

Lake Chelan Reclamation District News



A LITTLE BIT OF HISTORY

A contract was made between Lake Chelan Reclamation District and the Bureau of Reclamation in 1971 to provide irrigation water to the Lake Chelan area.

Contract conditions included the following:

1. The United States would build and own the irrigation system. The District would pay approximately 15% of the project cost by a 50 year 0% interest loan. The main purpose of the project was to maintain and expand the agricultural economy that existed prior to 1971.
2. The federal project was designed to provide irrigation water to primarily irrigable property that could support fruit production for the local economy.
3. Certain lands were classified by the Bureau as irrigable and the District assessed property based on that classification.
4. All irrigation water came from Lake Chelan and was delivered to customers in a pressurized pipe system with a metered turnout for approximately 20 acre tracts of land.
5. The project included drainage works for approximately 1500 acres of certain low lying orchard land that was considered to be available for fruit orchards.
6. The project included favorable power rate provisions for the irrigation pumping plants to deliver irrigation water to orchards.
7. The District agreed to operate and maintain the federal irrigation system according to the contract.
8. The Contract covered irrigation for 6225 irrigable acres. This was later amended to include up to 6336 irrigable acres.

CURRENT SITUATION

The District is currently not in compliance with a few provisions of the contract between Lake Chelan Reclamation District and the Bureau of Reclamation. The noncompliance items include the following:

1. Certain lands are "overplanted" due to orchards being planted on lands not currently classified as irrigable by the Bureau. This "overplanting" is sometimes called "water spreading". The District has identified approximately 178 acres which may be receiving unauthorized irrigation water without being assessed for irrigation water.
2. Since the 1970s, property owners have constructed houses, driveways, and other impervious areas. Some impervious areas are still classified as irrigable and are being assessed for irrigation water. The District plans to reclassify impervious areas as nonirrigable and discontinue assessing these properties.
3. The reclassification of impervious areas and assessment changes should occur for the 2011 irrigation season.

FUTURE SITUATION

The District Board is evaluating methods of allocating water rights. Property must be classified as irrigable to receive irrigation water. Customers must be treated equitably and charged a fair price for irrigation water. The Board is being advised by the Bureau of Reclamation and the District's attorney to ensure customers are treated on an equitable basis.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Do I have to pay my assessment even though I don't use irrigation water?

A: Yes. Unless you relinquish the water right for your property.

Q: I sold this property last year, why am I getting this assessment?

A: If the buyer or seller notifies us of the change, we will change our billing to the new owner of the property.

Q: This property has been subdivided and part has been sold to another owner. Why am I getting the assessment for the whole property still?

A: We are required to set our assessments (equalization roll) in November of the previous year. The final assessment roll for 2010 was calculated and approved in November 2009. After the roll has been approved by our Board of Directors in November, it cannot be changed until the following November.

Q: Can I have my own irrigation meter for my lot/property?

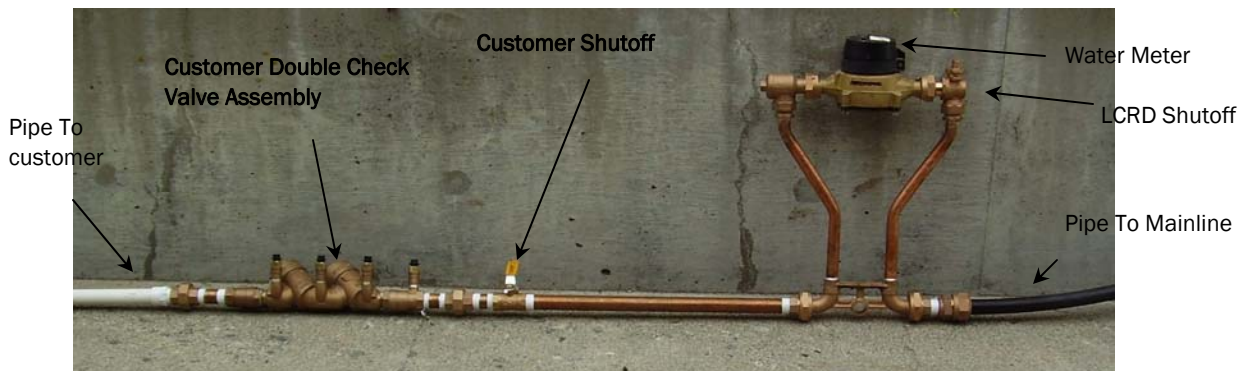
A: The District will consider installing an irrigation meter on an existing property if the owner pays all the costs of installation and the acreage served is at least 5 acres of irrigable land.

