

JEFFERSON UTILITIES, INC.

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Mountain Iron & Manganese Concern

We know that some customers in the Mountain Communities have been experiencing discoloration of their water due to the natural aquifer, which has a large amount of iron and manganese. Jefferson Utilities' management has been planning an iron and manganese filtration system to remove these metals.

The filter media is called Greensand and with the combination of chlorination, this system will remove the iron and manganese to produce clear water after filtration. Jefferson Utilities hopes to have these filters in operation this year.



Picture shows 1 of the 3 Iron and Manganese filtration tanks being added to mountain plant.

"We always used a sequestering agent called Aquamag to keep low levels of iron and manganese in the solution. However, the new larger lines result in long detention times in the pipe. The Aquamag becomes ineffective in these large and long pipes."

*~ Jeff Pippel
 Chief Operator for JUI ~*

New 16" Waterline Connector

Jefferson Utilities is currently in the engineering process of a new 16" waterline along Route 115 between the Kohl's Store and T.A. Lowery Elementary School on Shenandoah Junction Road. This line will connect Jefferson Utilities' two largest water systems to provide improved storage volume and a wider distribution of Jefferson Utilities' source of supply wells. This project will further improve the dependability of both systems for Jefferson Utilities' customers from Bardane to Harpers Ferry. The project may require several years to complete, but it will be of long-term benefit to the customers and raise operating pressure in the Fairfax Crossing area.

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Membrane Filter in Walnut Grove

Jefferson Utilities is currently designing a membrane filter unit to provide an additional step in treating the water Jefferson Utilities' supplies to its customers in Walnut Grove, Breckenridge, Beallair, Fairfax Crossing, Briar Run, Cambridge, Kratz MHP, Shenandoah Springs and Potomac Marketplace. Membrane filter technology is the State-of-the-Art method of water treatment currently being used.

The technology can remove bacteria and other microorganisms that may be present in ground water. The membranes will remove particles smaller than 0.02 microns. Membrane filtration assures a dual barrier combined with chlorination to provide an even safer water supply to our customers. As always, Jefferson Utilities' water, which comes from deep wells drilled into the productive limestone aquifer under Jefferson County, is both safer and tastes better than the water from river sources.

Construction on the existing Walnut Grove Water Plant is expected to start this summer.



Membrane Filter in use at the Homestead Resort's Water Treatment Plant.

Continued Waterline Replacement

During the last 12 months we have made further improvements for the Blue Ridge Mountain Communities' water system. We have completed the installation of the 8" waterline running along Cedar Hill Road to the intersection of Chestnut Hill Road. As of April 2014 we have connected the Westridge water system to our mountain water plant. With this connection we have installed 2 fire hydrants in the Westridge community, where there were none before.

Jefferson Utilities has installed 46,425 feet of 12", 8", 6", 4" and 3" electrical conduit throughout the entire mountain community.

As we continue with our plans to replace lines, we will be extending an 8" line along Spring Park Trail toward our Jeep Trail Plant. To reach our Jeep Trail Plant, we will be installing new 8" line on Turtle Run Lane, Blue Jay Lane and Red Maple Lane. We believe it will take us the rest of this year to complete this work due to the road and soil conditions in this area of the mountain. We apologize for the inconvenience our construction work and machinery may have caused you.



Above Photograph: Shows the 1st Westridge hydrant installed on Muskrat Run Road. New ditch line and re-graded Muskrat Run Road to help protect newly installed line.

Below Photograph: Shows re-graded Spring Park Trail and newly dug ditch line to protect new line.



Tips to decrease water usage

- Run your dishwasher and laundry with full loads.
- Wash fruits and vegetables in a pan of water instead of under a running faucet.
- Hold a 1 gallon bucket in your shower. If the bucket fills up in less than 20 seconds, then you should consider replacing your showerhead with a more water efficient model.
- Verify you have no leaking toilets or faucets. We're more likely to notice leaks indoors, but don't forget to check outdoor faucets, sprinklers and hoses for leaks.

Approximate Amounts of Water used for household activities.

- Laundry : 30 gal per load
- Shower/tub : 30 gal per shower
- Toilet: 5 gal per flush
- Dishwasher: 15-30 gal per load

The commonly accepted value for water consumption per household is 4,500 gallons per month. Homes in the Breckenridge subdivision average almost exactly this amount.

Please call our office at (304) 728-2077 for our **free** leak detector tablets that show if your toilet is leaking.

Recently asked questions

1. **How much does my sprinkler use per minute?**
Approximately 5 gallons per minute or 150 gallons per 30 minutes depending on the settings of the sprinkler and hose length and pressure.
2. **Is water with chlorine in it safe to drink?**
Chlorine is the most common disinfectant used in the United States. It is used by 75% of large water systems and 95% of smaller systems. Chlorine is added to the drinking water to assure a safe water supply since 1902. The amount of chlorine used is sufficient to meet the requirement of the State Health Department, but not enough to harm humans. Chlorine is added to our water supply at each water treatment plant.
3. **It's only a small drip....Right?**
A slow drip of water can add up more quickly than one thinks. A toilet that "keeps running" after you flush or a sink that drips after it is turned off can waste thousands of gallons of water a **year**. A small leak in your automatic irrigation system can waste thousands of gallons a **month**. If the drip is hot water, you are not only paying for the wasted water but also paying for wasted energy too. Fix leaks as soon as you find them to help save you money.