MID DAKOTA
RURAL WATER SYSTEM

Quality On Tap!

July 2023 | Volume 19, Issue 1

GET THE LEAD OUT

LAWN WATERING BEST PRACTICES

5 TIPS TO PROTECT YOURSELF FROM CYBER CRIME

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS | CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

FROM THE MANAGER

Scott Gross, General Manager
Mid-Dakota Rural Water System, Inc.

Well, this is the July issue, so that means that the year is already half over. Mid-Dakota is still working through the paperwork portion for the loan section of our improvement project. Mid-Dakota did qualify for some grant monies and we are utilizing those funds to procure materials to have on hand for when the loan funds are released and we are can really move this project forward. Mid-Dakota is slowly making progress through all of the red tape and have narrowed the field to one for the back-wash filter equipment. We have started working with them to get everything ordered so it will be available when the funding package is finally approved and we can start expanding our Water Treatment plant to house the expansion improvements. The automatic Meter Reading equipment is also starting to show up and Mid-Dakota crews are starting the switch over of system. This will be an on-going project for a while as it will take coordination of new collector installation, then a new antenna at each meter site within range of the new collector, then our crews can slide into a different new collector area and start the process all over again until 100% of system is switched over. As the new automatic meter reading system is deployed, we have noticed that the customer portal works with the new Syntrix system, so as customers get switched over, this handy tool will be available again. If you have questions on if you have been switched over and want information on how to view this portal, please call our office and we will help you through the process. Just remember Mid-Dakota is just getting started down this road so I hope you will continue to be patient with us until we get to your area. Again, this should be a very busy summer at Mid-Dakota and I look forward to a pleasant summer and continued success. Scholarships were awarded again this year and are presented on the next page. Congratulations to the award winners.

MISSION STATEMENT
Enhancing quality of life
By providing high quality water
And excellent service.

Quality On Tap!
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Mid-Dakota Rural Water System, Inc.
608 W. 14th St., P.O. Box 318
Miller, South Dakota 57362-0318

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Email: office@mdrws.com
Website: www.mdrws.com

Rural Directors
Steve Robbennolt ..... District 1
Leslie Brown ..... District 2
Scott Oligmueller ..... District 3
Lennis Fagerhaug ..... District 4
Rick Benson ..... District 5

Municipal Directors
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Jim McGillvrey ..... At Large
Jeff McGirr ..... Huron
Darrell Raschke ..... Huron

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Connie Aymar ..... Financial Manager
Jamie Brueggeman ..... Office Administrator
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Kristen Arthur ..... Customer Accounts Specialist
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Scott Szuggar ..... Water Treatment Plant Specialist

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Calvin Kindle ..... Water Distribution Specialist
Scott Manning ..... Water Distribution Specialist
Michael Nicholson ..... Main Transmission Pipeline Specialist
Paige Gesinger ..... O & M Specialist
Mike McCready ..... Small Systems Specialist
Deric Diede ..... Hookup Specialist
DeAnn Hargens ..... Customer & Legal Records Specialist
Gage Russell ..... Water Distribution Associate Specialist

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Shane Bothwell ..... Water Distribution Specialist
Ron Ramsey ..... Water Distribution Specialist
Travis Jones ..... Water Distribution Specialist
Randy Bauer ..... Electrical Specialist

Gettysburg, SD
Gary Tobin ..... Water Distribution Specialist

Wessington Springs, SD
Mark Gran ..... Water Distribution Specialist

Huron, SD
Troy Dorris ..... Water Distribution Specialist
Scott Perry ..... Water Distribution Specialist

Consultants
Bartlett & West Engineers
May, Adam, Gerdes & Thompson – Law Office
Endorf, Lurken, Olson & Co. – CPA

Mid-Dakota Rural Water System, Inc.

NOTICE OF VACANCY

on the Board of Directors

Mid-Dakota Rural Water System, Inc. hereby gives notice to its membership that the following seats upon the Board of Directors will be up for election at its 2023 Annual Meeting:

There is one expired term in Rural Director District area #2, consisting of the following: All of Hughes County except that portion of the Highmore West service area lying in Hughes County.