Q: What are 'irrigable acres' and how is that different than my property acreage?

A: Irrigable acres were established and mapped out by the Federal Bureau of Reclamation when our current system was designed and installed. Areas of land that likely would not have irrigation rights would be steep slopes or soils classified by the Bureau as unsuitable for agriculture.

Cross Connection Corner

Your home has the ability to return water to the public water system. Water that has passed through the meter and to the customer, is referred to as "used water". Used water has the ability to return to the main during a backflow incident. Backflow incidents can occur during changes in mainline pressure. Examples would be a break in the mainline or during high flow through a fire hydrant. Backflow can also occur when the pressure in the home becomes higher than the normal operating pressure of the main. A booster pump or carbonated beverage machine could cause this condition. If used water is allowed to backflow into the main, it becomes available to other customers. To prevent this, the Washington Department Of Health has mandated Cross Connection Control Standards for all Public Water Systems. These standards call for installation of a backflow prevention assembly at connections that have the potential for backflow of hazardous substances. The degree of hazard determines the device to be installed. The degree of hazard is determined by the Cross Connection Control Specialist. An example of a low hazard would be an irrigation system or swimming pool. An example of a high hazard would be a dentist office or veterinary clinic. Backflow prevention assemblies protect your public water system. The assemblies are required to be tested at installation, annually, after repairs to the device, and anytime the device is removed and reinstalled. Annual testing ensures your device is operating properly. The most common test failure is caused by a small object holding a check valve open. The Lake Chelan Reclamation District has a Cross Connection Control Specialist and Backflow Assembly Tester on staff. Please feel free to call our office. Our Cross Connection Control Specialist can answer any questions you may have.



Typical Water Service With A Double Check Valve For Premise Isolation

News

Major Irrigation System Improvements Planned For Next Several Years

The Irrigation system is over 36 years old. The District plans to replace several major pieces of equipment over the next several years.

Lake Chelan Pumping Plant – Replacement of 700 hp synchronous motors and pumps at a cost of \$120,000 each. The units are original motors and pumps and will need to be replaced over time.

Motor Control Center – The electrical equipment units are original and should be replaced within the next 5 years. Cost estimate is approximately \$450,000.

Motor Control Center



Pumps And Motors



System Facts

Irrigation Pipelines	72 miles
Pumping Plants	9
Irrigation Tanks	13
Annual Power Cost	\$200,000
Annual Water Delivered to Customers	16,000 acre feet per irrigation season

Manson Water Treatment Plant Receives Award

The Office of Drinking Water, Department of Health recently awarded the Manson Water Treatment Plant a Bronze Certificate of Achievement for attaining filtered water turbidity of 0.1 NTU or less for 4 continuous years. Director of Office of Drinking Water, Denise A. Clifford, indicated that achieving consistent high drinking water quality like this is the mark of a highly dedicated and skilled water department staff.

Domestic Water Line Replacement

The District is planning to finish the replacement of an old 4" steel water line on Division Street by the summer of 2010. This water line has had numerous breaks in the last few years. The replacement will improve water capacity. The road will be patched after the new water line is installed.

Sewer System Improvements Continue

The District has purchased spare submersible sewer pumps for two critical interceptor pumping plants. A 100 horsepower pump for Lift Station #2 and an 18 horsepower pump for Lift Station #1. The cost is approximately \$46,000. These pumps will significantly increase the reliability of our interceptor in the event of pump failure.

