



Las Campanas Water Cooperative

SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

2019 | SPRING

Las Campanas Spring Newsletter

President's Letter | April 25, 2019 | Ken Kirk, President

Record precipitation has alleviated some of the drought conditions.

But the reality is that we are not out of the woods.

Over the past few months, we have been very fortunate to have had record precipitation which has alleviated some of the drought conditions we have experienced over the past few years. Our reservoirs are either full or near capacity and the Rio Grande is running strong. But the reality is that we are not out of the woods. We must be vigilant and always keep our "Eye On Water."

And speaking of which, I strongly urge you to sign up for the Coop's "Eye On Water" app, which helps us detect leaks in our system and conserve water. In the past, the Coop has relied on an abatement policy to provide relief to homeowners who were unaware of a leak and were hit with a high-water bill. With the Eye On Water program now in place, however, the Coop Board is going to review this policy, and whether a homeowner has signed up for the app is certainly going to be a critical factor that we consider when a homeowner requests an abatement.

While we have made enormous progress on many fronts over the past several months, including the "Eye On Water" initiative, we have much more on our agenda between now

and the end of the year. We plan to change the name of the Coop to the "Las Campanas Water Cooperative;" undertake a strategic planning process to chart our course for the future; review and propose amendments to our outdated Bylaws; continue to work cooperatively with our colleagues at the Homeowners Association, the Club and the Club Casitas; and, most important, continue to provide the continuity and stability that the Coop needs to continue to work on your behalf.

I recently attended a National Water Policy Fly-In back in Washington and one of the speakers, Senator Tom Carper from Delaware, summed up the value of water best when he said that "there is no life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness without water." I look forward to working with you in the future, and I promise that we will keep our Eye On Water. We encourage you to keep your Eye On Water as well.



The Eye On Water mobile app is easy to use.



The Water Co-op's Operations Organization Moves into Q2 with a Continued Focus

The Water Co-op's Operations organization moves into Q2 with a continued focus on the goals & objectives that were established for 2019.

Our highest profile goal for 2019, the Eye On Water program, is now 92% complete with a total of 1,323 meters installed and approximately 122 installations remaining. To date, a total of 350 customers have signed up for the Eye on Water program or 55% of the households with installed meters vs. a goal of 75% by the end of CY 2019.

In addition to the completion of the Eye On Water program, the Operations organization is focusing on a number of additional goals & objectives which include: (1) installation of a new pond liner; (2) development and implementation of a risk-based capital improvements program; (3) support of the Jacob's contract review as it relates to renewal/revision of their contract; (4) development of a process for the Operations support of the 2020 budgeting program; (5) development

of a classification program for support activities in an attempt to both assure that the community receives top quality service and cost-competitive pricing, and; (6) implementation of a fire hydrant inspection and flow test program. The ability of the Water Co-op to maintain the routine water and waste water operations and advance a significant number of goals and objectives can be attributed to the dedicated staff at the Water Co-op and a very active and supportive Board of Directors.

The Water Co-op's Board and staff carry three core values into the operations and management of our program. The three core values include the advancement of our water conservation and sustainability program, the enhancement of our overall operations through continuous improvement; and, a reduction in the cost of operations through competitive bidding and a well-coordinated management effort. We are on schedule to complete all of our goals & objectives for 2019 and welcome any questions from the community.

Communications and Sustainability Committee

With the installation of the Eye On Water service nearly complete our focus continues to be on encouraging each household to sign up with Eye On Water to take advantage of the ability to track water usage and get timely leak alerts. At present, 55% of our Members are signed up. We saw a spike of new sign-ups as people opened their watering systems for the year and wanted to see if there were any new leaks in their systems. If you have any questions about downloading this service to your computer or phone, please contact Heather Roybal at 505-930-7155 and she'll be happy to quickly guide you through this process.

In the past month we offered two landscaping and irrigation classes to Co-op Members. As the weather patterns change, plant selection and irrigation techniques will become even more critical!

Tracy Neal presented to 50+ members at each session. Given the success of these classes we will plan to offer them again next year.

Our newly updated website is up and running. Please take a minute to visit the website to familiarize yourself with the documents and articles that are available. The Co-op's website address is: www.lcwatersewer.coop. All newsletters, conservation bulletins, and other articles relative to irrigation and conservation are archived each month along with governance documents such as minutes, by-laws, and water reports. Please let us know if you have any suggestions that would make the website even more valuable as a community resource.

In May we will host our first "Welcome Coffee" for new Co-op Members. If you are new to Las Campanas within the last year, please plan to attend. Our hope is to provide you with a quick overview of "everything water" here in Las Campanas, to answer any questions you may have, and to welcome you to our Las Campanas Water Community!

DON'T FORGET TO ATTEND!

WHAT: LCWC Annual Meeting **WHEN:** July 24th at 10:30am. **WHERE:** The Club at Las Campanas, The Club Room.