

Water Works



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF SOUTHWEST WATER AUTHORITY AND THE SOUTHWEST PIPELINE PROJECT

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From Mary Massad, Manager/CEO



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Manager/CEO

I am pleased to announce that those who signed up in Mercer County will soon be enjoying a refreshing drink of delicious, clear tap water

by summer's end! Currently under construction: rural service areas Zap Phase I and II.

The state-approved funding for the SWPP paves the way for more than 275 miles of additional pipeline to be installed. Additional water lines are also being installed north of Dickinson and south of Fryburg. Currently awarded contracts include the second Zap potable water reservoir providing 1,670,000 gallons of storage for those served from the OMND WTP. The Dunn Center Tank will provide storage and water to the North Dunn Service Area. The New Hradec Tank will provide storage for increased water needs in southern Dunn County. Work on Phase II of the OMND WTP is underway.

The first section of main transmission line for the North Dunn Service Area has been bid. SWA is working

on easement acquisition in eastern Oliver County (East Center Service Area). If you have received an easement, you will want to get it signed and notarized as it must be returned to our office prior to construction.

Additional signups for western Oliver and south Mercer Counties (West Center Service Area) are needed. This is your opportunity to help the Project meet the cost criteria necessary to move forward. Please talk to your neighbors and ask if they need quality water! We will then be working on easement acquisition for the West Center Service Area.

SWA recently held signup meetings for west Mercer and north Dunn Counties. Signups are needed before final design can start.

We are aggressively working to build and serve all those who need SWPP water. Please contact us or visit our website for more information. 💧

- **Mercer County to Get SWA Water!**
- **Infrastructure Construction Underway!**
- **We're Hiring!**

Online Bill Pay!!

You can now use a credit card or checking account to make a payment to SWA using a secure internet-based payment service. Do note there is a convenience fee for credit card processing.



Please review our website at www.SWwater.com or contact a customer service representative at 701-225-0241 for additional information or to set up a secure on-line bill pay account.



Signups Available In Oliver & Mercer Counties - Easements Needed!

Signups are wanted in western Oliver County, western Mercer County, and in north Dunn County! Easements are needed for the transmission lines in north Dunn County and we need your easement in Oliver County! If you are in Oliver County, please talk with your neighbors about allowing the SWPP to reach more rural residents.

No More Brown Water - The Joy of Drinking Clear Tap Water



For nearly ten years, local residents Chris and Traci Knopik endured a lot of things “brown” at their home. The culprit: poor quality well water. As a result, all of their household appliances were stained brown including the bathtub, the toilets and sinks. The same was true of white or light-colored clothes and linens. Nothing could successfully take the brown out of the water that came up from their two wells on this agricultural property. In fact, the 250 range cows Chris used to maintain with his father didn’t much care for the water they had to drink either and

often refused it. The Southwest Pipeline Project had not yet been connected in the area, so a third well was drilled. The water was still brown. “Better suited for ice tea or coffee,” says Chris. They hauled bottled water about every three weeks because the well water had a high degree of minerals.

The Knopiks have become the first property owners in the rural community of about 2,500 to receive SWA water and are very excited to have it. Chris is a repeat SWA customer from when he lived in Dickinson. He believes the water is top quality. “This water is similar to bottled spring water; it’s clear, it tastes great, it doesn’t stain anything, we have constant pressure flow compared to a well kicking in and out, so we really appreciate knowing we will always have a high quality water supply from now on,” said Knopik.

The long anticipated day to finally get quality water arrived and it was not without a memorable experience. Chris says Gary, the water distribution operator from SWA, was kind enough to wait two hours because the trench Knopik dug didn’t go far enough. “Their customer service is excellent,” said Knopik adding, “...and it really helped that Gary has a good sense of humor because the plumber forgot to tighten something which caused the main line to blow, and that, you can imagine, completely soaked the water operator to the core!”

The pressure was reset and the Knopik family is now enjoying clear and tasty tap water; thanks to the Southwest Water Authority. As an additional benefit, the family is saving money on soap and detergent since the brown well water is finally history. 💧

The Southwest Water Authority (SWA) was established by the North Dakota State Legislature in 1991. The Southwest Pipeline Project (SWPP) transports raw water from Lake Sakakawea to water treatment plants in Mercer County, the OMND WTP, and in Dickinson, where it is treated and delivered to more than 50,000 people in 31 communities covering 4,909 rural service locations. To date, more than 4,000 miles of pipeline has been constructed with additional construction contracts in the works for 2013.

Our Vision:
People and Business
Succeeding with
Quality Water

Our Mission:
Quality Water for
Southwest
North Dakota

Water Works is the Official Publication of the Southwest Water Authority and the Southwest Pipeline Project.

Visit our new website...from job postings to the latest pipeline and water news, it’s all online!

www.SWwater.com

Send address changes to:
Southwest Water Authority
4665 Second Street Southwest
Dickinson, ND 58601-7231

Phone: **(701) 225-0241**
Toll Free: **(888) 425-0241**
Email: swa@swwater.com
Fax: (701) 225-4058

Southwest Water Authority does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, marital status or disability in employment or the provision of services.

Tap Water Quality

SWA's Water Quality Reports (CCRs) for 2013 are complete and you should have received yours in the mail. Visit our website to review our CCRs.

If you are awaiting water service through construction of the SWPP, you will receive a packet of information with a notice from SWA that water is available. Once you receive it, you are eligible to connect. Please read the information provided in the packet and if you have further questions, contact the office.

Meet the Experts



"Do I drink our tap water? Absolutely! I rarely ever buy bottled water myself because I believe and know the water quality we produce here at the Southwest Water Authority is very, very good!" (Lee Messer)

Lee Messer, Water Distribution Manager with Southwest Water Authority (SWA) is in charge of ensuring water quality out in the field. He actually started with the Southwest Pipeline Project working for the ND State Water Commission in 1991, (owners of the Southwest Pipeline Project), as a Master Electrician.

His insights on water quality testing procedures: "The lion's share of the water quality testing is done at the Water Treatment Plant before it ever goes out into the distribution system."



"The operators are testing the water chemistry every two hours and the in-line auto samples are checking pH, turbidity and chlorine residuals every two minutes. With continuous monitoring the operators can make treatment changes as needed." (Grace Rixen-Handford)

Grace Rixen-Handford, SWA Water Treatment Manager, insures the water quality at the water treatment plants is continuously monitored by the plant operators and in-line auto samplers to meet and/or exceed all of the North Dakota Department of Health's strict water quality requirements.

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Did you know every child needs 3,500,000 gallons of clean water during their lifetime to thrive?

A close-up photograph of a young child with blonde hair drinking water from a public fountain. The child is leaning forward, and water is being poured into their mouth from a brass tap. The background is blurred, suggesting an outdoor setting.

And that's why we're here. Southwest Water Authority - Quality Water for Southwest North Dakota

The Southwest Water Authority logo, consisting of a blue wave graphic and the text "SOUTHWEST WATER AUTHORITY".

People and Business Succeeding with Quality Water