA continues to meet and/or exceed the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) strict drinking water quality standards.

Your drinking water quality is important to us, which is why we employ many of the state's most qualified operators. These operators are responsible for the ongoing testing, treatment, and distribution of your drinking water.

Stay Informed

Should a water-related emergency arise, we want you know about it as soon as possible. Our staff will call you if there is a water-related emergency, so please be sure we have your current home and/or cell phone number. It's also important that we have all your current contact information including an email address. You can also stay connected with Southwest Water Authority for the latest news, tips, alerts and job postings through our website or visit us www.facebook.com/swwater.

Our Vision:
People and Business
Succeeding with
Quality Water

Our Mission:
Quality Water for
Southwest
North Dakota

Water Works is the Official
Publication of Southwest Water
Authority and the Southwest Pipeline
Project.

Visit our website...from job
postings to the latest pipeline and
water news, it's all online!

www.swwater.com

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SWA does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, marital status or disability in employment or the provision of services.

Over Allocation Water Available



The Southwest Pipeline Project (SWPP) was designed to allow each customer to utilize up to a specific allocation of water each month. Customers using more than their design allocation sometimes affects other customers

and the Project. That is generally not the case. Water is available for existing customers who use more water than their allocation. We will not shut off a customer's water due to using more water than they are allocated to use. This is good news as we head into spring and summer when the water is most needed at higher usages. To be fair to all our customers, water usage over a customer's allocation does need to be billed at an increased rate. With availability of award-winning water, the increased rate is well worth the price!

Get Connected

Contact the Southwest Water Authority office in Dickinson to get connected to the Southwest Pipeline Project. Please note customers are not allowed to turn on their water by themselves or by their water and sewer installer or licensed plumber. This must be done by SWA. It is a health and safety concern. The line must be flushed and tested to be sure it is safe to drink. If a customer turns on their own water, it will result in a fine and/or termination of water service.



Construction of paralleled main transmission line from Lake Sakakawea to the OMND WTP

Congratulations Dave Laschkewitsch

Mary Massad presented a Resolution of Appreciation to Dave Laschkewitsch who is retiring from his position of Director for Administrative Services Division with the State Water Commission (SWC). He has been a valuable asset to the SWC and Southwest Water Authority (SWA) over the years. His financial and policy knowledge is invaluable. All of us at SWA congratulate Dave and wish him well.



Construction of the Southwest WTP

Hear What's Happening

Mary Massad, Manager, CEO of SWA continues to record a weekly radio show, the "Southwest Water Cooler." It is currently airing Tuesday mornings at 7:40 a.m. on I94, 93.9 FM. It is also airing on Thursday afternoons at 12:40 p.m. The show can also be heard on SWA's website, www.swwater.com. On our website, simply click on "Contact Us" and then click on "SWA Social Media." Then push "play" at the top of the page to hear the latest edition of the radio show.



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