

LAKE WASHINGTON SANITARY DISTRICT (LWSD)
PO BOX 3188
MANKATO, MN 56002-3188
WWW.LWSDMN.ORG

JANUARY 2020

Special points of interest:

- Electronic bill request
- Meetings held 2nd Monday of month
- Rate increase

In The News



Your grinder station and control panel are owned and maintained by the Sewer District. If you will be doing any work around this equipment, please contact Shane Youell and he will help identify and protect this expensive equipment from damage while your work is being performed. **Any work on the system MUST be done**

by our representatives. Examples: new siding on the home where the panel needs to be removed, disconnecting an electricity source, or **any digging within 20 feet of the station.** Shane will help—just call!

Please contact him at **507-995-7806** or MTECH@LWSDMN.org with maintenance, usage, service and billing concerns.

Billing Issues

Please ensure the District has your current email address and phone number. Your bill is prepared and mailed each month after the cut off date of the 20th. Please direct questions regarding your bill, including usage and/or cost to Shane.

In an effort to cut costs to our billing processes (printing, postage, etc.), please send an email to MTECH@LWSDMN.org requesting that your sewer bill be sent electronically. You will be provided with a clear and easy to read copy of your bill each month via email.

As a separate cost saving issue, if you are interested in having your monthly bill deducted from your checking or savings account, please contact Jim Deike at lwsd@hickorytech.net or 507-345-3354.

You are now able to pay your monthly bill online with a credit/debit card. There is a \$3 per \$100 service charge to use this option. Details have been placed on the website. Note: When you use your credit card, this is a one-time option. (non-recurring)

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Jim Deike, Secretary
108 S. MN Ave., Suite 400
St. Peter, MN 56082
lwsd@hickorytech.net
Office: 507-345-3354
Home: 507-243-4284

Shane Youell, Maintenance, Repairs and Billing
MTECH@LWSDMN.org
507-995-7806

Sanitary District Meetings

All board meetings are open to the public and are held on the 2nd Monday of each month. Meetings are at 7:00 PM at the Mankato Municipal Airport Conference Room, 3030 Airport Road, Mankato, MN 56001. Minutes of each meeting are posted to the website at www.LWSDMN.org

Sentry Advisor

Sentry Advisor equipment has replaced the old control systems on Lake Washington and Lake George. This new control system gives Shane direct monitoring and notice of problem stations along with safeguards that shut down pumps before we have total pump failures. Shane receives an alert in real time so he can react on each issue. Lake Madison and Ballantyne had modems updated this fall.

Homeowner—Basin—Landscaping

The covers on the basins must be left uncovered to allow venting during pump operation.

At no time should anyone open any of the basin or controls—leave this to district maintenance. If you are planning to do any digging **within 20 feet** of our equipment - call Shane and he will identify wire and controls in the work area at no charge to you.

What Do I Do If My Alarm Sounds?

- Turn off the sound of the alarm by pressing the silence button that is located underneath the alarm panel.
- LIMIT WATER USAGE
- Contact Shane at 507-995-7806 and provide your name, address and telephone number. (This contact information is also displayed on a sticker located on the control box).
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Rate Increase

The base rate of \$23 will remain the same for 2020. The flow portion of you bill will increase from \$8.50/thousand gallons to \$8.67/thousand gallons. This increase will be reflected in your January 2019 billing.

Common Sewer Problems Found

A list of items that should NOT be introduced into the sewer system is found on our web site at www.LWSDMN.org. Property owner's are encouraged to review this list, as you may be responsible for costs of repair due to negligence or abuse. **Most recently, construction materials, kitchen grease, flushable wipes and sanitary products have caused pump failures to which the homeowner may be responsible.**

Communication

If you have a question or need clarification, please immediately contact Shane or a board member and/or attend a meeting. Please regularly visit our web site www.LWSDMN.org, read FAQ along with our minutes to familiarize yourself with our ongoing processes.

Vacation

When going on vacation for a length of time, flush the system before you go away. Run clean water into the unit until the pump activates. Electricity must stay on and turn off the water.

High Usage Hints

Periodically check your water softener and iron removal systems for leaks. Failures in this equipment may generate some higher bills.

A quick check method for a leaky toilet is to add a small amount of food coloring to the tank and inspect the water in the bowl for color after an hour.

Selling/Purchasing/Remodeling & Building Properties

Contact Jim Deike at 507-345-3354 or Shane at 507-995-7806

FYI—In 2019 LWSD sent 41.6 million gallons of wastewater to the treatment plant in Mankato