

### Customer Reminder

Please update your current phone numbers.



# NEWSLETTER

### Our Mission

*“To enhance the quality of life for the people in the southwest Minnesota area by acquiring and providing reliable, high quality, affordable water in an environmentally responsible manner through a publicly owned system.”*

### LPRW Information

Website: [www.lprw.com](http://www.lprw.com)

Email: [lprw@itctel.com](mailto:lprw@itctel.com)

Phone: 507-368-4248 or 800-462-0309

Hours: 7:00 AM to 5:30 PM M-F

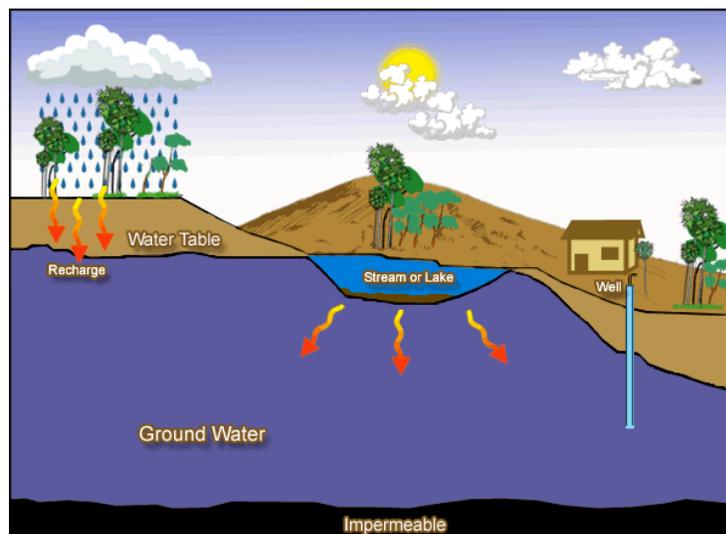
This newsletter includes our annual 2014 Drinking Water Report, also known as the Consumer Confidence Report to provide you with information concerning the quality of water provided by Lincoln Pipestone Rural Water.

LPRW tests its water and submits reports to the Minnesota Department of Health on a schedule mandated by state and federal regulations. Water quality information provided within this document contains averages from all LPRW water sources.

The Board and staff of LPRW are very proud of our product and we hope that you - our members/customers - are happy with the quality of our water and service provided.

Additional information can be found by visiting our website at [www.lprw.com](http://www.lprw.com).

Please take time to read this important information, and contact us if you have any questions or concerns at 1-800-462-0309.





## Water Well Maintenance Program at our Holland Well Field

The Water Well Asset Management Program is a custom designed preventative maintenance program that includes regularly scheduled cleaning and monitoring to maintain peak performance, lower operational costs and extend service life.

The starting point for all water treatment processes, and the initial cost of delivering on specification water, is the raw water supply. Roughly, 50% of all raw water supplies are obtained by extraction from groundwater aquifers using wells.

Wells experience loss of production capacity, and water quality problems, as a normal process of aging. The causes are normally categorized as physical, mineral and biological. Often, bacteria growing in biofilms can filter minerals from the water as it passes over the surface. Within this biologically accumulated material, fines from the formation (clay, silt, and fine sand) can also become trapped. This trapped or accumulated material increases costs by reducing the efficiency of the hydraulic connection between the well and the aquifer. The power required to pump water grows proportionally to the lost efficiency. If allowed to proceed, well plugging can result in total loss of the well.

U.S.G has determined that application of liquid and gaseous CO<sub>2</sub> to well screens and formations brings about the desired result. This new concept relies on the permanent, strategic placement of energy injection equipment at various points in the well. The concept is to begin to keep surfaces clean in a well and the surrounding aquifer instead of waiting for the surfaces to become completely fouled and encrusted. CO<sub>2</sub> offers the advantage of not having to neutralize or dispose of spent chemicals.

Preventative well maintenance programs maintain the well's production and water quality while stabilizing and/or reducing operational costs. Historically, it is common practice to operate wells until they experience a significant loss of specific capacity before rehabilitation efforts are performed. At this point, it can be more difficult if not impossible, to restore the capacity to its original condition because of the amount of plugging that has occurred within the well and near well formation. Preventative well maintenance prevents this permanent loss of capacity by removing deposits when they are easier and less costly to remove. CO<sub>2</sub> based preventative maintenance treatments offer the advantage of maximizing the efficiency of the well and minimizing progressive water quality deterioration, simultaneously providing the highest currently available "pump safe" energy levels. The annualized costs of the periodic cleanings are significantly less than the corresponding annualized cost of a well rehabilitation and replacement paradigm.

