

## Lake Alpine Water Company

## **Year End Updates**

<u>Summer Projects:</u> We had a busy field season repairing leaks and installing new service to three homes under construction. Just when we thought we were done three more leaks surfaced through the roads. I am grateful to our contractor's team and our operators for finishing the projects before winter starts.

- Installed a CleanWater1 mixer in the spring tank to reduce disinfection byproducts and prevent ice buildup
- Repaired a section of the clearwell roof that took a direct hit from a large tree branch
- Replaced service laterals in 4 leak repairs on Bloods Ridge Road and John Ebbetts Road
- Installed new service laterals to homes on Snowshoe, Monte Wolf, and Quaking Aspen Roads
- Repaired leaks on service laterals for 4 homes on Schimke Road
- Rebuilt 6 meter boxes that were eroding, crushed, or below grade
- Upgraded 48 membrane modules in the second of two skids at the plant. They served for 19 years!
- Upgraded 29 registers and transmitters on meters with dead batteries
- Replaced the Clearwell tank pressure transducer for accurate tank levels

<u>GAC Filter and Wooden Tank Replacement Projects:</u> The Rural Community Assistance Corporation is assisting Lake Alpine Water with a grant application for the Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) filter upgrades. LAWC is also receiving grant application assistance from the California Water Association for a grant to replace both wooden water tanks.

General Rate Case: LAWC filed an application for a general rate increase in March of 2024. The California Public Utilities Commission has completed their review and is expected to approve the application at their December meeting. On the upcoming January invoice, the residential service fee will increase from \$99.63 to \$112.16. The metered water fee will increase from \$9.08 per CCF to \$9.92 per CCF. Combined with the State Revolving Loan repayment surcharge, monthly residential invoices will be \$137.18.

Ready for Winter and Freezing Temperatures: As the temperatures drop, we recommend turning the water off in your home and draining pipes to prevent freeze damage when you leave. Power outages and empty propane fuel tanks are too risky for leaving the heat on when you are not present. Please review your house opening and closing procedures. Remember it's a TWO - step process: When you arrive, turn water ON and CLOSE the drains. When you leave, turn water OFF and OPEN the drains. After turning the water off flush the toilets and leave the sink and bath faucets open to let air into the system and completely drain the pipes as you leave. Check that directions for guests and renters are easy to follow. A common mistake is OPENing the drain while the water is ON. This can flush 100 CCF, or about 75,000 gallons of water in 24 hours and it will cost you \$1000 and a soggy bottom house!

As always, feel free to call 209-753-2409 or email info@lakealpinewater.com. Thank you. Kimi Johnson, Steven Schnitter and Colton Nevin