

Your Drinking Water Remains SAFE & Healthy!

Long before the coronavirus made its way to Iowa, West Des Moines Water Works began planning and preparing for its response to what is now a global pandemic. Thankfully, the virus is not transmitted through drinking water. In fact, the disinfectant—sodium hypochlorite—

WDMWW TREATMENT PLANT LOCKS DOWN

Water treatment is essential according to Homeland Security's definition of critical infrastructure and any interruption is not just inconvenient but potentially catastrophic to water customers and communities. As coronavirus



that WDMWW uses in its treatment process kills COVID-19 as well as other bacteria and viruses, eliminating them from the drinking water supply.

PLAN, PREPARE AND RESPOND

“Our customers can be assured: Your tap water is safe for drinking, cooking, bathing and cleaning,” Christina Murphy, general manager, said. “As it became clear that we were going to be in the middle of a pandemic, we were able to put into place a number of precautions and processes necessary to protect our customers and employees. Locking down our treatment plant is a critical step in protecting the community and our employees.”

cases began to multiply in Iowa, WDMWW staff and trustees determined that in the best interest and safety of the community the utility would sequester treatment staff on site starting March 29. Two teams of essential water treatment employees stay in the campers (pictured above) for two-week-long, 24-7 shifts.

“Our water treatment staff ensures that our water is safe and secure. They have responded to this emergency with professionalism and dedication. We thank them for going above and beyond,” said Brian Rickert, chairman of the Board of Trustees.

My Account

TO LOGIN TO YOUR ACCOUNT CLICK THE LOGIN BUTTON BELOW



Registered Customers



Customers

PAY BILL
GO PAPERLESS
START/STOP SERVICE
HOMEOWNER RESPONSIBILITY
VIEW MORE...

To Register • Start Here

Be GREEN • Be Healthy • Pay Online

A click of the mouse and a simple online registration allows customers to be GREEN while practicing social distancing and paying their bill from the comfort of home. Register with WDMWW to access the following services:

- Online Bill Delivery
- Bill Review
- E-Check Payments (Free!)
- AUTO-PAY (Free!)
- Payment History
- Usage History

Start the registration process by logging onto www.wdmww.com and follow the prompts in the aqua **Customers** section under **PAY BILL or GO PAPERLESS**. Once registered, the **My Account** Login button is the go-to place to access all the **GREEN** benefits.

WDMWW Administrative Offices are locked. Water bills must be paid online, by phone or with the exterior dropbox.

DID
YOU
KNOW



In-ground sprinkler systems may be a modern invention, but irrigation is older than the hills. The earliest documented irrigation began in 6000 BC in Egypt and Mesopotamia. In Egypt, the Nile flooded for a few months each year, and the waters were diverted to the fields to allow farmers to grow crops where otherwise they would be unable to do so.

WDMWW Requests Customers to Join in the Metro Movement to 'Use Water Wisely' in 2020 & Beyond

April showers will bring May flowers, but chances are irrigation and watering is what will keep them lush and growing throughout the spring and summer months. Irrigation is the single largest use of water during the peak summer months in Iowa.



"No one is against irrigation, but as a community we can be more conscientious and effective with our summer watering," said Christina Murphy, general manager of West Des Moines Water Works. "That's why we have joined with other utilities and communities in the metro to recommend and promote 'Use Water Wisely.'"

The system is simple: Businesses and residents with addresses ending in an even number, say 2206, water on Sundays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Those with addresses ending in odd numbers

should water on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. All customers are asked to avoid watering on Mondays.

"Managing summer water spikes and peak days prompts utilities to make expensive expansions in water treatment capacity; because no one wants to run low on water," Murphy added.

WDMWW hit its historical peak in July 2012 with 15.83 million gallons used in one day during that summer's blistering drought. Though Water Works has treatment capacity of 10 million gallons per day, the utility procures another 10 million gallons through purchase agreements.

"Watering doesn't need to happen every day to be effective," Murphy added. "In fact, most experts recommend watering deeply—well into the soil—and less often."

According to Iowa State University extension, most Iowa lawns do well with 1 to 1.5 inches of water per week achieved in two applications three to four days apart. Those with state-of-the-art in-ground irrigation systems can easily program their sprinklers for frequency, time of day and watering amount. The old-school sprinkler requires a little more effort and maybe a little more math, but can accomplish the same.



WATERING TIPS & TRICKS:

- 1** The best times to water are 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. and after 5 p.m.
- 2** Avoid frequent light applications of water that lead to shallow roots and can make grass more susceptible to pest issues.
- 3** Regardless of your address, AVOID watering on Mondays.
- 4** Keep water on the grass and off the concrete, which neither grows nor greens.

