

LAKE WASHINGTON SANITARY DISTRICT (LWSD)  
PO BOX 3188  
MANKATO, MN 56002-3188  
WWW.LWSDMN.ORG

DECEMBER 2017

**Special points of interest:**

- Electronic bill request
- Meetings held 2nd Monday of month
- Proposed rate increase
- High usage hints

**In The News**



Your grinder station and control panel are owned and maintained by the Sewer District. If you will be doing any work around this equipment, please contact Shane Youell and he will help identify and protect this expensive equipment from damage while your work is being performed. Any work on the system MUST be done by our representatives. Examples: new siding on the home where the panel needs to be removed, disconnecting an electricity source, or any digging within 20 feet of the station. Shane will help—just call!

Grinder stations covers - Unlike other grinder systems with floats, our EONE grinders rely on atmospheric pressure for operation. Our switches are pressure activated and must be able to breathe. Fake or imitation rocks may be used to hide the station; however anything else should be cleared with Shane.

Shane Youell's duties include overall maintenance along with preventative and reactionary responses to District needs. Please contact him at 507-995-7806 or [MTECH@LWSDMN.org](mailto:MTECH@LWSDMN.org) with maintenance, usage and billing concerns.

**Billing Issues**

Your bill is prepared and mailed each month after the cut off date of the 20th. Please direct questions regarding your bill, including usage and/or cost to Shane.

**In an effort to cut costs to our billing processes (printing, postage, etc.), please send an email to [MTECH@LWSDMN.org](mailto:MTECH@LWSDMN.org) requesting that your sewer bill be sent electronically. You will be provided with a clear and easy to read copy of your bill each month via email.**

As a separate cost saving issue, if you are interested in having your monthly bill deducted from your checking or savings account, please contact Jim Deike at [lwsd@hickorytech.net](mailto:lwsd@hickorytech.net) or 507-345-3354.

Bob Schmillen, Chairman  
24004 Gingerale Trail  
Madison Lake, MN 56063  
[bschmillen@hickorytech.com](mailto:bschmillen@hickorytech.com)  
Jamestown Township  
507-380-2323

Paul Aukes, Vice-Chairman  
22366 Lake View Hill Rd.  
Madison Lake, MN 56063  
[aukes.paul@gmail.com](mailto:aukes.paul@gmail.com)  
LeRay Township  
507-381-2806

Art Zuhlsdorf, Treasurer  
1246 Bakers Bay Rd  
Kasota, MN 56050  
[azuhlsdo@yahoo.com](mailto:azuhlsdo@yahoo.com)  
Kasota Township  
507-995-0813

Jerry Kallheim, Member  
4208 Fairview Lane  
Madison Lake, MN 56063  
[kallheim@hickorytech.net](mailto:kallheim@hickorytech.net)  
Jamestown Township  
507-243-4158

Randy Westman, Member  
4464 Washington Blvd  
Madison Lake, MN 56063  
[rwestman18@gmail.com](mailto:rwestman18@gmail.com)  
Washington Township  
507-243-3411

Jim Deike, Secretary  
108 S. MN Ave., Suite 400  
St. Peter, MN 56082  
[lwsd@hickorytech.net](mailto:lwsd@hickorytech.net)  
Office: 507-345-3354  
Home: 507-243-4284

Shane Youell, Maintenance, Repairs and Billing  
[MTECH@LWSDMN.org](mailto:MTECH@LWSDMN.org)  
507-995-7806

## Sanitary District Meetings

All board meetings are open to the public and are held on the 2nd Monday of each month. Meetings are at 7:00 PM at the Mankato Municipal Airport Conference Room, 3030 Airport Road, Mankato, MN 56001. Minutes of each meeting are posted to the website at [www.LWSDMN.org](http://www.LWSDMN.org)

## Sentry Advisor Software

LWSD currently utilizes Sentry Advisor software on the Madison/Ballantyne systems to view individual flowage of our property owners, run reports and identify potential problems or concerns.

This software is literally our District eyes and ears when evaluating our sewer system. Shane continuously reviews and monitors flows, which allows a process to provide problem solving and preventative maintenance. The software has an alert notification for each individual station or property. This alert could be caused by a malfunctioning water softener, iron filter, broken pipes, stuck toilet or failed pump. Through our use of this software, safeguard's are in place to recognize high flow, potential emergencies and/or abnormal activities in your home. The system will send an alert in real time to Shane so that he can react in a timely manner to each issue.

The LWSD Board is looking at possibly implementing this system into the Washington/George area in the future.

## What Do I Do If My Alarm Sounds?

- Turn off the sound of the alarm by pressing the silence button that is located underneath the alarm panel.
- LIMIT WATER USAGE
- Contact Shane at 507-995-7806 and provide your name, address and telephone number. (This contact information is also displayed on the control box).

## Rate Increase

The 2018 rate increase will be an additional \$2 to the base rate (from \$21 to \$23). The increase in flow will be an additional .75/m (from \$7.50 to \$8.25). This increase will be reflected in your January 2018 billing.

## Common Sewer Problems Found

A list of items that should NOT be introduced into the sewer system is found on our web site at [www.LWSDMN.org](http://www.LWSDMN.org). Property owner's are encouraged to review this list, as you may be responsible for costs of repair due to negligence or abuse. **Most recently, kitchen grease and flushable wipes and sanitary products have caused pump failures to which the homeowner may be responsible.**

## Communication

If you have a question or need clarification, please immediately contact a board member and/or attend a meeting. Please regularly visit our web site [www.LWSDMN.org](http://www.LWSDMN.org), read FAQ along with our minutes to familiarize yourself with our ongoing processes.

## Vacation

If you go on vacation for a length of time, flush the system before you go away. Run clean water into the unit until the pump activates. Turn off the water and allow the grinder pump to run until it shuts off automatically.

## High Usage Hints

Periodically check your water softener and iron removal systems for leaks. Failures in this equipment may generate some higher bills.

A quick check method for a leaky toilet is to add a small amount of food coloring to the tank and inspect the water in the bowl for color after an hour.

## Selling/Purchasing/Remodeling & Building Properties

Contact Jim Deike at 507-345-3354 or Shane at 507-995-7806

## FYI—In 2016 LWSD sent 26.9 million gallons of wastewater to the treatment plant in Mankato