



Little Thompson Water District

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Spring 2015 Newsletter

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www.ltwd.org

Many meters, many miles



Little Thompson Water District offers our customers the convenience and security of online bill payment. If you have an internet connection and an e-mail address, you can register for "Auto Pay", "Paperless Billing", or make manual payments using their "Xpress Wallet" feature.

You can view up to a year's history of your account online, so you can compare your current bill to a year ago.

Does it cost anything to register for Xpress Bill Pay? No, it's free. So, why wait any longer? Register today at www.ltwd.org.

District Manager's Message

In the early months of the year, water managers in Northern Colorado meet to learn about snowpack conditions, water supplies and the cost of water. Although we serve different customer groups, we share many of the same concerns and collaborate to find solutions when possible.

This year's discussion was fairly typical. Snowpack is below average but reservoirs are full. The Front Range is growing, and improving economic conditions and development mean increased need for water. As a result, the price of water rights paid for by new development is rising. For existing customers, our District's monthly water rates have not increased since 2012.

We continue to watch housing and business development within the boundaries of our district to anticipate how the changing water market will impact our water demands and pricing.

On a different note, we are actively preparing for higher water demand as spring and summer irrigation and lawn watering begins. Although our water distribution system is maintained year round, spring is the time for system flushing to clean and check pipes and valves.

We strive to provide the best customer service possible. Please visit our website, www.ltwd.org for additional information or call 970-532-2096 with questions or concerns. *Thank you. Jim Hibbard*

2015 Water Supply

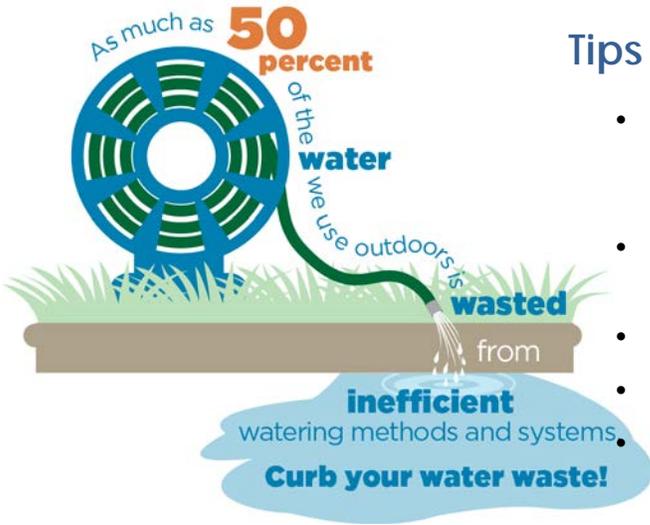
While water from snowpack is not setting records for 2014-15, water stored in Dry Creek Reservoir and in the Colorado-Big Thompson System (C-BT) will provide sufficient supplies of water for Little Thompson Water District customers during the summer months this year.

We also anticipate a portion of our water supplies can be kept in storage through the coming winter. Carrying over, or keeping water in storage, means that if snowpack is low in the coming 2015-16 winter, a reserve of water will be available for next spring.

C-BT water originates in the Colorado high country and is conveyed through ditches and pipes to Front Range reservoirs such as Carter Lake, and Horsetooth Reservoir. Dry Creek Reservoir, while not part of the C-BT system, is used for District storage. From the reservoirs, water is conveyed to drinking water treatment facilities and distributed to District customers.

Learn more about your outdoor water use

The average American household uses 320 gallons of water per day, about 30 percent of which is devoted to outdoor uses. More than half of that outdoor water is used for watering lawns and gardens. Nationwide, landscape irrigation is estimated to account for nearly one-third of all residential water use, totaling nearly 9 billion gallons per day. Learn more at www.ltwd.org



Tips for water outdoor conservation

- Learn more about Xeriscape principles and transition your landscape to more drought-tolerant plants. Check with your local garden center for more help or go to www.coloradowaterwise.org
- Check your irrigation system for leaking or broken sprinkler heads and repair if needed.
- Check hoses and sprinklers for leaks and cracks.
- Avoid watering between 10 am and 6 pm or during rainy days.
- Keep water off sidewalks and avoid water running off your landscape

Many meters, many miles

If you like driving for miles every day in all kinds of weather, reading meters may be a job to consider. Each month, one dedicated staff member, Robin Bonn, travels the District's 300 square miles and reads 8000 meters. She then downloads the day's water consumption information to the system that generates your monthly bills. Robin estimates that she drives an average of 100 miles a day to complete this important job. "I really like being outdoors so this position is enjoyable to me," she explains.

www.ltwd.org

You can learn how to pay your bill online, set up automatic bill payments; stay informed about District programs and news and much more.

Here's a sample:

Stay in touch during an emergency. Emergency Notifications provide critical information to our customers when an emergency affects our system.

Interested in learning about the District's water sources, water treatment and quality? Read more in the annual Water Quality Report.

Are you new to our District? A special section provides helpful information for new customers.

Our website, www.ltwd.org offers the most comprehensive and timely information about Little Thompson Water District management, water rates and resources, conservation and water quality. We hope you'll visit soon.