

Double Horn Creek Water Supply Corporation News

July 2019

2019 Updates

As you may be aware, we have engaged an independent professional engineer to conduct a study on future demand and water sourcing options. A verbal report has been presented to the DHCWSC Board of Directors and we've received a draft of the final written report. Currently, we are reviewing the draft report. Once the review cycle is complete, we expect the final report by the end of August. When delivered, the report will be posted on the DHCWSC web site dhwsc.org. Some highlights from the draft report:

- Our network of 3 wells currently serves our approximately 100 members (...think households) adequately. Our well network will adequately support demand for a forecast Double Horn buildout of about 200 members under normal rainfall conditions.
- We source our water from the Ellenburger-San Saba aquifer. This aquifer provides relatively good quality water for household use. In accordance with the Texas Commission of Environmental Quality (TCEQ) standard for public water supply systems, we treat the well water with chlorine before it is delivered to households. The well water quality and plant and infrastructure for water treatment is sufficient for current and forecast needs. A note of caution: The Ellenburger-San Saba aquifer is just below ground level and it is very dependent on nature's rainfall for replenishment. Drought conditions will quickly impact the availability of our well water because our wells are located on the outer edge of the aquifer.
- The report does not recommend significant infrastructure investment. It does recommend that we invest in making Well #4 (currently not in production) a monitoring well and the Board of Directors will consider this action at the appropriate time.
- Should we need to expand our water sourcing, the report provides viable options.

Spicewood Crushed Stone Operations

The Board of Directors continually reviews the potential water quality and quantity impact of the Spicewood Crushed Stone (SCSO) quarry operations. We gather information from a variety of sources including our consulting Profession Engineer for water quality. While it is difficult to project the impact of SCSO future operations, we believe we have the monitoring systems in place to guide any necessary future actions that might be necessary for our water company.

Business and Operational Improvements

As outlined in our annual meeting last January, we have worked to improve business and operational practices, focusing on procedures and processes, data assurance, and operations continuity. We have signed a new operator contact with Spicewood Utility Services (SUS). Among other measures, this contract expands the SUS role in administrative support. We have received the first version of a disaster recovery plan. Also, we have continued to improve the functional/operational relationship with our accountant/bookkeeper service.

Conservation, conservation, conservation

This is our message through the summer months when we see increased water consumption for landscape irrigation. In July we sold 981,000 gallons of water. Compare that to our January (no significant irrigation) sales of 504,000 gallons. Please bear in mind that water consumption in the dry summer months places a stress on our system. Also, please remember that filling a swimming pool with water provided by DHCWSC is not permitted.

Care to participate more? We value input and comments from our members. If you have some good ideas, please join us at our next board meeting. Notices for board meetings are posted on our website at www.dhcwsc.org, at the mailboxes, on the Burnet County website, and through a courtesy email to the members.

Online billing is available Did you know that you can elect to pay your water bill online? We have a trouble-free Just In Time option which will automatically deduct your water bill payment from your credit card on file on the 14th of the month. Or you can choose to login and submit your online payment at a convenient time. Interested? Contact us either by phone at 512-839-4320 or via email at SpicewoodUtilityServices@gmail.com for more instructions.