

LCA SUBURBAN DIVISION

1053 Spruce Road * P.O. Box 3210 * Allentown, PA 18106 610-398-1444 * Email: service@lehighcountyauthority.org

April - June 2017 Newsletter

Spring 2017 – Customer Notices & Updates

Hot Topic: Drought & Water Supply Update

Due to prolonged dry conditions across the state and precipitation well below normal in 2016, our region continues to fall under a drought watch declaration by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. In addition, Lehigh County

Authority has retained the services of a hydrogeologist to help us determine when local water levels pose additional risk to our ability to supply our customers. Please visit lehighcountyauthority.org/littlelehigh for updates!

How are LCA's water supplies holding up? While the spring months typically offer much-needed recharge of our local water supplies due to all the "spring showers," both groundwater and stream levels are starting at a significant deficit due to the very dry, hot summer and fall we experienced in 2016. Local conditions are being monitored closely to determine how well the water levels will recover prior to the peak summer usage period. LCA's water supplies continue to be adequate to meet the needs of the community. However, because of the dry conditions in 2016, we need a wet spring season to maintain a normal supply, and your help in conserving water where possible is appreciated!



What about the Little Lehigh Creek? Water flows in the Little Lehigh Creek declined throughout 2016 due to the drought. Just before Thanksgiving, two sections of the creek went completely dry, but normal flows resumed downstream. While this is quite distressing to see, it is important to note that the Little Lehigh Creek has a long history of "losing water" in certain stretches of the creek as water goes underground into the local groundwater supply, and that same water "reappears" in the stream flow further downstream. The rain and snow we received beginning in December 2016 has helped to replenish the stream, but we will continue to monitor conditions and post updates online.

How can you help? Water conservation is always helpful, but especially now as we await full recovery from the 2016 drought. Ideas for conserving water in the spring include:

- Set up your rain barrel if you have one and use rain water for watering new lawns and gardens.
- Do your outdoor "spring cleaning" with a broom instead of a hose.
- Plan your gardens and landscaping using native plants that are accustomed to Pennsylvania weather patterns and require less watering (Visit <u>dcnr.state.pa.us/forestry/plants/nativeplants</u> for more info.)
- Check your hoses for leaks before setting them up for your spring/summer yard work. Repair those leaks!
- Toilets are usually the number 1 "water hog" in the home check them for leaks at least 4 times a year.

Flushing Program Information:

Beginning this spring and summer, LCA will conduct an annual water system flushing program. This program is required to help remove buildup of sediment in our water lines and improve water quality for all customers. However, when we are flushing the water system in your neighborhood, you may experience decreased water pressure or dirty water. Additional notice will be provided when we have our schedule developed so customers know in advance when LCA crews will be in your community to conduct this work!



Annual water quality reports available! LCA is proud to provide water that meets all federal and state standards for safe drinking water. Please review the information on the back side of this notice for information on how to find the report on our website for the water system that serves your home.

Your Water Quality Report is Now Available Online!

Each year, we provide our customers with an annual Water Quality Report to let you know how our water quality stacks up against federal and state standards for safe drinking water. We encourage you to review this report as it provides details about the source and quality of the drinking water delivered to your community in 2016.

If you wish to have a paper copy, you can print one directly from our website. You can also receive a printed version by contacting us at 610-398-1444.

Attention landlords, businesses, schools, restaurants and other large employers! Please share this info with tenants, students, employees, patrons and other water users at your location who do not receive an LCA water bill.

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre se agua potable. Traduzcalo o hable con alguien que lo intenda bien.

Finding your Water Quality Report online is easy!

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If you live or work here	Visit us online here to view your report
Mill Creek Acres in Washington or Heidelberg Twp	www.lehigh county authority.org/wp-content/uploads/MCD.pdf
Schnecksville / Neffs area in North Whitehall Twp	www.lehighcountyauthority.org/wp-content/uploads/NWD.pdf
Villages of Slatedale or Emerald and along Welshtown Road in Washington Twp	www.lehighcountyauthority.org/wp-content/uploads/WTD.pdf
Beverly Hills development in Lower Milford Twp	www.lehighcountyauthority.org/wp-content/uploads/BHD.pdf
Heidelberg Heights development in Heidelberg Twp	www.lehighcountyauthority.org/wp-content/uploads/HHD.pdf
Mink Estates & Far View Farms developments in Upper Milford Township	. www.lehighcountyauthority.org/wp-content/uploads/UMD.pdf
Buss Acres & Deer Run developments in Upper Milford Township	www.lehighcountyauthority.org/wp-content/uploads/UMCD.pdf
Areas immediately outlying the Borough of Emmaus in Upper Milford, Salisbury & Lower Macungie Twp (Note: this water system is sometimes referred to as our "Emmaus Consecutive Division")	www.lehighcountyauthority.org/wp-content/uploads/ECD.pdf
Pine Lakes at Lynn development in Lynn Township	www.lehighcountyauthority.org/wp-content/uploads/PLD.pdf
Madison Park North development in Lynn Township	www.lehighcountyauthority.org/wp-content/uploads/MND.pdf
Clearview Farm Estates development in Moore Twp	www.lehighcountyauthority.org/wp-content/uploads/CFD.pdf
Arcadia West / West Hills business parks and the Northwestern Lehigh Elementary School in Weisenberg Township	. www.lehighcountyauthority.org/wp-content/uploads/AWD.pdf
Anywhere else in Lehigh County!	