There is one expired term in Rural Director District area #5, consisting of the following: All of Kingsbury County; that portion of the Highmore East service area lying in Hand County; those portions of the Highmore East, Pearl Creek and Wolsey service areas lying in Beadle County.

There is one expired term for City of Huron Director.

(Note: Contact Mid-Dakota if you question whether or not you are in Districts #2 or 5)

Rural director nominations must be made by petition. Petitions must be filed with Mid-Dakota not later than 4:00 p.m. on September 29, 2023.

Nominations for City of Huron director will be made by the City of Huron. A nominating resolution from the City of Huron shall be filed with Mid-Dakota's office not later than 4:00 p.m. on October 4, 2023.

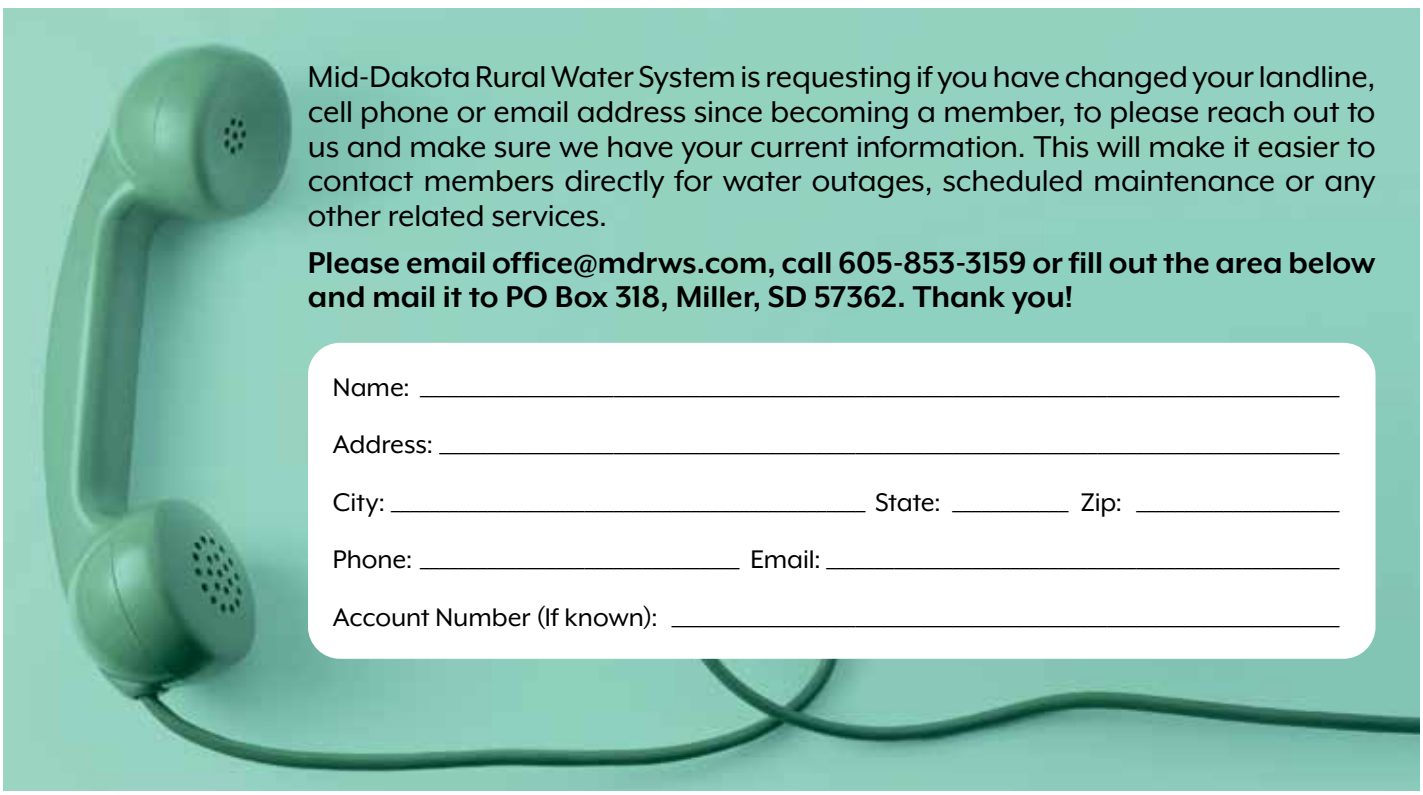
For more information, contact the Mid-Dakota Rural Water System, Inc. office at 605-853-3159 or 1-800-439-3079.

