



# Lake Alpine Water Company

## March Updates

General Rate Case and CPI Adjustment: LAWC filed an application for a general rate increase back in June of 2021. LAWC has withdrawn that application and just filed for the 2021 Consumer Price Index (CPI) authorized by the California Public Utilities Commission for all water utilities. On the upcoming April invoice, you will notice a change in the service fee and the rate for metered water. They will increase by 7.0%, the approved CPI margin. Rates were last adjusted in September, 2020.

Safe Drinking Water surcharge decrease: LAWC has also reviewed customer surcharges for the Safe Drinking Water Fund and has applied to the CPUC to decrease those surcharges by 7.5%. With these combined adjustments, the new monthly residential rate would be \$119.20 and metered water use would be \$8.53 per CCF.

Management of Disinfection By-Products: In January, LAWC violated the maximum contaminant level for disinfection by-products. We have made immediate changes such as scrubbing and backwashing the granular activated carbon (GAC) filter we use to remove the organics that bind with the chlorine. We have also hired Waterworks Engineers to design and install an upgraded GAC filter system with more capacity and higher removal rates. We will continue to monitor for disinfection by-products quarterly and we hope to have the first phase of the GAC project completed by October, 2022.

Conserving water and lake management: California remains in a drought and water conservation must be a way of life for all residents. These efforts occur during water processing, water delivery and water use for LAWC and its customers. LAWC staffs acts quickly to find and fix leaks in its lines. After every meter reading, we notify customers of leak alerts so that you can find and fix quickly, too. Responsible water use in Bear Valley includes sweeping instead of hosing down your deck, encouraging native vegetation while not planting thirsty gardens, repairing faulty valves and seeping toilets. Together, we can keep Bear Lake as full as possible well into the summer months.

Getting the lead out: California is taking aggressive action to find and replace lead lines in the state's plumbing. While there is no detectable lead in Bear Lake or in LAWC's mains or pipes, lead could be present in the solder welding of copper pipes and in older faucets in your home. LAWC annually tests 20 customer sites for lead. There have been no violations and very few detections over the years. Since Bear Lake water is very soft, LAWC adds a phosphate to promote scaling inside the pipes to prevent lead leaching. You can take cost effective and immediate actions to reduce lead exposure. Continue to shut off and drain water lines when you leave. This prevents the stale water from leaching lead solder while you're gone. When you arrive, you charge the house up with fresh water. Until January 2010 when Assembly Bill 1953 reduced levels to 0.25%, fixtures could contain up to 8% lead. Consider replacing old faucets especially for drinking water.

We hope your family and friends continue to enjoy playful days in Bear Valley.

As always, feel free to call 209-753-2409 or email [info@lakealpinewater.com](mailto:info@lakealpinewater.com). Thank you.

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