HOLLAND WELL #3



## LINCOLN-PIPESTONE RURAL WATER 2015 UPDATE

### Written by Mark Johnson, CEO

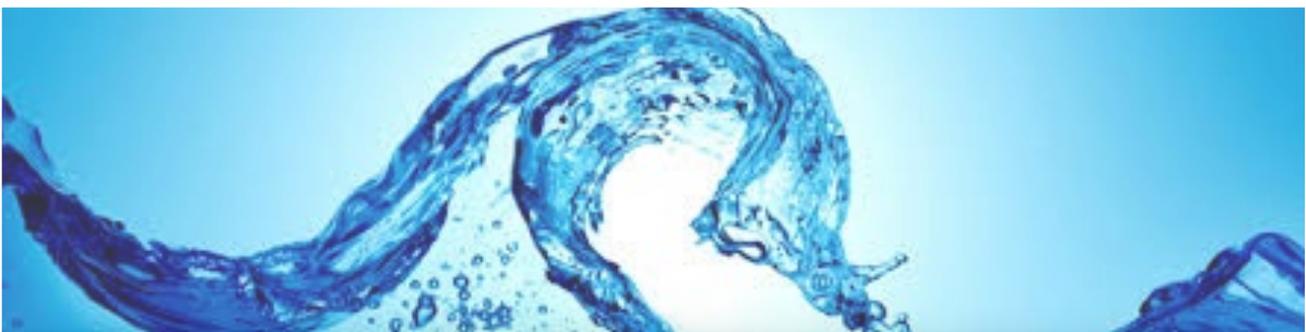
Lincoln-Pipestone Rural Water System has submitted its first priority list of projects to Rural Development for financing. The estimated project costs for Phase 1 are \$3.6 Million and are internal projects funded from water revenues as no expansion will result from these improvements. The projects consist of updating our SCADA system in the south half of our system; upgrading the well drives at both our Holland and Verdi wellfields; developing and completing our South Dakota Verdi wells for use and to stabilize the Verdi well field; adding a second connection point to the Lewis and Clark Regional Water System at Magnolia (jointly with the Rock County Rural Water System); and finally, addressing pressure and quantity problems through miscellaneous transmission main improvements.

There are six other priorities (phases) that eventually need to be addressed but timing and funding of those are not yet established.

1. Transmission main, pump stations and reservoirs from the Magnolia connection with Lewis & Clark to existing infrastructure.
2. Verdi wellfield construction
3. Developing a water source in the Northeast near Dawson
4. BIOTTA project for Holland
5. Build a pump station and new ground water storage reservoir SD Verdi well field.
6. Develop a transmission main that connects multiple water sources (Chandler to Russell).

Short and Long-term drought conditions are of significant concerns to LPRW. We are working to emphasize the duty of all its customers to conserve water in what already looks like a very dry year. We are asking the Cities to implement and work with us through conservation measures and to ban lawn-watering should a drought get severe. Hopefully we can all work together to sustain our aquifers and invaluable water supply and have the water that we truly need without waste.

LPRW has grown to become regional in size; and has assumed the role and responsibility of providing potable water to much of Southwest Minnesota. The LPRW Board will cautiously revisit its long term planning and will strive to develop good relations with all who need water whether it be an individual household, livestock operations, other agricultural use, cities or other rural water utilities. The LPRW Board, CEO and staff continue to deal with these challenges while working to provide high quality water and reliable service to all our members.





# WELLHEAD PROTECTION. . .

## The Benefits to Having a Local Wellhead Protection Planning Team



### *Why have a “wellhead protection team”?*

The development and implementation of a wellhead protection plan for a water system involves assembling information from numerous sources and using that information to make decisions pertaining to land uses in the drinking water supply management area (DWSMA). For this reason, it is beneficial to include a wide variety of people with various experiences and knowledge to participate on a local wellhead protection planning team. A planning team can help:

- assemble information about the water system;
- locate information about other wells in the area to assist with the wellhead protection area delineation;
- provide information and input when determining the boundaries of the DWSMA;
- locate contaminant sources within the DWSMA;
- develop and implement goals, objectives, and management strategies for the contaminants of concern within the DWSMA; and
- provide local control and ownership of the wellhead protection plan.

### *Who could participate on a “wellhead protection team”?*

Individuals selected to serve on a wellhead protection team should have an interest in protecting the groundwater resources or have valuable information to contribute to the planning process. Ideally, a group of local citizens representing different interests regarding drinking water will provide a public water supplier with valuable input in the development and implementation of a successful wellhead protection plan.

Public water supply systems serving less than 500 people may request that a Minnesota Department of Health or Minnesota Rural Water Association planner write the plan. A wellhead protection team must be assembled to qualify for this service.