Save the Date

MID DAKOTA RURAL WATER SYSTEM

ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday,
October 19, 2023
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
All Mid-Dakota offices



Mid-Dakota Rural Water System is requesting if you have changed your landline, cell phone or email address since becoming a member, to please reach out to us and make sure we have your current information. This will make it easier to contact members directly for water outages, scheduled maintenance or any other related services.

Please email office@mdrws.com, call 605-853-3159 or fill out the area below and mail it to PO Box 318, Miller, SD 57362. Thank you!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Account Number (If known): _____

MID-DAKOTA RURAL WATER SYSTEM
LEAD-FREE SD WATER CUSTOMER SURVEY

Please take the survey below to see if your home's water pipe contains lead. If you have a smartphone we encourage you to try out the electronic survey at **survey.SDWaterPipes.com** *as an alternative to the paper form. The electronic survey uses smart technology to tailor the questions to your specific case. You may even find a relative, a neighbor, or a friend to help.*

Part A

Physical street address: (P.O. Box not acceptable) _____

Account/Hookup number: _____ Year home was constructed: _____

If structure is other than a residential home, indicate it here: _____

NOTE: *There is no need to fill out a survey for livestock taps not serving human residences.*

Was your water pipe from the street to the house constructed at a time different from when the home was constructed? ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No** ☐ **Unknown**

If so, what year was the water pipe constructed: (the oldest date applies) _____

Locate the water pipe coming into your home, take a picture and send it to your water system with your account/hookup number at: **605-290-7711 (text), or office@mdrws.com (email)**

NOTE: *The pipe in question is the drinking water pipe that comes into your home from the street. It is typically located in a utility room on the lowest level of your home. It could also be accessed in a crawl space if your home has one. We're interested in the first 18 inches of pipe coming through the floor or exposed in the crawl space.*

Part B

What is the diameter of your water pipe? _____ inch

NOTE: Measured from top of pipe to bottom of pipe in a straight line, it is generally less than 2-inches in diameter.

What color is your water pipe? (indicate with an X)

☐ **Black** ☐ **Gray/Silver** ☐ **Orange/Copper**

☐ **White** ☐ **Other, indicate color here:** _____

If the water pipe is gray/silver, move to Part C.

PLEASE RETURN SURVEY TO:
Mid-Dakota Rural Water
608 W. 14th Street
PO Box 318
Miller, SD 57362-0318

Part C

Items Needed: *Key or coin, magnet, protective gloves, dust pan and broom, garbage can*

Within the first 18 inches of pipe coming out of the floor of the lowest level of your house (or within a crawl space below your home, if applicable), perform the following simple test:

1. Is the pipe ☐ **dull** or ☐ **shiny** before it is scratched with a key or coin?
2. Is the pipe ☐ **dull** or ☐ **shiny** where it was scratched with a key or coin?
3. Does a magnet stick to the gray pipe. ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

NOTE: *Lead is dull, very soft, and will turn shiny silver color when scratched. Magnets will only stick to steel, they will not stick to lead pipe. If you answered dull, shiny and no in that order to the questions above in Part C, your pipe is likely lead. Questions can be directed to your water provider at this time, you may also find more information at* ***SDWaterPipes.com****.*

Part D

Please send this survey to your water provider. *We also urge you to email a photo of your water pipe along with the address and account/hookup number listed above for tracking and coordination purposes to your water system, or include a printed picture with this survey.*

Survey submitted by:

_____ _____

Print first and last name Signature

THANK YOU FOR COMPLETING THIS SURVEY.

