

## What's new at the Harmony Grove Sanitary District?

**Water News-** So far this year we have experienced 2 water main breaks- one on Highway V and one on Bayview Drive late February 2019. When such occurrences happen our pumping system has alarms that alert our staff that pressure is falling in our tower. With the help of residents, our staff is always able to locate these breaks quickly to minimize loss. Winter preparedness is important if you are traveling, we encourage residents to winterize their homes if they are going to be gone for long periods of time; this includes having your water turned off at the curb stop. If you have any questions please feel free to contact our Water Supervisor Larry McCracken at 608-393-0260. **Radio Read Meters-** The District has successfully installed 690 meters. Harmony Grove has 735 meter customers. The goal of the District is to have this project completed in the next 2 years. We have seen a reduction in billable water loss due to the new meter system, which means the meters are effective in increasing revenue and decreasing loss. The PSC (Public Service Commission) monitors our loss each year to make sure the Water District is running efficiently. **Cross Connection-** The DNR dictates that Cross Connection plans be upheld through all Local Municipal Water Districts with inspections being done regularly. The danger of a cross-connection is accidentally siphoning contaminants back into your home and our water system. The most common Cross Connection danger is your outside faucets with a hose attached. Another common possible cross connection would be an inside wash tub or deep sink with a hose attached, possibly located in a laundry room. No hose should ever be attached to these sinks, no hose=no possible cross connection. Any faucet with threads could pose a possible cross connection also. If a possible Cross Connection is found, Harmony Grove Water District Ordinance dictates the resident has 30 days to fix this, if regulations aren't followed, for the safety of our community, there could be an interruption in your service, per PSC Rule, with a possible reconnection fee imposed. If you would like more information please contact our office or visit our web site. [www.hgokee@harmonygrove-okee.com](http://www.hgokee@harmonygrove-okee.com)

**Sewer News-** Harmony Grove-Okee Joint Sewerage Commission is working together to get major repairs completed at the Sewer Plant. Since 2013 we have completed a full electrical upgrade to the Plant and at all the lift stations in Harmony Grove. This upgrade aids in a reliable notification system to employees when there is a malfunction at a lift station in the form of an alarm. In 2018 we made many upgrades to our Plant. We have upgraded our screener; we replaced our Dissolved Oxygen Meter, our waste pumps and our personal protection gas meter. Since the purchase of our tractor out at the plant we have been able to do more in- house road and field maintenance which has saved us money. We also use the tractor for upkeep on our Seepage Cells. We are diligent in improving our effluent that our plant produces that is put back into the ground. We are finding high chlorides in our effluent and are encouraging residents to have their water softeners serviced to lower the amount of salt you're putting into your drains. If we continue to have high chlorides the District will eventually be forced by the DNR to make some tough decisions concerning water softeners. Please see our web site for information on chlorides in our "Don't be so Salty" campaign. If you have any questions please feel free to contact our Sewer Superintendent Josh Brodeur at 608-393-3742.

**Bill Paying-** For your convenience, payments are accepted by mail, at the drive - through or the night deposit box of the Hometown Bank in Harmony Grove (if paying with cash please use an envelope), and in the office during regular office hours Monday-Friday 9am-3pm. Bill pay through your on line banking is also an option a lot of customers are using. Please remember to make sure your account number is with your payment for all accepted methods of payment. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Connie Sears at 608-592-5795 or 608-345-2000. You can also visit our web site for more information.

**Fire Hydrants-** Just a reminder, keeping our neighborhood Fire Hydrants clear from snow and other obstructions is one way to help keep our neighborhoods safe. **Thank you to those of you that have been supporting this effort.** The Harmony Grove Sanitary District Board and staff encourage our friends and neighbors to share any ideas or concerns on the plans for the future. Please feel free to contact your elected Board members with any comments or concerns. The Sanitary District Board member's goal in its decision making is to make our community stronger and safer, as we continue to move forward together.

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