



Lake Alpine Water Company

July Updates

Management of Disinfection By-Products: In the first and second quarters of 2022, LAWC violated the maximum contaminant level (MCL) for disinfection by-products. We made immediate changes such as scrubbing and backwashing the granular activated carbon (GAC) filter we use to remove the organics. Organics bind with chlorine which we use for disinfection, to create disinfection byproducts.

In May, with the roads open, we exchanged the granular activated carbon media in the filter vessel. At the same time, we decreased the flow rate of the water moving through the treatment plant stages. This increased the rate of removal of organics from the water. We were able to lower the concentration of organics in the finished water from an average of 1.88 mg/L to an average of 0.62 mg/L. Fewer organics in the water means less formation of disinfection by products (DBP). When we resampled for DBPs in June, the results were significantly below the MCL. We will continue to use the slower flow rate in the treatment process, and we will test for disinfection byproducts again on July 6.

Conserving water and lake management: California remains in a severe 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.

Since mid-June, the Department of Water Resources has required many water rights license holders to stop diverting water on certain watersheds. This includes water rights that Lake Alpine Water Company holds on Bear Creek into Bear Lake. You may notice that water will continue flow down Bear Creek through town and into the meadow. We are required to release any water that flows into Bear Lake. This is calculated through a detailed lake model spreadsheet. Luckily for us, Bear Lake filled this winter and we have enough to fulfill our needs and enjoy for recreation, too.

Water damage prevention during fuels reduction: We applaud everyone's efforts of reducing woody fuels and clearing their property. The results are attractive open spaces. If you are removing large trees, please plan by knowing where your water line and meter box are on your property to avoid damage. We can assist with our maps, too. Email requests for help are best at info@lakealpinewater.com.

We hope your family and friends continue to enjoy cool summer days in Bear Valley. As always, feel free to call 209-753-2409 or email info@lakealpinewater.com. Thank you.
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