

Squaw Valley Mutual Water Company Newsletter

Winter 2014

P.O. Box 2276, Olympic Valley, CA 96146-2276

NEW BOARD ELECTED

In September, 2013 the Mutual held its annual general meeting and the Board of Directors elections. Elected to a two year term were, Patti Guilford, Lizzie Day, Tim Mattheis, John Coyle and returning Director Julee Rosa.

Remaining on the board was John Johnson, President and Director Hans Burkhart. The Board positions election also took place keeping John Johnson as President, Hans Burkhart was elected Vice President, John Coyle, Treasurer and Julee Rosa, Secretary. A special thanks goes to Gate DeMattei for his loyal Board service to the Mutual for the past 4 years. Gate retired from the Board in September.

CONSTRUCTION COMPLETED

The Mutual issued a notice of completion in December of 2013 for the Water Improvement Project. Reno Tahoe Construction completed their work in November of 2013. The Squaw Valley Road water main, fire hydrants and services along with Lanny Lane was completed in October 2013. The Well House number 1 & 2 combination work was completed in November of 2013. Remaining project in progress is the Monitoring and Controls upgrade for wells # 1 & 2. This project is in the design and evaluation stage.

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

The next scheduled Board meetings will be held 3/8/14 and 4/12/14 at 3PM. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend. The Board meetings are held at the Public Service District Community Meeting Room.

DROUGHT PREPAREDNESS

We are all aware that Governor Brown declared a drought state of emergency on Jan 17, 2014. As of mid Feb. our current snow pack is below 20% of normal for this time of year. The PSD reports that the current level of our aquifer is the lowest on record however the static level continues to rise indicating the aquifer is recovering from pumping by all users.

It appears unlikely that precipitation totals will bring the aquifer level back to normal for the duration of this year which may require all users of the aquifer to implement water use restrictions on a voluntary and possibly mandatory basis. The MWC is coordinating information and efforts with the PSD. The MWC will participate in the *Olympic Valley Ground Water Management Plan Advisory Group* if conditions do not improve. For now the MWC Board will consider measures to advise on conservation and if needed, more restrictive water use methods.

WATER CONSERVATION

With three dry winters in a row the possibility of water shortages is on everyone's mind. Here are a few basic tips for water conservation. Please keep in mind that we all share the Valley's water.



Inside the Home:

Kitchen:

- Wash Veggies in a container, not under running water.
- Only run the dishwasher with a full load.
- Cool drinking water in the refrigerator.

- Make sure you have aerators are installed on all faucets.
- Fix all leaks right away – even a small drip can waste 70 gallons of water a day.

Bathroom:

- Install low flow shower heads.
- Take shorter showers – a shower kept under 5 minutes can save about 15 gallons of water.
- If you take a bath, only fill the tub halfway – you could save 10-15 gallons of water.
- Install an efficient Ultra Low Flow toilet – 1.6 gallons per flush.
- Make sure you have aerators installed on all faucets.
- Turn off the water when brushing your teeth.
- Fill the basin when shaving.
- Don't use the toilet as a wastebasket.
- Check for a leaking toilet by putting food coloring in the tank, if you see color in the bowl after 20 minutes, you have a leak.



- frequently to keep up with changes in the weather.
- Check your sprinklers frequently for breaks and overspray.
- Choose a water-efficient (Drip) irrigation system for trees, shrubs and flowers.

- Water deeply but less frequently to create healthier and stronger landscapes.
- Put a layer of mulch around trees and plants.
- Plant drought-resistant trees and plants.

Cleaning Up:

- Use a broom, instead of a hose, to clean patios, driveways and walkways.
- Take your car to a car wash instead of washing at home.

**OPERATION & MAINTENANCE
GUIDE FOR THE SVMWC**

The MWC Board of Directors under the direction of Director Tim Mattheis is developing an Operations and Maintenance Manual. The manual will include guidelines for compliance, testing, daily monitoring, system operation and water treatment. This manual will insure proper system operation and maintenance in the future.

Laundry Room:

- Only run the washer with a full load.
- Purchase a high efficiency washer – you could save 20 gallons per load.

Outside the Home:

