

La Mesa Water Cooperative

WaterGram - July 2012

Water Emergency

The Board appreciates the efforts of the members who conserved during the emergency. This made a much needed reduction in our water consumption.

Our water emergency emphasized the need for a quick, efficient method of contacting our members. Unfortunately, only about 25% of our members have signed up for our emergency contact list. As a consequence many members had no idea there was an emergency or an urgent need for conservation. This is a serious problem that makes it more difficult to manage emergency situations.

If you are not on our emergency contact list, please sign up now! To be added to our list, just send a request to: alerts@lamesawatercoop.org. If you want to receive alerts via text messaging, please send your cell number and carrier (AT&T, Verizon, etc.).

If you do not have e-mail, please ask a neighbor to keep you informed of emergencies.

Continued need for conservation

Your continued help with conservation is important. Landscape watering accounts for roughly 60% of the water we use in the summer. We have enough water that you can use your normal amount inside of your home; but we cannot support normal landscape watering until well #5 is completely repaired and well #6 is operational. Fortunately, the rains are here so we can save both water and money by turning off automatic irrigation.

The Albuquerque Bernalillo Water Authority recommends watering no more than 3 times a week during June, July, and August. Their complete watering schedule and conservation advice is at <http://www.abcwua.org>.

Progress with Well #6

Drilling of the new well is complete. and we are in the process of developing and testing it. Preliminary indications are that the well will provide the expected amount of water and will have an estimated life of up to fifty years.

We chose to put well #6 close to well #1 so we could use the existing building, electrical service, and connections to the distribution system. We did this recognizing the risk that drilling could adversely affect well #1.

We had to turn well #1 off when we started drilling well #6. We intended to turn well #1 back on as soon as drilling was completed. Unfortunately, materials from drilling the new well clogged well #1. Because of its age and low productivity it is not cost effective to restore #1 to service.

Consequently, we will begin service from the new well as soon as possible. Using the equipment from #1, we will be able to operate well #6 at 40-50% of its full capacity beginning about the third week in July. When the peak summer demand has passed, we will install equipment to allow it to operate at full capacity.

Don't Forget Our Web Site

Thanks to the efforts of Jock Embry our web site has been available for several years. It is lamesawatercoop.org. A private section for members (password "87043") contains Board minutes, budgets, and other documents of interest to members. Please stop by and take a look.

Board Appoints Two New Members

At our May meeting the Board appointed Bob Blanchard and Jim Pilcher as new Board members. We appreciate their willingness to serve on the Board.

Board of Directors

Bob Blanchard (802) 922-1042
Bob Davey 771-3434
Marty Davis 771-9127

Gordon Forbes 771-3464
Irena Budzko King 771-8437
Dan Lawrence 771-1408
Dave Otter 867-7986

Jim Pilcher 771-9341
Jim Romero 771-9417
Dennis Szarka 867-5225