#### **Who might serve on a wellhead protection team?**

- |                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| ■ System Water Operator         | ■ Local Educator                           |
| ■ Public Utilities Director*    | ■ Concerned Citizen                        |
| ■ Clerk*                        | ■ County Water Planning Staff              |
| ■ Well Drilling Professional    | ■ Watershed and/or Soil Conservation Staff |
| ■ Local Business Representative | ■ Minnesota Department of Health Staff     |
| ■ Citizens Within a DWSMA       | ■ Minnesota Rural Water Association Staff  |
| ■ Council Member*               | ■ Land Use Planning/Zoning Officer         |

\* Suggestions followed by an asterisk may only be appropriate for water systems owned and operated by a local unit of government.

If you would like more information or would like to obtain this brochure in another format, please contact:

Minnesota Department of Health  
 Drinking Water Protection Section  
 Source Water Protection Unit  
 P.O. Box 64975  
 St. Paul, Minnesota 55164-0975

Section Receptionist: 651-201-4700  
 Division TTY: 651-201-5797

# LPRW Board of Commissioners



*Back row from left:* Randy Kraus, Earl DeWilde, Bill Ufkin, Jerry Lonneman, Ken Buysse, Frank Engels (Chairman)

*Front row from left:* Rod Spronk (Treasurer), Mitch Kling, Jan Moen (Secretary), Joe Weber (Vice-Chairman), J. Brent Feikema



Norris Peterson retires from the LPRW Board. Norris served on the board for 7 years and represented our NW district. He was involved in several board committees and a Representative on the Minnesota Governmental Finance Group. Thank you for your dedicated service and leadership as an LPRW Commissioner.



Randy Kraus of the Lincoln Soil and Water Conservation District and of the St. Leo area was appointed to replace Peterson. Kraus has been quickly put to work on the conservation efforts of LPRW to help develop a Wellhead Protection Plan and to seek ways to convert agricultural lands in the vulnerable areas of our wellfield to more conservative use practices.

# Water saving tips



## Fix That Leak!



If your toilet has a leak, you could be wasting about 200 gallons of water every day. That would be like flushing your toilet more than 50 times for no reason!

Try this experiment: place a drop of food coloring in the toilet tank. If the color shows up in the bowl without flushing, you have a leak!



## Turn Off The Tap!

Just by turning off the tap while you brush your teeth in the morning and before bedtime, you can save up to 8 gallons of water! That adds up to more than 200 gallons a month.

The same is true when you wash dishes. Turn off the tap! Scrape your dirty dishes into the trash-then put them in the dishwasher.

## Shower Power!



Taking a shower uses much less water than filling up a bathtub. A shower only uses 10 to 25 gallons, while a bath takes up to 70 gallons! If you do take a bath, be sure to plug the drain right away and adjust the temperature as you fill the tub.

To save even more water, keep your shower under five minutes long-try timing yourself with a clock next time you hop in!

## Beat The Heat!



The best time to water your yard is in the early morning or late evening when it's cool outside. Watering when it's hot and sunny is wasteful because most of the water evaporates before the plants have time to drink it.

Also, make sure not to water the plants *too* much-remember that a little sprinkle goes a long way!



## Who Needs A Hose?

Washing your bike or car with a bucket and sponge instead of a hose saves a lot of water. A hose can waste 6 gallons per minute if you leave it running, but using a bucket and sponge only uses a few gallons!

Also, some car washes recycle water instead of letting it run down the sewer drains. Check if a car wash near you recycles water.



## CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

PWSID: 1410007

### Lincoln-Pipestone Rural Water System 2014 Drinking Water Report

The Lincoln-Pipestone Rural Water System is issuing the results of monitoring done on its drinking water for the period from January 1 to December 31, 2014. The purpose of this report is to advance consumers' understanding of drinking water and heighten awareness of the need to protect precious water resources.

#### Source of Water

The Lincoln-Pipestone Rural Water System provides drinking water to its residents from the following groundwater sources:

- Purchases treated water from Brookings-Deuel Rural Water System and the Osceola Rural Water System – North, and
- 23 wells ranging from 32 to 453 feet deep, that draw water from the Quaternary Buried Artesian and Quaternary Water Table aquifers.

The Minnesota Department of Health has made a determination as to how vulnerable our systems' source(s) of water may be to future contamination incidents. If you wish to obtain the entire source water assessment regarding your drinking water, please call 651-201-4700 or 1-800-818-9318 (and press 5) during normal business hours. Also, you can view it on line at [www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/water/swp/swa](http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/water/swp/swa).

Call 1-800-462-0309 if you have questions about the Lincoln-Pipestone Rural Water System drinking water or would like information about opportunities for public participation in decisions that may affect the quality of the water.

#### Results of Monitoring

No contaminants were detected at levels that violated federal drinking water standards. However, some contaminants were detected in trace amounts that were below legal limits. The table that follows shows the contaminants that were detected in trace amounts last year. (Some contaminants are sampled less frequently than once a year; as a result, not all contaminants were sampled for in 2014. If any of these contaminants were detected the last time they were sampled for, they are included in the table along with the date that the detection occurred.)

