



MARCH 2020

LETTER FROM THE BOARD

Happy “SPRING” from the Leeds Domestic Water Users Association.

March clearly came in like a lion this year, and our hope is that it follows the adage and goes out like a lamb. We have a lot of info to share with you in this edition of our newsletter. Many of the newsletter articles have been derived from questions from our shareholders. Our goal is to keep you updated on all things wet involving our culinary water service to our shareholder. In February we held our Annual Shareholder Meeting and identified our [board members](#) going forward. From all of us on the board we want to thank you for your continued support and partnership.



“COVID-19: Your Drinking Water Is Safe” – DEQ Article

Many organizations are responding to the outbreak of the respiratory disease caused by the new coronavirus. (abbreviated “COVID-19”). Currently, there is no evidence on the survival of COVID-19 virus in drinking water or sewage. The National Rural Water Association continues to monitor the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak and recommends all water and wastewater utilities review the best and latest information on the following trusted websites:



Do you “Bill Pay”?

Many people have adopted their bank’s automated payment “Bill Pay” process. The benefits of such services are: no more checks to write, envelopes to find, or stamps to buy. Set up your bill amount, and the bank will execute the payment on your behalf. Although the bank guarantees your payments will be sent as scheduled, provided you have sufficient funds, you need to understand when to schedule your payment to avoid late fees from the vendors you are paying, including the Leeds Domestic Water Users Association (LDWA).

How far in advance should you schedule a Bill Pay payment?

When you use the BILL PAY service from your bank to satisfy an invoice from LDWA this is what happens. The bank processes your request, cuts a physical check on your behalf to the LDWA in the amount you requested. This check is then mailed by standard U.S. Postal Service to the LDWA’s P.O. Box. For that reason, it’s important that you provide correct name, account #, and address information for all your payees. The mail is then collected by our office, stamped with the date of receipt and processed for payment.

How can I avoid late fees or reimbursement charges imposed by payee?

You must schedule your payment in advance of the payment due date. There will be a delay between the “Payment Send On” date (the date your payment starts processing) and the date the payee receives your payment. So, you should check with your bank and get their recommendation for the “Payment Send On” date. This could be at least five business days before the date your payment is due to the payee, or greater. Once you know this you can more confidently schedule your payment to the LDWA in a manner that will insure it’s received in time and avoid late fees.



Understanding your Washington County Water Conservancy District ('The Conservancy') Property TAX assessment

By now you have received your notification from the Washington County Water Conservancy District (WCWCD) about a proposed tax increase they have for 2020. The Conservancy's tax is an assessment included in your annual Property Tax Statement from Washington County.

The first thing you need to understand is that this is **NOT** a tax being imposed on you by the Leeds Domestic Water Users Association (LDWA), this **IS** a tax imposed by The Conservancy. The monies derived by these taxes are used by The Conservancy to provide a reliable supply of water to communities they serve within Washington County. It is important to note that The Conservancy does not supply water to Leeds Town municipality, so while we pay taxes to The Conservancy, we see little to no direct benefit from these taxes.

Back in 2006, the TOWN OF LEEDS and WCWCD entered into an agreement titled The Regional Water Supply Agreement. The agreement was entered into pursuant to the Utah Water Conservancy District Act, and as a part of this agreement a Water Surcharge (aka tax) was implemented.

In 2019 the tax rate was 0.000590, and how your tax is calculated is by multiplying this rate by the Taxable Value of your home.

Example (2019):	
Property Market Value:	\$477,770
Taxable Value of Property:	\$262,780
WCWCD (Tax Rate):	<u>0.000590</u>
2019 Tax Estimate:	\$155.04

TAX INCREASE ON HORIZON

The Washington County Water Conservancy District voted to approve a property tax increase for 2020 that will bring an additional \$750,000 in revenue. Ed Bowler, the chairman of the water district's Board of Trustees, said the Washington County Commission proposed a 0.000042 increase to the current tax rate. This increase is the same amount water officials adopted last year. In 2020, the example (listed right) would increase \$11.00.

Example (2020):	
Property Market Value:	\$477,770
Taxable Value of Property:	\$262,780
WCWCD (Tax Rate):	<u>0.000632</u>
2020 Tax Estimate:	\$166.08



Committed to Providing the Most Affordable Rates in the Area

Many of the town water associations around us have experienced rate increases this year. Our rates have remain unchanged, and in comparison **low**.

	TOQUERVILLE	VIRGIN	SANTA CLARA	SPRINGDALE	LDWA
10,000 GALS:	\$43.96	\$65.00	\$62.50	\$72.50	\$40.00
19,000 GALS:	\$76.21	\$78.00	\$124.40	\$180.20	\$40.00

With Appreciation

We are at once happy and sad to announce the retirement of our office administrator Mary Pettit. We want to recognize Mary for her unconditional dedication, grace, and congeniality. She will be deeply missed but we can only feel happy for her after many years of service.

Please join us to thank Mary and wish her & her husband (Frank) the best, as they start their "ultimate" vacation.





Survey Says

In a recent survey conducted by the Town of Leeds, the LDWA Culinary Water results were above the highest ranked. 85% of the respondents said they were Very Satisfied or Satisfied with the services offered.

	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	N/A
Recreation Facilities	26%	46%	20%	2%	2%	4%
Recreational Opportunities	11%	27%	35%	8%	3%	17%
Fire	21%	49%	12%	10%	6%	1%
Cty Law	13%	50%	25%	9%	2%	1%
Cty Anml Control	6%	32%	41%	8%	6%	6%
Irrigation	10%	25%	29%	3%	4%	30%
Drink Water	39%	47%	7%	3%	5%	0%
Storm Water	9%	30%	32%	8%	10%	12%
Garbage	37%	54%	6%	0%	1%	2%
Street	8%	49%	12%	24%	7%	0%
Electricity	18%	65%	7%	4%	3%	3%
Sidewalk (Av.)	10%	33%	22%	14%	5%	17%
Sidewalk (Cond.)	8%	36%	24%	10%	5%	16%
House & Yard Cond.	14%	32%	20%	25%	8%	1%
Other	1%	0%	0%	3%	3%	93%