

THE POWER OF LOCAL OWNERSHIP

Community Minded

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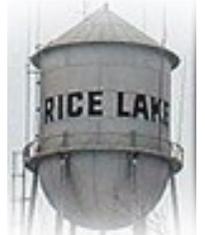


June, 2015

Looking to save energy and money? Try turning down your water heater temperature. Most household water heaters should be set at 120°F. Setting your water heater at 120°F will slow mineral buildup and corrosion in the water heater pipes. You will also save money by reducing heat loss and consumption. For more information about setting your water heater temperature, visit www.energy.gov

Not everyone will drink to that.....

The Rice Lake Utilities Commission held a public meeting on May 14th, 2015 at Rice Lake City Hall to discuss the fluoridation of the Rice Lake water supply. Rice Lake Utilities has been fluoridating the water supply since 1952 based on the recommendations of the American Dental Association. Recently fluoride has been the topic in quite a few communities and ours is no different. There are as many proponents as there are opponents to this issue and that was made clear at the May 14th meeting. The Rice Lake Utilities Commission is also as diversified on the issue as the public is. The commissioners voted 3-2 in favor of keeping fluoride in the water supply but agreed to bring this issue back in 2016. The decision came after more than 6 months of consideration of public comment, surveys and studies, culminating with the May 14th public hearing. On April 27, 2015 the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services revised its recommendation for community water fluoridation for the first time in 53 years, lowering it from 0.7-1.2 milligrams per liter to simply 0.7 milligrams per liter. The Wisconsin Department of Health Services already recommends that concentration and Rice Lake Utilities follows that recommendation.



Rice Lake Utilities has extended its long term power supply contract through 2021 with American Electric Power, Energy Partners. This will assure that ratepayers in Rice Lake will maintain, for the most part; a flat rate structure for the next 6 years. Rice Lake began its relationship with AEPEP in 2013 and through these contracts has maintained a very favorable electric rate for our customers. Rice Lake Utilities electric customers will have saved over 25 million dollars through this effort as compared to our past contracts with Xcel Energy. Our power supply is made up of 4 major components. Energy is the largest component which is the kilowatt hour component of the bill. The capacity, or demand, is yet a smaller component that has an impact. The renewable energy and transmission service round out the portfolio. We have been very diligent in making sure these components are favorable thus providing our customers with one of the most economically attractive rate structures in Wisconsin and perhaps the nation. If you have any questions or comments, please don't hesitate contacting us as we love hearing from you. Scott Reimer, General Manager/CEO

Notice of Rate Increase
Water customers of Rice Lake
Utilities.....

Rice Lake Utilities would like to give you notice that we have filed an application on June 15, 2015 with the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSC) for authority to increase water rates. Rates for general service will increase 3%. The increase is necessary to reduce the existing deficiency in present rates. The request is being made under Wis. Stat. 196.193. Rate increases granted under this statute do not require a public hearing. The effect of the increase for some selected customers is shown below. Public Fire Protection and Wholesale Rates (if applicable) will also increase 3%. Even after this increase Rice Lake Utilities water rates will still be among the lowest 15% in the state of Wisconsin. This rate increase will go into effect on August 1, 2015. If you have any questions about the rate increase request, please contact Rice Lake Utilities at (715) 234-7004.

Customer Class	Water Meter Size	Gallons	Existing Monthly Rate	Revised Monthly Rate
Average Residential	5/8"	4,000	\$12.88	\$13.25
Large Residential	3/4"	6,000	\$15.74	\$16.19
Commercial	1"	50,000	\$77.33	\$79.66
Public Authority	1 1/2"	75,000	\$115.37	\$118.88
Industrial	2"	150,000	\$200.71	\$206.77

WATER QUALITY REPORT

 This year's annual Drinking Water Quality Report is now available. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of water and services that are available from Rice Lake Utilities. If you would like a copy of this report you can log onto our website at www.ricelakeutilities.com and you will find it right on our front page or if you would prefer to have a hard copy you may stop by Rice Lake Utilities between the hours of 7:00 a.m-4:00 p.m. and pick one up.

Rice Lake Utilities Financial
2014

(Electric Utility)

Serving 5,529 consumers

Operating revenues	\$13,049,411
Operating expenses	\$12,736,322
Operating income	\$313,089
Rate of return on rate base	3.50%
Total plant in service	\$16,058,689
Purchased power costs in 2014	\$10,831,532
Tax Equivalent paid to the City of Rice Lake in 2014	\$269,657

(Water Utility)

Serving 3,840 consumers

Operating revenues	\$1,251,594
Operating expenses	\$1,429,819
Operating income	(\$178,225)
Rate of return on rate base	-3.89%
Total plant in service	\$11,278,037
Gals. Pumped in 2014	554,267,000
Tax equivalent paid to the City of Rice Lake in 2014	\$198,956

(Wastewater Utility)

Serving 3,835 consumers

Operating revenues	\$1,912,427
Operating expenses	\$1,854,367
Operating income	\$58,060
Rate of return on rate base	.46%
Total plant in service	\$19,127,846
Wastewater gallons treated in 2014	547,200,000



Know what's below.
Call before you dig.

RICE LAKE UTILITIES

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|-------------------------|-------------------|
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| Commissioner | Mark O'Brien |
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