Key to abbreviations:

MCLG—Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.



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**MCL—Maximum Contaminant Level:** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

**MRDL—Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level.**

**MRDLG—Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal.**

**AL—Action Level:** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirement which a water system must follow.

**90th Percentile Level—**This is the value obtained after disregarding 10 percent of the samples taken that had the highest levels. (For example, in a situation in which 10 samples were taken, the 90th percentile level is determined by disregarding the highest result, which represents 10 percent of the samples.) Note: In situations in which only 5 samples are taken, the average of the two with the highest levels is taken to determine the 90th percentile level.

**ppm—Parts per million,** which can also be expressed as milligrams per liter (mg/l).

**ppb—Parts per billion,** which can also be expressed as micrograms per liter (µg/l).

**nd—No Detection.**

**N/A—Not Applicable (does not apply).**

Contaminant (units)	MCLG	MCL	Level Found		Typical Source of Contaminant
			Range (2014)	Average/Result*	
Arsenic (ppb) (11/13/2013)	0	10	N/A	1.86	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
Barium (ppm) (11/13/2013)	2	2	N/A	.01	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	.82-1.3	1.29	State of Minnesota requires all municipal water systems to add fluoride to the drinking water to promote strong teeth; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.



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Contaminant (units)	MCLG	MCL	Level Found		Typical Source of Contaminant
			Range (2014)	Average/ Result*	
Haloacetic Acids (HAAs) (ppb)	0	60	4.1-9.9	9.9	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	10.4	10.4	nd-5.5	5.5	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
TTHM (Total trihalomethanes) (ppb)	0	80	22.1-58.1	58.1	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

\*This is the value used to determine compliance with federal standards. It sometimes is the highest value detected and sometimes is an average of all the detected values. If it is an average, it may contain sampling results from the previous year.

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 parts per million is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask advice from your health care provider.

Contaminant (units)	MRDLG	MRDL	****	*****	Typical Source of Contaminant
Chlorine (ppm)	4	4	1-1.6	1.32	Water additive used to control microbes.

\*\*\*\*Highest and Lowest Monthly Average.

\*\*\*\*\*Highest Quarterly Average.

Contaminant (units)	MCLG	AL	90% Level	# sites over AL	Typical Source of Contaminant
Copper (ppm) (08/30/2013)	1.3	1.3	.64	0 out of 30	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
Lead (ppb) (08/30/2013)	0	15	6.1	1 out of 30	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Lincoln-Pipestone Rural Water System is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can



## CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

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minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Monitoring may have been done for additional contaminants that do not have MCLs established for them and are not required to be monitored under the Safe Drinking Water Act. Results may be available by calling 651-201-4700 or 1-800-818-9318 during normal business hours.

### Compliance with National Primary Drinking Water Regulations

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

*Microbial contaminants*, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

*Inorganic contaminants*, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

*Pesticides and herbicides*, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

*Organic chemical contaminants*, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

*Radioactive contaminants*, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.



# CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

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*Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.*

New Option for paying  
your water bill!

## AUTOMATIC BANK DRAFT

The worry-free way to pay your water bill. With this service, the amount of your monthly bill is automatically deducted from your bank account and credited to your utility account. There is no set-up fee or charge associated with this method of payment. To set up Automated Bank Draft, simply come by or call the office for a form.

Know what's below.  
Call before you dig.

### COLOR CODE FOR MARKING UNDERGROUND UTILITY LINES

-  Electric
-  Gas-Oil-Steam-Propane
-  Communication-CATV-Fiber
-  Water
-  Reclaimed Water-Irrigation
-  Sewer
-  Temporary Survey Markings
-  Proposed Excavation



[www.gopherstateonecall.org](http://www.gopherstateonecall.org)



Lincoln Pipestone Rural Water  
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 Lake Benton, MN 56149

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 56146

**LPRW is an equal opportunity provider and employer.**

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at [http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\\_filing\\_cust.html](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html), or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

## 2015 WATER RATES

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**\$22.58** - Minimum rate, no water used  
**\$2.36** per thousand 0-5,000  
**\$2.43** per thousand 5,001 to 10,000  
**\$2.48** per thousand 10,001 to 20,000  
**\$2.53** per thousand for every thousand above 20,000

Please refer to the Retail Water Rates card in your billing packet for further information or look on our website at [www.lprw.com](http://www.lprw.com) under the billings tab, or call the LPRW office if you have any questions.



### Make 2015 About Water

This year, make the resolution to save water! Take the "I'm for Water" pledge.

By using water efficient products and practices, consumers save natural resources, reduce water consumption, and save money. In order to realize these savings, consumers need to be able to identify products and services that use less water while performing as well as or better than conventional models.

[www.epa.gov/watersense](http://www.epa.gov/watersense)

[www.facebook.com/epawatersense](https://www.facebook.com/epawatersense)

