



LYON & SIOUX RURAL WATER SYSTEM

Newsletter
May 2024

1107 1st Ave, Rock Rapids, IA 712-472-3755 lyonsiouxruralwater.com

Adding 2 deep wells near Boyden and George

Lyon & Sioux Rural Water has been at work on adding two deep wells in the Boyden and George wellfields. The Boyden deep well is 560 feet deep, and the George deep well is 520 feet deep. Currently we have 12 shallow wells in use at these wellfields, but due to the dryer conditions these past several years, the shallow wells have continued to drop causing us to throttle the wells back. Going with deep wells will give us the assurance of water being available until the aquifers are recharged.

Lead Service Line Inventory

This past year Lyon & Sioux Rural Water has reached out to its customers either by phone, mail or home visits gathering information on the plumbing material that is used for the water line coming from the rural water pit into the home / building and the plumbing material used inside the structure. Lead service lines are the largest source of lead in drinking water. Lead service lines were installed primarily during the late 1800s through the 1940s. Water systems throughout the USA are having to report the plumbing material and other information on service lines to the Environmental Protection Agency by October 2024. We all want the drinking water to be safe and not to be exposed to lead. If you do have any lead service lines, you will be contacted. We appreciate your time to answer our questions or for allowing us to look inside your home at the plumbing material.

Water Quality Report

The Water Quality Report is required to be done annually by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) and contains important information regarding the quality of water in our system. We are proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. It can be viewed on our website at www.lyonsiouxruralwater.com on the home page under "Latest News". If you have any questions concerning this report, please contact our office.

Scholarship Winner sponsored by Iowa Rural Water Association

Congratulations to McKenna Metzger on receiving a \$500 scholarship from Iowa Rural Water Association.

McKenna is the daughter of Craig and Kelly Metzger. Craig is a current Lyon & Sioux Rural Water board member. In the Fall of 2024, McKenna will be attending Waldorf University in Forest City, Iowa. Congratulations McKenna!



How much water should you be using each month?

We encourage each customer to review their monthly water bill for the number of gallons used. Each household and livestock operation will vary on how much water they consume. Typically, a household of 2 people will consume 2,000 – 3,000 gallons a month and a household of 5-6 people may consume 8,000-10,000 gallons a month. If your usage is above this amount, we encourage you to investigate why your usage is higher. Check for leaky faucets or hydrants. Many times, usage is high because of a toilet or water softener. A toilet that is running constantly can use over 400 gallons in just one day. A water softener may regenerate too often and be a culprit for consuming more water than necessary. We encourage you to check faucets, toilets and water softeners in your house and check any outside spigots and hydrants.

Be Smart on Using Water

Despite having received a substantial amount of rain these past months, it does not mean we need to neglect being conservative with using water. Water is precious! Some small measures you can take in helping reduce water usage include:

- Only use your dishwasher and washing machine when you have a full load.
- Close the tap while not in use during teeth brushing, shaving, washing hair, cleaning vegetables, and much more.
- If you must water your flowers, gardens, trees, lawns, we ask that you do this during the evening (8:00 pm – 8:00 am).
- Don't use water to clean streets, driveways, sidewalks, etc. Use a broom instead.
- Take shorter showers and avoid taking baths.
- Livestock facilities are to fill their storage tanks overnight and avoid drawing water during the hottest hours of the day. When possible, fill your water tanks for spraying the night before.
- Use well water for sprinkling livestock.

Thank you for your cooperation in conserving our valuable resource!

Rate Adjustment

Maintaining a dependable service at the most affordable price possible remains one of our top priorities. While accomplishing this goal, we must also protect the integrity and financial stability of LSRWS. Listed below are the new rates effective for July water usage as follows:

Minimum	\$39.50 (first 1,000 gallons included)
2,000 – 20,000 gallons	\$4.90 per 1,000 gallons
21,000 – 40,000 gallons	\$3.95 per 1,000 gallons
41,000+ gallons	\$3.50 per 1,000 gallons

Financial Report

The LSRWS 2023 financial report is available at our office, or it can be viewed on our website at www.lyonsiouxruralwater.com under "News and Reports".

Automatic (ACH) Payments

Did you know that we offer the option of having your monthly water bill deducted from your checking account at no cost to you? You would still receive a monthly invoice, and the invoice would be marked "Do Not Pay – Auto Bank Paid". Each month this would eliminate you writing a check, save the cost of a postage stamp, and avoid late payments and fees. This is a free service. If you are interested, please call our office at 712-472-3755 or go to our website www.lyonsiouxruralwater.com, click on Customer Information and scroll down to "automatic payment plan" and click on the link in that section.

Reminder -

Remember when the colder weather comes, the pit needs to be covered so that the equipment does not freeze and break. Cover the pit with a hay bale or tarp so that cold air does not go into the pit.

Have a great and safe summer!

From Lyon & Sioux Rural Water Staff and Board Members:

Operations Manager: Dave Harmsen.

Operators: Todd VandeKop, Waylon VandeKop, Travis Van Otterloo, Kris Ostrander, Kaden Huisman.

Office Manager: Sharon Postma.

Bookkeeper / Receptionist: Tami Schweitzer.

Board Members: Larry Van Roekel, Bruce Bonander, Craig Metzger, Tyler Klaassen, Barry Pollema, John Tiedeman, Jeff Hoogendoorn, Craig Van Otterloo, Rick Moser.