Don't forget to send a picture of your service line to your water system with your name and account/hookup number.

GET THE LEAD OUT

Drinking water is free of lead when it leaves the water treatment plant—however, water can absorb lead if it travels through lead pipes on its way to your faucet. The majority of South Dakota water pipes are free of lead, but we need to find where lead lines still exist so they can be removed.

As a part of a nationwide initiative, we are asking everyone to check their pipes and report their results, regardless of what they find. If your home was built after 1987, when the lead ban took effect here in South Dakota, you do not have a lead service line and you may not be asked to provide further information. However, if your home was built around or before 1987, we are looking to you. Knowing where the lead lines are is just as important as knowing where they are not.

Please take a quick survey to see if your home's water pipe contains lead.

You just need five minutes, a coin, a magnet, and a smartphone to test your pipe and help your community. We encourage you to try out the electronic survey, but a paper copy is available upon request. Ask your grandkids, a neighbor, or a friend to help.

Visit **survey.sdwaterpipes.com** to take this step-by-step survey to identify and record the material of the water pipe coming into your home.

You'll be asked to follow these three simple steps:

1. Scratch the water pipe with a coin or tool to see if the scraped area is silver-colored and shiny.
2. Check to see if a magnet sticks to the pipe – any magnet will do!
3. Report your results at **survey.sdwaterpipes.com**. Don't forget to snap a photo of the pipe, and you're done.

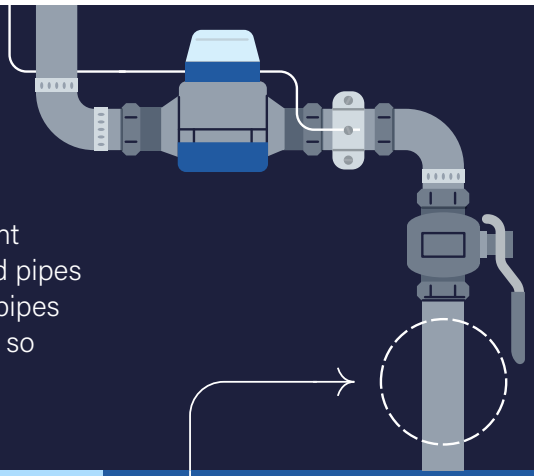
Documenting your pipe helps your family, your neighborhood, and your water provider. It's a simple process that only takes a few minutes, but it can have a huge impact on community health and safety.

For more information and to get started on your survey, visit survey.sdwaterpipes.com

By providing this information yourself, you are contributing to our efficiency and keeping our costs down. By donating five minutes of your time, you are saving 30-60 minutes that it will take our staff to visit your home to complete the inventory of your water service line. Which, in turn, helps to keep your costs from increasing. You are making a huge impact! Thank you!

Lead-Free SD

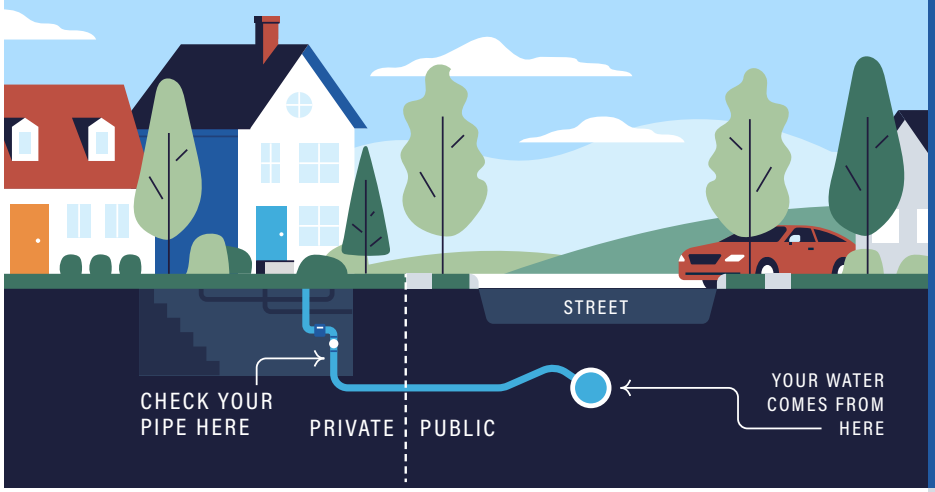
Drinking water is free of lead when it leaves the water treatment plant—however, water can absorb lead if it travels through lead pipes on its way to your faucet. The majority of South Dakota water pipes are free of lead, but we need to find where lead pipes still exist so they can be removed.



