

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

North Dakota's State Legislature ended their session with the approval of Senate Bill 2020 which granted the Southwest Pipeline Project (Project) \$80 million in new funding and a \$50 million line of credit. This funding will be used for the 12-million-gallons-per-day Southwest Water Treatment Plant expansion, West Zone Transmission Facility Improvements, Strategic Hydraulic Improvements, and Rural Expansion of the Burt and Hebron Service Area.

Moving into summer of 2023, construction will begin on Strategic Hydraulic Improvements near Amidon, in the Fairfield, New Hradec, and Killdeer Mountain Service Areas in July. These improvements will provide capacity for subsequent customers to connect to the Project. In June, the State Water Commission awarded contracts for

the procurement of the membrane and high-rate clarifier system equipment for the expansion of the Southwest Water Treatment Plant. SWA continues to collect signups for the Burt Hebron Service Area rural expansion. It is important to get all interested landowners to sign up during the planning stages. This will help to ensure the project will be feasible and allow phases of the project move forward in a timely manner.

In June, the SWA Board of Directors presented Glenn Eckelberg with a Resolution of Appreciation. Glenn was the Marketing Coordinator for SWA from 1994 to 2008, and served as the Dunn County Director from 2012 to present. Thank you, Glenn, from all of us at SWA for your leadership and dedication to quality water for southwest North Dakota. A successor will be appointed by the Dunn County Commission at an upcoming meeting.

We are now into the hottest time of the year. With the rising temperatures and an increase in outdoor activities, we tend to use more water for everything from pastures to gardening. But water is a finite resource, especially treated water, and it's important to take steps to conserve it. Being mindful of water usage such as not watering landscapes during the heat of the day and remembering to turn off pasture taps, can help preserve this valuable resource and lower your water bills. So, as we enjoy all that summer has to offer, let's all remember to be water wise.



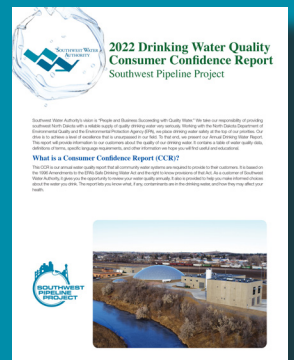
L-R: Mark Begger, Golden Valley County; Harold Gaugler, Grant County; Jonathon Eaton, Adams County; Bob Leingang, City of Mandan, Tim Eckelberg, Glen Eckelberg, Dunn County; Jen Murray, SWA Manager/CEO; and George Nodland, City of Dickinson



EVERY SURFACE. EVERY TIME.

Quality Water in Five Systems

Again, this year, all five of the public water systems operated by SWA provided water quality that met or exceeded the regulatory standards of the state of North Dakota and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. To learn more about the quality of your drinking water, please review the Consumer Confidence Report available on our website 24/7.





Know Your Water Allocations

As we enter the hottest months of the year, water consumption typically peaks. If you're a typical customer, any usage of over 25,000 gallons each month will incur increased water rates. For water usage over the allocated amount, the rate doubles per thousand gallons. The same pricing applies to 50,000, 75,000, and 100,000 monthly allotments. You may need to re-evaluate your usage if you often exceed your monthly allocation. All water that goes through the meter is billed, therefore, over allocation charges also apply to leaks, so be sure to monitor your accounts through our meter reading service (AMR).

Water Day – Festival O’ Fun

Celebrate water at the North Dakota State Fair! Sponsored by the ND Water Education Foundation, Southwest Water Authority will again have an education booth. This worthwhile event will take place at the Festival Tent in the State Fair Park on July 27th, from 11 am to 4 pm. Bring your family to enjoy fun trivia games, win exciting prizes, and treat yourselves to a Frost Fest snow cone.



Protecting AMRs

Because livestock and wildlife are prone to damaging exposed equipment, it is essential to protect your Automated Meter Reader (AMR) in a pasture location. Firstly, the AMR should be located two feet within the fence line, at the very least, to prevent damage from livestock. Set-up may also require a special installation to include a post, trenching, conduit etc. or a modification to the permanent fencing. Additionally, it is important not to affix the AMR to the fencing or corner post. If you do not have an AMR and would like to know more, contact us as they can be beneficial in detecting leaks in your system.



Congratulations Perry

We are pleased to announce that Perry Grammond has been named Assistant Water Treatment Manager for SWA. Perry holds a Level IV Water Treatment Certification and was an asset in the start-up of the OMND Water Treatment Plant in 2012. He is well-versed in Ultra-Filtration, Reverse Osmosis, and Conventional Softening Treatment Practices. Congratulations to Perry on his well-deserved promotion and for helping keep our water safe.



Complete Survey to WIN \$500 Credit on Water Bill

For the safety of everyone’s water, SWA must generate a Lead Service Line Inventory and provide it to the North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality. The ruling states we must collect information about lead piping 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 into a chance to win up to \$500 of water bill credits. We appreciate your cooperation as quality water is essential at every faucet. Visit our website or click on the QR code below.



Supplying Water in Oil County

Our team of operators are nothing short of “remarkable!” Recently that have been written up by the Treatment Plant Operators, a national publication that seeks out stories about operators worth sharing. In its June publication, Grace Rixen, Water Treatment Manager, and SWA’s operators were featured in a “Supplying Water in Oil County” article. To tell your operators why you appreciate them, visit our website, and scroll down to the bottom of the home page.



L-R: Larry, Kyle, Perry, Tim, Joe, Grace, Brad, Rob, AJ, Mitch, Jesse
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How to Use Your Water Meter to Check for Leaks

1. Turn off all water sources in your home, including faucets, toilets, and appliances.
2. Locate your water meter and write down the reading on the display.
3. Wait 15 minutes and then check the meter again. If the reading has changed, even though you haven't used any water during that time, you may have a leak.
4. To locate the leak, turn off the water supply to your home at the main valve and check the meter again. If the meter stops moving, the leak is likely in your home. If the meter continues to move, the leak is likely in the service line leading to your home and you should contact us.
5. Remember that any water usage after the meter, even if it is due to a leak, is the customer’s responsibility.

A Splashing Event



The 22nd Annual “Make a Splash” Water Festival, held in April, was solely dedicated to educating 5th grade students from schools throughout SWA’s service area. The knowledgeable facilitators came from the Department of Water Resources Project WET program. This educational program led students through hands-on activities to learn about pollution, erosion, water sources, and much more.



“Pete Bogg” demonstrates the “Amazing Water Machine” and shares some ways that we all can practice conserving water.
Photo credit: Tom Gibson with the Stark County Water Resource District

Our Vision

People and Business
Succeeding with Quality
Water

Our Mission

Quality Water for
Southwest North Dakota

Water Works is the Official
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Visit our website to learn
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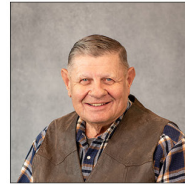
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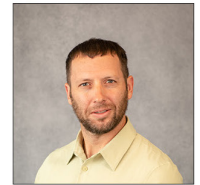
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