



HDE NEWS

4488 SE JERRY DRIVE, PRINEVILLE, OR 97754

www.hdehoa.com

SEPTEMBER 2016

NOTES FROM THE BOARD

Well, we are now into September, and water problems continue. According to our pump service guy and a local well driller, it is pretty certain that well #3, one of 3 wells serving Cistern #2, is no longer usable. Rumor has it that some wells were drilled in Juniper Canyon this past year not far from our well, and they may be in the same aquifer that we are using for that particular well. This could be a contributing factor for ours going dry. We are looking into having another well drilled if we can find a suitable location near cistern #2. If someone knows a reputable dowser (water witch), we are open to consulting with him/her. It's not a joke, we are that desperate.

Some residents have brought up that we have water rights from the State allotting us 80 million gallons per year. We currently are using about 16 million gallons a year, only about 20% of our water right allotment. *But the State doesn't guarantee that we can pull it out of the ground.* That is our responsibility, and by our, it means all of us.

We are an Association, and as a result, the State thinks of us as a Community Water District. I stress the word **Community**, because there are some in the community, who think our water is not their concern as long as they can turn on a faucet and water comes out. We did some analysis of water usage for the month of July, which is our most recent data, and found that of 162 properties, 63 of them used more than the 11,200 gallons which is the allotment that is included in our homeowners' \$35 basic monthly fee. Of those 63 over-users, 29 used more than 175% of the allotment, and a few used up to a maximum of 436%.

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We can only do so much to get the water out of the ground. The Board of Directors has already voted to create another higher tier of overage charges. It's just a matter of deciding how much is too much and what the price will be. The bottom line is, when you use too much water, and a cistern is being depleted, it's not some highly paid government employee who is working on the problem, it could be your next door neighbor who is volunteering his/her time to make sure you don't have to take a dust bath like the quail do. :-)

It's time to check and see if you have any leaks, especially if you see an unusual overage on your bill. The most common problem is toilet leaks caused by a leaky flapper valve in the tank. If you have hose connections on the outside of your house, they should be of the frost-free kind, and if you left your garden hoses connected over the winter, there's a possibility that they may have frozen and cracked.

To check for leaks, turn off all water on your property so nothing is running. Then go look at your water meter and see if it is moving or sitting still. If it's moving, and you've turned everything off, you probably have a leak somewhere.

Al Roth, President

**Remember: June thru September
Odd number lots, water on odd number
calendar days. Even lots, even days.**

Lot number, not address number!

THANK YOU: Many thanks to all involved for organizing the appreciation breakfast August 19th. And thanks too to all who attended and for all the kind words that were spoken. The cards and gifts were indeed thoughtful and much appreciated. Thank you!

Al Phillips, Dorothy Wills, Helen Willis

HDE RESIDENTS' BREAKFAST

**First Wednesday of every month, 9:00am
Meadowlakes Restaurant**

WATER SAVING TIPS

These are only suggested tips from the internet, not orders from anybody! I haven't verified any of their claims on gallons used or saved. You can take them or leave them or laugh at them!

1. You've heard it before, turn off the water when brushing your teeth, The average faucet releases two gallons of water per minute, For the gents, rinse your razor in a pool of water in a stoppered sink rather than under running water.
2. When waiting for the shower water to warm up, collect the cold water that precedes the hot in a large bucket or waste can. That is valuable water! Depending on how quickly your water heats up, the collected water can be used for a number of bucket toilet flushes (just pour into toilet bowl, it flushes itself!) or to water plants.
3. Fix leaky sinks and running toilets. A running toilet can waste up to 200 gallons of water each day. At one drip per second, a faucet can leak 3,000 gallons in a year.
4. Place a displacement device in your toilet tank to reduce the volume of water used in each flush.
5. Take a shorter shower. And while we're at it: shower or bath? A bath uses up to 70 gallons of water; a five-minute shower uses 10 to 25 gallons.
6. Always use full loads in your washing machine and dishwasher – this cuts out unnecessary washes in between.
7. Beware the permanent press cycle. The permanent press cycle on most washing machines uses an extra five gallons of water for the additional rinse.
8. Mulching your plants (with bark chippings, heavy compost or straw) and watering in the early morning and late afternoon will reduce evaporation and also save water.
9. Water early in the morning or in the evening. Water long and slow, rather than short and heavy.

HELP WANTED or WORK WANTED

WORK WANTED:

Savannah (age 11) and Sydney (age 9) on Lauren DR will feed your pets or water your plants while you're away. They have references. **541-408-1791**

LAWN AND YARD MAINTENANCE:

Mowing, Hedge Trimming, etc.

\$20 per hour

Call Bill: 541-633-3074

Referred by Joann Gleason who says he is a hard worker

LANDSCAPING TIPS DURING DRY CONDITIONS

*Work in the mornings or late evenings to avoid the hottest parts of the day, and postpone your work when the weather calls for low humidity or high wind.

*Keep a water hose or bucket or fire extinguisher on hand.

*Use a nylon or plastic weed whacker line instead of metal.

*Be careful not to set a hot tool down on dry grass or leaves.

*Allow power engines to cool before refueling, and make sure the hot exhaust is kept away from dry grasses, weeds, and shrubs - only use such equipment that's in good repair and has spark arresters installed. when applicable.

*Stay home for an hour after finishing your work - this way you'll be around to notice if anything begins to smolder and smoke.

CROOK COUNTY BURN REGULATIONS:

crookcountyfireandrescue.com/burn-info/burn-regulations/

OR CALL: 541-447-BURN (2876)