

2018 ANNUAL WATER REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION OF DEPARTMENT

The Water Department has: Six full-time Employees plus one Utility Billing Clerk and one part-time receptionist doing collections and data entry at City Hall.

Name	Years of Service	Certificate grade and type
1. Rich Sudtelgte	13 years	Grade III Treatment/ Grade III Distribution
2. Mike Haverhals	23 years	Grade IV Treatment / Grade IV Distribution
3. Monte Brent	2 years	Grade II Treatment / Grade II Distribution
4. Scott Tillman	2 years	Grade I Treatment / Grade I Distribution
5. Curt Allen	2 years	Grade I Treatment / Grade I Distribution
6. Justin Frericks	1 Year	Water Operator
7. Angie Kneip	11 years	Utility Billing and Collections

The water department operates the City of Le Mars water system which consists of over 90 miles of underground water main, 4662 water meters, 686 fire hydrants, over 1743 main line valves, 2- one-million-gallon elevated water tanks, 1 - 1.5-million-gallon underground storage tank, over 1 million gallons in the distribution system, A 6 MGD Filtration Plant, 1 - high service pump station with a total of 4 pumps, 1 booster pump station w/ 3 pumps run in alteration, and 6 - Dakota Aquifer wells.

The Water Department also: handles some locates for water and many service calls for various reasons, oversees cellular companies at the Le Mars water tower, moves snow at over 10 different locations in the downtown and surrounding areas, does small capital projects, replaces valves and fire hydrants, changes water meters, does customer service work orders, repairs emergency water main breaks and performs many other in house maintenance tasks at a great cost savings to the citizens of Le Mars.

Information of interest

Total metered water pumped from 6 wells for the year	1,036,074,000gallons
Backwashes @ approximately 78,000 gallons each total	50,823,000 gallons
Backwash percentage of well water pumped	4.90%
Total metered pumped into the distribution system	985,251,000 gallons
Average daily water pumped	2,695,333 gallons
Billed metered water for 2018	959,551,400 gallons
Flushing, WTP use, Hydrant meter sales, & other	1,800,000 gallons
Water used for testing equipment	7,537,560 gallons
Leaks estimated	688,800 gallons
City meters not billed	14,369,500 gallons
Difference between pumped and non-accountable water	15,673,240 gallons
Percentage of non-accountable gallons	1.6%
This is an acceptable or low percentage number in the water industry.	

Work Completed

Number of locates performed by the Water Department	223
Water concerns	40
Work orders completed at Water Treatment Plant	1376
Work orders completed for meters and customer service	279
Work orders for fire hydrant	750
Water tests done	4017
Meter replacements completed	18
New meters installed	109
Number of disconnect notices	2607
Shut-off and collections	329
Water main breaks fixed	7
Fire hydrants repaired, moved or replaced	10
Hours of snow moved in City with 3 pieces of equip	255
Finals and applications done	691
Service taps completed	20
Service leaks	13
Frozen meters	7
Call outs not including leaks	47
Service call with fee's	80

Review of Gallons Pumped

2018	Ave. Daily Produced	Monthly Water Produced	Total Pumped from well
January	1,992,000	61,755,000	65,258,000
February	2,058,000	57,633,000	61,430,000
March	2,297,000	71,206,000	72,560,000
April	2,502,000	75,051,000	79,496,000
May	3,052,000	94,607,000	99,907,000
June	3,596,000	107,867,000	110,320,000
July	3,600,000	111,595,000	119,476,000
August	3,524,000	109,247,000	113,071,000
September	2,864,000	85,912,000	93,078,000
October	2,762,000	85,610,000	89,635,000
November	2,226,000	66,782,000	71,898,000
December	1,871,000	57,986,000	59,945,000

Total 985,251,000 1,036,074,000
 = 50,823,000 back wash =4.9%

Average day pumped for year = 2,695,333 gallons, down 32,584 gallons per day from 2017

Projects completed and worked on in 2018

1. Fixed leak in the head box at the treatment plant
2. Replaced 2 impellers at the booster station
3. Rehab Well # 10
4. 7 water main breaks
5. Added 3 fire hydrants to our system.
6. Put hydrant markers on most fire hydrants.
7. Replaced 5 hydrants.
8. Have a maintenance agreement with Maguire Iron to paint the old tower this spring.
9. Completed main jobs on Lincoln & 1st St SE, Dog park main & Industrial Rd south of 24th St SW.
10. Capped main going under RXR tracks on 6th Ave SW by Dairy Queen.
11. Worked with several contractors shutting down, line stopping, tapping, mains.
12. Renewed Annual Water Use permit.
13. Completed all required tests for DNR including 10 Bacteria tests per month, 1 SOC & 1 VOC, 20 Lead & Copper, 1 Asbestos, 1 Nitrogen-Ammonia, 1 Nitrate, 1 Trihalomethanes & Haloacetic acids
14. Well & HSP tests done by Sargent Well Co.
15. Spring and fall flushing completed.
16. Yearly hydrant maintenance.
17. Renewed FCC License
18. Gave ambulance & police Departments tours of the treatment plant & upgraded their access cards.
19. Interviewed & hired new Water Operator (Justin Frericks).
20. Removed 6 Antennas & wires from the old tower (weren't being used).
21. Replaced SCATA system & replaced remote access software with a more secure software.
22. By renegotiating contracts, finding things we were being over charged for & finding service that we were not charging all customers for, we have saved the city around \$17,000.
23. Helped Sioux Center by providing a 4" pump to help when their town was flooding.
24. Change labs from Mangold to Foundation Analytical.
25. Completed many more tasks as mentioned in Quarterly Reports.



Work projects to be done in 2019

1. Paint the water tower.
2. Eliminate 5 to 7 blocks of 4" main on Central Ave. south before next year's white topping project. There are two mains on Central, we would move the services lines to the 8" main & eliminate the 4" main.
3. Well 13
4. Review operating permit if the 2020 Census goes over 10,000 population.
5. Fix the retaining wall around the treatment plant.
6. More backflow awareness, compliance, testing and checks along with compiling information on computer program.
7. Continue on hydrant maintenance.
8. Work with developers and contractors on codes and water issues.
9. Upgrade security system at the Water Treatment Plant.
10. Upgrade testing equipment at the Water Department.
11. Spring and fall water main flushing.
12. Water main upgrades, repair and connect small mains into larger ones with valves.
13. Continue to work with contractors and other projects as they pertain to the water treatment and distribution system.
14. Water main projects in the 5-year plan.
15. Upgrade old computers.
16. Water looping from Lincoln & 18th SW across to west side of Business 75 by walking trail.



Saving lives one gallon at a time.