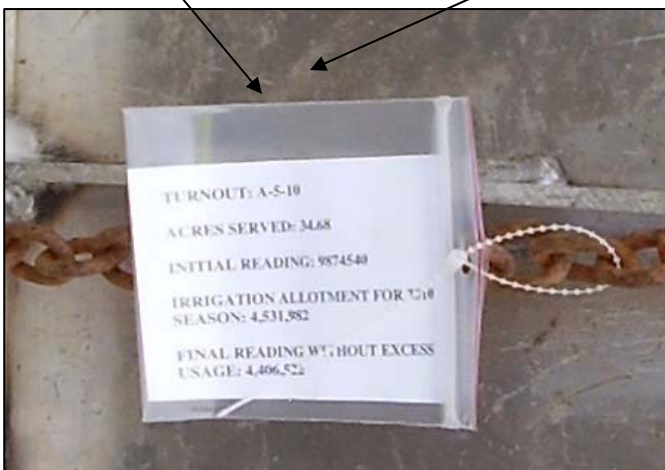
The District has purchased a used truck, mounted with a new vacuum pump and tank. The District has relied on private contractors to provide emergency sewer vacuum truck services. The District will see a good return on investment as the truck will be used for flooded manholes, flooded wet wells, maintenance of facilities and hydro excavation. The truck will be readily available to employees answering emergency after hours calls.



Bonneville Power Sponsors Irrigation Pump Analysis

Bonneville Power (BPA) paid EMP2, Inc. to perform an energy analysis of the Lake Chelan Reclamation District's irrigation pumping plants. Results of the analysis will assist us in pump and motor replacements. The District may receive some incentives from BPA to install certain equipment that improves the energy efficiency of the pumping plants.

Read your irrigation can turnout tag. This tag will show you how much irrigation water you can use without a penalty. Just read the water meter. The tag will show you what the water meter can read at the end of the irrigation season without using excess water. It is a good way to keep up with your irrigation water usage.



TYPICAL TURNOUT WITH RAISED LID



Lake Chelan Reclamation District

2009 Drinking Water Quality Report

We are pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the water quality and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. **Our water source is Lake Chelan**, and our Water Treatment Plant is located at 550 Chase Ave, Manson, WA.

This report shows our water quality and what it means. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact **Brent Winters, Field Manager, at (509) 687-3548**. We want you to be informed about your utility company. If you want to learn more, you are welcome to attend any of our regularly scheduled Board Meetings. **District Board Meetings are normally held on the second Tuesday of each month at 8:00 a.m. in our main office at 80 Wapato Way. Our board members are Gordon Lester, President; Ken Rau, Vice President; Arnold Baker, Director; Rocklund Libbey, Director; and Robert Christopher, Director.**

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes limits on the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water and must provide the same protection for public health. All 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 (800-426-4791).

Lake Chelan Reclamation District routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The Lake Chelan Reclamation District water system had **NO VIOLATIONS** of the Washington Safe Drinking Water Law during 2009, and we expect to have no violations in the upcoming year. The following tables show the results of our monitoring and testing for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2009.

We at Lake Chelan Reclamation District work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

If you have any questions, please call our office at (509) 687-3548.

Este informe contiene información importante acerca de su agua potable. Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, o hable con alguien que lo entienda.

Sincerely,

Kem M. Carr, P.E.

Secretary-Manager

Lake Chelan Reclamation District

Definitions

Non-Detects (ND) - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present or below detection limits.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

Parts per trillion (ppt) or Nanograms per liter (nanograms/l) - one part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000,000.

Parts per quadrillion (ppq) or Picograms per liter (picograms/l) - one part per quadrillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000,000 years or one penny in \$10,000,000,000,000.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Millirems per year (mrem/yr) - measure of radiation absorbed by the body.

Million Fibers per Liter (MFL) - million fibers per liter is a measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that are longer than 10 micrometers.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) - nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

Action Level (AL) - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Treatment Technique (TT) - A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Maximum Contaminant Level - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is 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.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal - The "Goal" (MCLG) is 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.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) – The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water.

