

Official Publication of Southwest Water Authority and the Southwest Pipeline Project

Water Works



Quality Water for
Southwest North Dakota

From Jenifer Murray, Manager/CEO



Jen Murray,
Manager/CEO

Although the calendar says spring, winter is not quite ready to call it quits here in southwest North Dakota. As we wait for the weather to get warmer, we are eagerly preparing for the beginning of construction season. Remobilization to the Ductile Iron Pipeline Replacement near Taylor is expected as soon as the weather allows. Preconstruction preparation is in the works for installation of Strategic Hydraulic Improvements

in the New Hradec, Amidon, Fairfield, and Killdeer Mountain area. These improvements will allow more than 110 subsequent customers to connect to the Southwest Pipeline Project (SWPP).

The signup campaign continues in the Burt, Hebron Service Area, including Lake Tschida. Preliminary design for the area began in the spring of 2022. The need for water in this underserved area is great with about 650 signups to date. With the current construction climate and expense, the SWPP is beginning to develop a phased approach to construction. Once progress reaches the final design phase, the signup fee will increase. The more signups received, the more feasible the

SWPP becomes. If you own property in the area, call our office to sign up today!

The 68th North Dakota Legislative Session is underway with more than 900 bills for legislators to review. One of those bills is Senate Bill (SB) 2020, the State Water Commission budget bill. As always, funding determines the rate of construction along the SWPP. A total of \$131.6 million for the SWPP was requested for planned projects in the 2023-2025 biennium. The bulk of the request is for the expansion of the Southwest Water Treatment Plant to 18 MGD. SB 2020 is currently being worked on by the House Environment and Education Committee prior to being voted on by the full House Appropriations Committee. Water-related projects such as the SWPP are funded through the Resources Trust Fund (RTF). It's important to note that while the upfront construction costs of the SWPP are funded through the RTF, ultimately all the funds are paid back by Southwest Water Authority's (SWA) customers. To date, SWA's customers have paid back into the RTF over \$90 million.

The advancement of the Project is only possible due to the continued support and investment from the North Dakota Legislature, the State Water Commission, the Department of Water Resources, and the leadership of SWA's Board of Directors. Our dedicated staff have also made tremendous contributions in this journey, making sure that the award-winning water keeps flowing, which was proven in February when SWA's water placed in the top three at the ND Rural Water Expo for its clarity and taste!

Check out
page 2 for your
chance to win
\$500 credit to
your account!



Treatment Facilities



Stay Informed

Should a water-related emergency arise, we want you to 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.

Complete Survey Now for a Chance to WIN \$500 Credit on Your Account



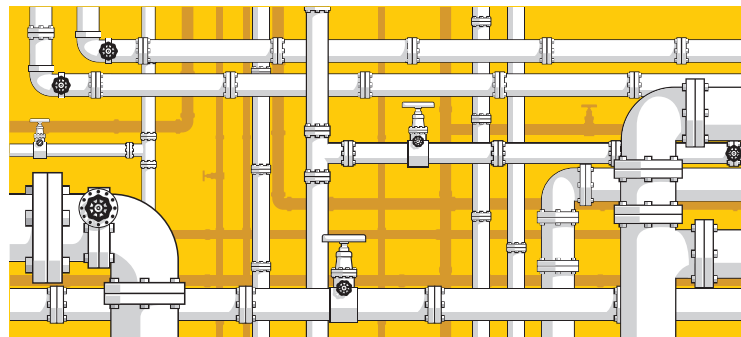
In 2022, the United States Congress approved changes to the Lead and Copper Rule. This law now mandates that public water systems, like Southwest Water Authority (SWA), must generate a Lead Service Line Inventory (LSLI) and provide it to the North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality (NDDEQ). Though SWA does not anticipate finding any lead in its system, the ruling necessitates that information must be collected from each account, including those not currently in use, such as pasture taps. For each additional account, a separate survey must be filled out. Simply complete a survey for each tap account you have and be automatically entered for a chance to win up to \$500 of water bill credits.

Here's how it works. Every month until December 31, 2023, **ten** returned LSLI surveys will be selected to receive a \$100 water bill credit. **If you have multiple accounts, each completed survey will be an individual entry.** With each survey, you have 70 chances to win if you complete it early! At the end of the year, there will also be a \$500 water credit granted to one lucky winner. Other than removing the winners, entries for the monthly draw will remain eligible to win for the entire duration of the campaign. Please take the time to complete the survey either by scanning the QR code or visiting our website. Collection of this information is required by the NDDEQ. SWA will follow-up with customer accounts that do not complete the survey. We appreciate your cooperation as quality water is essential at every faucet.



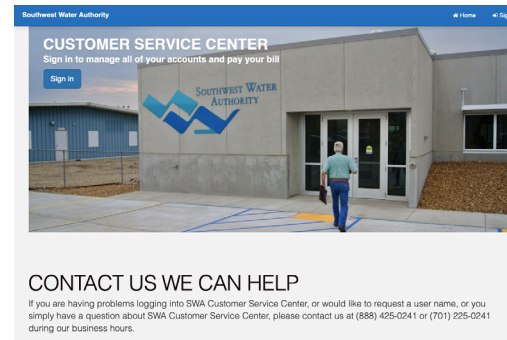
Why Does the Lead Survey Matter?

