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choose to continue using your softener, the frequency of softener regeneration should be significantly less. Please check with your softener manufacturer for the proper settings for Lake Water.

Will the Village continue its bi-annual hydrant flushing program?

Yes, the Village will continue to flush its hydrants every spring and fall. Even though the quality of Lake Water is far superior to that of well water, certain portions of our system will still accumulate sediment that needs to be flushed from the system. Additionally, during the flushing process all fire hydrants are operated, thus improving their reliability in case of a fire.

How can we tell when we are actually receiving Lake Michigan Water?

You may not notice it at first, but over a short time you will see a difference between the two types of water. Lake Water has less of a mineral taste than our current well water, has no rust and is softer. The Village will be announcing the switch over to Lake Water to the local media as soon as it occurs. So watch the papers for an update.

What if I have more questions?

Please give us a call at Village Hall 485-6452 or contact us via email at villagehall@newlenox.net. Our staff will be glad to answer your questions.



the Village of New Lenox
"Home Of Proud Americans"

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Lake Water Update Questions & Answers



the Village of New Lenox
"Home Of Proud Americans"

815/485-6452

The Mayor and Village Board are pleased to announce the arrival of Lake Michigan water providing New Lenox water customers a better quality and more dependable water supply. Lake Michigan water will soon be flowing to New Lenox water customers. With a connection a short time away, now is a good time to update our water customers about what they can expect once the Lake Water tap is turned on. Below are some answers to frequently asked questions we have been receiving from residents.

When will we have Lake Michigan Water?

We should have Lake Water flowing through our system in a few weeks. All of the pipe line between New Lenox and Tinley Park has been completed. The mechanical work at the pump station that will pump the water from Tinley Park to New Lenox is in the final stages of completion.

Will the entire Village water system receive Lake Water at the same time?

Yes. The entire Village water system will be delivered Lake Water at the same time. However, it may take a week or so for the entire system to become filled with 100% Lake Water.

Will we be connected to Lake Water during day hours or night hours, weekday or weekend?

Presently, that has yet to be determined. However, it should not make a difference when the actual switch over takes place.

Will our water pressure be different from our current water pressure?

We anticipate there will be no changes in individual home's water pressure. Your current water pressure will not change once we are hooked up to Lake Michigan Water.

What will the water quality be like at first?

Initially, when we connect to Lake Michigan Water, you may notice some intermittent water quality problems, i.e.. red water, etc. This is due to the fact that the softer Lake Michigan Water actually cleans out the sediments in both water mains and individual service lines. We expect this to occur off and on for a month or so after the connection is made. To help minimize these problems, the Village will be flushing hydrants throughout the system to help clean out the mains. If you do have a persistent problem, please call us (485-6452) so we can address the problem.

How does Lake Water effect our old water mains?

Unlike well water, Lake Water temperature will fluctuate a few degrees during the year. This fluctuation, especially during the winter, may create pipe expansion and contraction issues resulting in additional water main breaks the first year. We have anticipated these additional breaks and will be ready to make the necessary repairs.

Will there be lawn watering restrictions, and if so what will those restrictions include?

For the time being, our current lawn watering rules will remain. Please note that the State of Illinois requires all Lake Water suppliers to

maintain lawn watering restrictions and other conservation measures. However, the Board plans to continue to evaluate our lawn watering regulations once we are connected to the more dependable Lake Water supply.

Will the amount we pay for water increase?

No. When the decision to switch to Lake Water was made, the Village Board took the action to raise the water rates incrementally, thus helping to pay for the Lake Water project and avoiding a "sticker shock" for our water customers. At the present time the current water rate is sufficient. We will, however, from time to time evaluate our utility rates and make adjustments as may be needed in the future.

Will the Village be blending Lake Water with well water?

No. Once we are connected to Lake Water, Lake Water will be our sole supply.

What about our current wells? Will they still be used?

Our current wells will no longer be used. However, they will be kept operable as a backup supply should an emergency situation arise.

Once we have Lake Michigan Water, will we still need our water softeners?

The water hardness of Lake Water is about 8 grains per gallon versus 45-50 grains per gallon with well water. The amount of iron (rust) also decreases from 2 parts per million found in well water to 0 parts per million found in Lake Water. However, water softness is a personal preference. Many people throughout the Chicago area use Lake Water without softeners. However, some customers may still choose to continue using their water softeners for even softer water. If you

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