EPA requires monitoring of over 80 drinking water contaminants. The following table lists contaminants detected in your drinking water.

TEST RESULTS						
Contaminant	Violation	Level	Unit	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Microbiological Contaminants						
1. Turbidity	N	.013	NTU	n/a	.30	Soil runoff

Radioactive Contaminants						
2. Radium 228	N	Less than 0.25	PCi/l	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Volatile Organic Con-						
3. TTHM Total trihalomethanes	N	13.65	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
4. HAA5	N	11.5	ppb	0	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
5. TOC	N	0.55	ppm	0	n/a	Measure of organic carbon.
6. Lead	N	.003	ppm	0	0.015	Plumbing (Sampled in September 2008)
7. Copper	N	.409	ppm	0	1.3	Plumbing (Sampled in September 2008-)
Inorganic Chemicals						
8. Asbestos	N	Less than .095	mfl	0	7	Decay of Asbestos Cement Pipe; Natural Deposit

Raw water samples were tested for total coliform in 2009. Results averaged 5.42 colonies per 100 mL.

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 storm water 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 storm water 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 storm water runoff, and septic systems.

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

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

Total Coliform: The Total Coliform Rule requires water systems to meet a strict limit for coliform bacteria. Coliform bacteria are usually harmless, but their presence in water can be an indication of disease-causing bacteria. When coliform bacteria are found, special follow up tests are done to determine if harmful bacteria are present in the water supply. If this limit is exceeded, the water supplier must notify the public by newspaper, television or radio.

Nitrates: As a precaution, we would notify physicians and health care providers in this area if there is ever a higher than normal level of nitrates in the water supply. Water sample results have never indicated a level approaching the MCL.

Lead: Lead in drinking water is rarely the sole cause of lead poisoning, but it can add to a person's total lead exposure. All potential sources of lead in the household should be identified and removed, replaced or reduced. 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. Lake Chelan Reclamation District 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 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>.

Chlorine: The District uses chlorine as a disinfectant in your drinking water. The maximum residual disinfectant level (MRDL) allowed is 4.0 mg/l. There have not been disinfectant levels approaching this level. Your drinking water disinfection level is typically 0.6 to 0.8 mg/l.

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 (800-426-4791).



LCRD DOMESTIC LEAK POLICY

Leaks that occur in the private underground service lines or lines under the floor or within the walls of the residence that cannot be readily seen are eligible for a water charge rebate. The rebate will be limited to 50% of billed water in excess of average consumption. Leaks do not include hose bibs, drain valves and fixtures that are left on or leak in a manner that is avoidable or detectable.

2007 and 2008 Audit

The Washington State Auditor's Office recently completed an audit for 2007 and 2008. The auditor reported no findings for the two years. The auditor indicated that District had complied with state laws and regulations as well as its own policies and procedures that were examined. To view the audits of Lake Chelan Reclamation District, go to the following website: www.sao.wa.gov



Lake Chelan Reclamation District

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BULK RATE MAIL U.S. POSTAGE PAID

Lake Chelan Reclamation District Board Members

Gordon Lester, Board President

Ken Rau, Board Vice President

Arnold Baker

Rocklund Libbey

Robert Christopher

We Do Bank Draft Payments

We are set up to do automatic electronic payment deductions from checking or savings accounts through an ACH system. If you are interested in automatic payment deductions for your water and sewer bills, you will need to request, fill out, sign and return a direct payment authorization form to our office. We will need original signatures and current bank information on file to perform this service.

Credit Card Payments



We use a service provider to process credit cards for payment. Official Payments are at www.officialpayments.com or over the telephone at 1-800-272-9829. Our jurisdiction code is 5668. Payments for domestic water and sewer, irrigation assessments and excess fees and even hookup fees can all be paid with this service. Official Payments, the service provider, charges a fee for this service.

*If paying on the internet, be sure that you select Lake Chelan Reclamation District and not Chelan County.