In order to effectively combat water contamination, the lead service line survey has been designed to identify the locations of lead service lines. It is widely known that lead can be hazardous to people's health, particularly for children, and thus extensive efforts have been undertaken to reduce exposure through drinking water. Usually, lead finds its way into the drinking water when it leaches out of pipes or plumbing materials made of lead after leaving the water treatment plant. To minimize lead levels in public drinking water supplies, controlling the corrosion of plumbing and pipes has been the most common practice. The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) has utilized multiple tactics to limit lead in drinking water, such as limiting lead content of pipes and fixtures, requiring public education and notification, authorizing the EPA to oversee the regulation of contaminants in public water supplies, and permitting grants to be distributed for lead reduction projects, lead testing in schools and childcare centers, and the removal of lead-lined water coolers from schools. In that effort, SWA needs to know if lead service lines exist in its service area. If you are a SWA customer – please take the time to fill one out for each of your accounts.



On-Line Customer Service Center

SWA's Customer Service Center is a great online resource to access and pay water bills. It also allows customers to access their usage history and other essential data quickly and efficiently. Customers can conveniently take care of their account needs at their own pace by signing up for the Customer Service Center with only their account number. If you haven't already joined, visit <https://customer.swwater.com/VCH/> to get started now.



CONTACT US WE CAN HELP
If you are having problems logging into SWA Customer Service Center, or would like to request a user name, or you simply have a question about SWA Customer Service Center, please contact us at (888) 425-0241 or (701) 225-0241 during our business hours.

Help Stop Aquatic Nuisance Species

As the boating season kicks off, the North Dakota Game and Fish is again warning of the negative impacts that aquatic nuisances, like Zebra Mussels, can have on native ecosystems. Although the species have not been found in Lake Sakakawea, their presence has been noted in lakes in the state's southeast region. These mussels cause disruption in food sources for native fish, contribute to harmful algal blooms, degrade water quality, and attack water intakes. The Game and Fish Department has initiated the Clean Drain Dry program in order to guard against their entrance into North Dakota's water sources. Boaters are urged to adhere to three essential steps every time they utilize their boat - clearing it of visible plants, animals, and mud; evacuating all water, such as live wells and bilges; and drying off the vessel and all related items prior to launching it into a different body of water. Adhering to this protocol will protect the state's waterways and ensure that Lake Sakakawea remains free from an invasion, thus helping to protect SWA's water source.



Always Call Before You Dig

Spring can be a great time to plant trees and shrubs, as well as other types of landscaping around your home. Unfortunately, buried utilities such as water pipelines often suffer the most damage during initial planting. Always contact 811 before digging to avoid utility disruption or damage. Please allow two full business days before you dig so the utility lines can be located and marked. Remember.... Safe digging is everyone's responsibility and it is the law!

ALWAYS CALL BEFORE YOU DIG



Drinking Water Week

For more than 40 years the American Water Works Association and its members, like SWA, 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 2023 celebration will take place May 7-13. Celebrate this occasion with us, by raising a glass of SWA's award-winning drinking water. Cheers!



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 to learn about everything from job postings to the latest pipeline and water news. www.swwater.com

Send address changes to: Southwest Water Authority 4665 Second Street SW Dickinson, ND 58601-7231

Phone: (701) 225-0241
Toll Free: (888) 425-0241
Email: swa@swwater.com
Fax: (701) 225-4058



4665 2nd Street SW
Dickinson, ND 58601-7231



Southwest Water Authority's Board of Directors



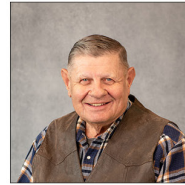
Jonathon Eaton
Adams County
jonathoneaton@swwater.com



James Odermann, Chairperson
Billings County
jamesodermann@swwater.com



Rick Seifert
Bowman County
rickseifert@swwater.com



Glenn Eckelberg
Dunn County
glenneckelberg@swwater.com



Mark Begger
Golden Valley County
markbegger@swwater.com



Harold Gaugler
Grant County
haroldgaugler@swwater.com



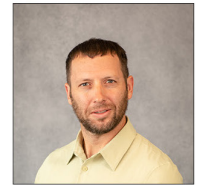
Don Schaible
Hettinger County
donschaible@swwater.com



Kaylene Klein
Mercer County
kayleneklein@swwater.com



Bruce Engelhardt
Morton County
bruceengelhardt@swwater.com



Mike Tietz, Secretary/Treasurer
Oliver County
miketietz@swwater.com



Dave Juntunen
Slope County
davejuntunen@swwater.com



Curtis Glasoe
Stark County
curtisglasoe@swwater.com



George Nodland, Vice Chairperson
City of Dickinson
georgenodland@swwater.com



Jason Bentz
City of Dickinson
jasonbentz@swwater.com



Bob Leingang
City of Mandan
bobleingang@swwater.com