

# Curran-Gardner Townships Public Water District

December 2021

## **2022 Water Rate Increase**

Curran-Gardner Townships Public Water District has a long history of providing safe, reliable water service and ensuring water is available for both every day and firefighting needs. For more than 53 years, we have been committed to providing our customers with high-quality water and service and communicating transparently about the services we provide. Rate increases allow the District to continue to provide safe and reliable water to our community. It must be taken into consideration the rising costs of chemicals and services to treat water and program requirements that protect our District and public health.

Every year the rate increases are set forth by District Ordinance 59. This ordinance was adopted in 2004 resulting from a requirement that was mandated by the USDA and is a covenant of our loan. This ordinance states that the increase will be the cost of living plus half of a percent.

Effective January 1, 2022 water rates will increase 6.4 percent. This increase will be reflected on your January 2022 billing.

## **Meter Changes**

The Curran-Gardner Townships Public Water District has begun a project to replace all water meters throughout the District. The customer will receive a cellular meter. This project will take approximately 2 years to complete for the installation of 2500 customers. The purpose of replacing your meter is to update very old equipment and to assist detection of possible leaks in your plumbing faster and notify you of problems before they become serious and costly. Accuracy, speed, and reliability will improve. This technology can provide as many as 24 hourly reads per day for each customer's meter. There is no expense to the customer. The entire cost of installation is covered by the Curran-Gardner

Township Public Water District. You will continue to receive your monthly bills around the 25th of each month.

Once your meter has been replaced, you will be able to install the Eye On Water application.

This application may be accessed via the web or the application may be installed on your cellular phone. This tool will assist you in monitoring your water usage by specific dates and time, and to set alarms to notify you of high usage.

Curran-Gardner personnel must have access to water meters to properly maintain water services and to ensure accurate billing. The cellular meter requires a clear signal to properly read and update the software.

The utility customer is responsible to trim, cut back, and remove any bushes, trees, plants, sod, landscaping, etc. that may cover or obstruct access to a water meter. It is a violation to cover or obstruct access to a water meter.

## **Late Notices**

It is the District policy that all account balances are considered past due and delinquent after 30 days, from the bill date, and are subject to having service discontinued. Any service disconnected for non-payment shall remain disconnected until all delinquent amounts, as well as a \$50.00 reconnection fee, have been paid in full.

If you receive a blue disconnection notice and need to make special payment arrangements, please call (217)546-3981. As long as your payment is paid, as agreed upon by you and the district office, your water service will not be disconnected.

Water reconnections are done on the same day the payment is made before 2:30 pm. Someone will need to be home to make sure that no water is running when the reconnection is made. If the payment is made after 2:30 pm the water reconnection will be done the following business day.

### **Where is my water meter?**

Do you know where your water meter is? This might seem to be a strange question, but you may be surprised to know that there are some residents of the District that don't know where it is. Knowledge of its location may be very helpful in an emergency and can help District operators if you have a plumbing issue in a call-out situation in the middle of the night. The "search" for a meter pit in the dark that may be covered with leaves, snow, sod, mud, or a number of things that tend to "conceal" its location can become frustrating in an emergency situation. Having the ability to shut off water service to your house quickly may reduce the extent of water damage in the event of a plumbing issue. Please keep in mind that District operators need to know the location of over 2,500 water meters and you may only need to know where one is located.

### **Is your fire hydrant visible and unobstructed?**

If you are lucky enough to have a fire hydrant on your property, it makes good sense to keep it visible and unobstructed for similar reasons as accessing water meter pits. The difference is that adequate access may save a life and/or property. Firefighters need quick and easy access to a fire hydrant in an emergency situation. It is the property owner's responsibility to provide unobstructed access to fire hydrants. Fire hydrant access is protected by Illinois State Law under Fire Safety (425 ILCS 20) Fire Hydrant Act of the Illinois Compiled Statutes. Please take a moment to look at the fire hydrant on your property to see if there is proper access.

### **Monthly Board Meetings**

Monthly meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm. The public is welcome. If you cannot join us, the minutes are located on our website at [www.currangardner.com](http://www.currangardner.com)



**District Administrative Office:**  
3384 Hazlett Road, Springfield, IL 62707  
217/546-3981 (Phone)  
217/546-0438 (Fax)  
[customerservice@currangardner.com](mailto:customerservice@currangardner.com)  
Aaron Smith, Operations Manager  
Cherril Graff, Business Manager

**Happy Holidays!**  
**From the Curran Gardner**  
**Townships Public Water District**  
**Board and Staff**



**James T. Mitchell, Chairman**  
**Don Davis, Vice-Chairman**

**Mark DiMarzio, Trustee**  
**Mike Irwin, Trustee**  
**Bill Moss, Trustee**  
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