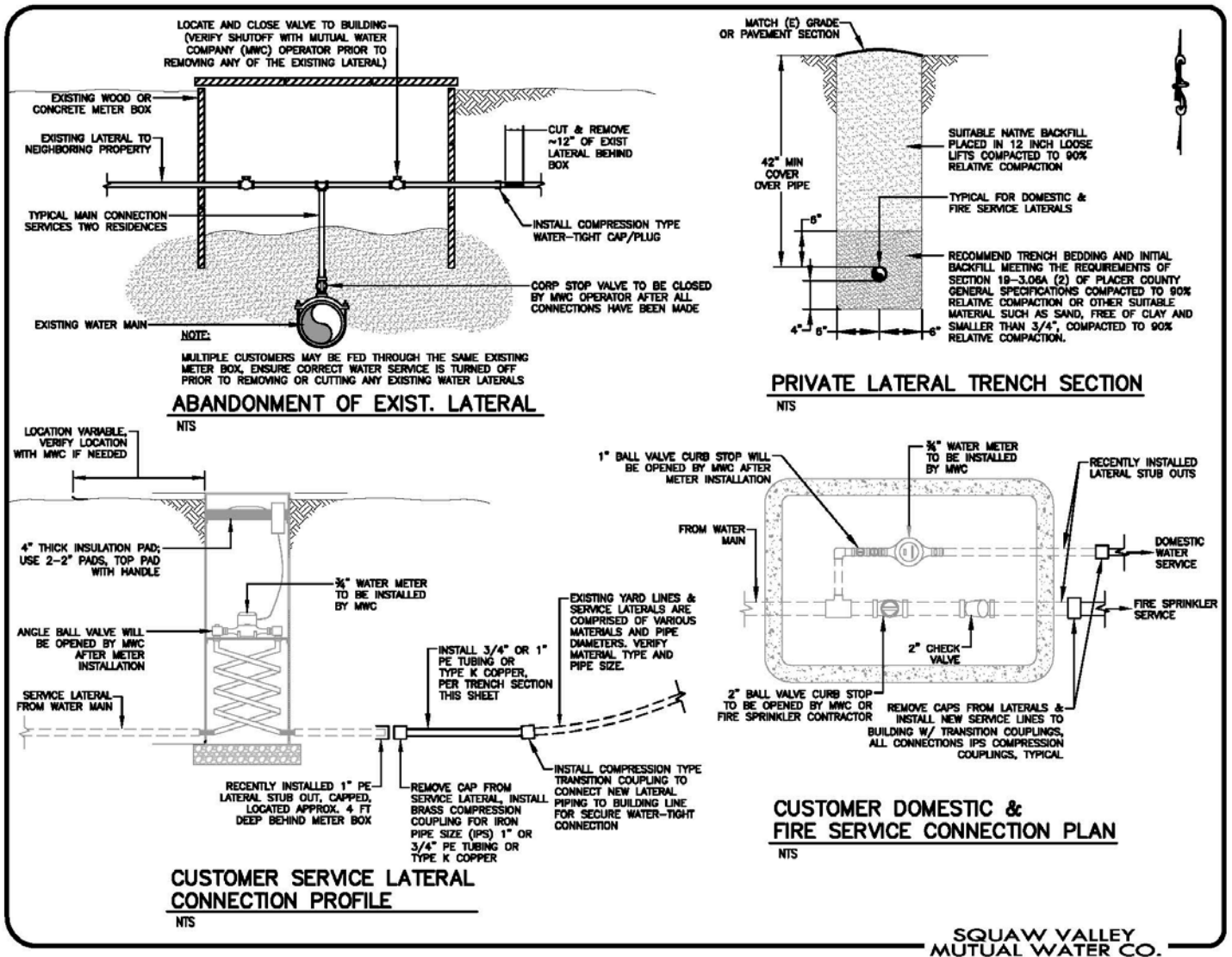
Landscaping:

- Irrigate your yard in the morning or evening when temperatures are cooler.
- Make sure you have a timer on your irrigation system – adjust your schedule



**OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE
MANAGER JOB OPENING**

Effective June 30, 2014 John Collins will be retiring from the SVMWC as Operations Manager, leaving this position open and currently unfilled. The scope and requirements for this position will be available by April 12, 2014. Resumes and proposals from potential candidates will be accepted after April 1, 2014.



For a larger version of the lateral connection and abandonment detail please visit our website www.SVMWC.com

NEW SERVICE CONNECTION DETAILS

As a guide for those Members who have not connected to the new meter boxes in the street we have included a detail (above) for yours and your contractor's reference. The detail shows the correct connection and trench installation for the house service and the fire service if applicable. Please note the detail for the abandonment of the old service after connection to the new meter. Please contact the Mutual office or the Operations Manager for more information.

NEW METER CONNECTION

The Squaw Valley Mutual Water Company Board would like to encourage all those property owners who have not connected to the new meter system to do so as soon as possible. In light of the impending drought it is imperative that we are able to monitor water use and volume for the entire Mutual system and the new meter system gives us this capability. The Board has set a goal of having everyone connected by October 15, 2014. Your cooperation on this is highly appreciated. We have included the above detail drawings for connections as a construction reference.

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PO Box 2276
Olympic Valley, CA 96146

WATER OPERATIONS REPORT

Operations Manager John Collins reported the total gallons used from all wells as:

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>
June	4,741,000	4,059,000
July	5,463,000	6,459,000
Aug	5,563,000	6,181,000
Sept	4,874,000	4,906,000
Oct	2,410,000	2,954,000
Nov	1,220,000	1,086,000
Dec	2,103,000	2,000,000

In 2013 monthly tests for Total Coliform in the system and chlorine residuals were within state standards. The water meets all federal and state standards for drinking water.

Operations Manager: John Collins
Office Manager: Anne-Marie Giese

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Comments and ideas for newsletter articles
are always welcome.

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