Take this quick survey to help protect your health

Your water system is asking you to help find where the lead pipes are located. It's important and easy to do.

When you have five minutes to spare, visit **survey.SDWaterPipes.com** to complete a quick assessment of your water pipe. We'll even help you locate the pipe in your home.



1. SCRATCH IT.
2. STICK IT.
3. REPORT IT.
4. DONE!

The survey gives you step-by-step instructions to find and test your water pipe.

- Scratch the water pipe with a coin or key to see if the scraped area is silver-colored and shiny
- Check to see if a magnet sticks to the pipe—any magnet will do!
- Report your results

As a part of a nationwide initiative, water systems are asking everyone to check their pipes and report their results, regardless of what they find. Knowing where the lead pipes are is just as important as knowing where they are not.

If you prefer a paper copy of the survey, please contact your rural water system listed on page 2.

Visit **sdwaterpipes.com** for more information.

Open the camera app on your smartphone, hover over the QR code below, and tap the link to get to the survey.

LAWN WATERING BEST PRACTICES

TIMING IS EVERYTHING

No matter what kind of yard or landscape you have, it's important to know exactly how much water your plants need before you turn on the sprinkler. Smart watering practices reduce runoff and may decrease the need for pesticides and fertilizers.

Contact your local water utility to find out exactly how much and when you should be watering and keep the following questions in mind when you water so that you can maintain a beautiful and healthy yard without wasting water or money.

When?

Avoid watering in the middle of the day when the hot sun will evaporate much of the water before it can get to thirsty plants.

How often?

Your landscape will typically require one inch of water a week, including rainfall, and that can vary depending on where you live, recent weather, and the plants in your landscape. Your area's Cooperative Extension Service or local water utility can provide advice on how often to irrigate shrubs, trees, and other perennials.

How long?

Give this a try! Place a few empty tuna cans around your lawn while you're watering and measure how long it takes your sprinkler to fill them with a half inch of water. Then, try watering that amount of time twice a week, gauge how your landscape responds, and adjust based on weather conditions.

If water begins to pool, turn off your sprinkler to prevent overwatering, weed growth, disease, fungus, and stormwater runoff that pollutes local waterways with fertilizers and pesticides. Watering plants or grass too frequently can drown plants or result in shallow roots. You can simplify your irrigation schedule by replacing your standard clock timer controller with a WaterSense labeled irrigation controller.

Water can easily pool on some landscapes with clay-rich soils or slopes if water is applied too quickly. These landscapes can benefit from dividing irrigation runtimes into intervals with short breaks in between to allow water to soak into the soil. Keep water in your landscape and reduce overwatering by implementing Cycle-and-Soak.

What else?

When the rain does come, saving water from storms or diverting rainwater back to the landscape is a great way to supplement your efficiency measures. Rain barrels or cisterns can be used to harvest rain water for irrigation and other outdoor water uses. Some states might have laws that prohibit collection of rainwater, so be sure to check with your state's water resource agency before implementing a rainwater collection system. Rooftop downspouts can also be diverted towards rain gardens that easily soak up the rain rather than sending it to stormwater drains.

MANAGE YOUR IRRIGATION SYSTEM

- **Adjust your irrigation system often.** Irrigation schedules should be adjusted based on seasonal changes. A WaterSense labeled irrigation controller uses weather or soil moisture data to determine when to water.
- **Set sprinklers to keep the water on the landscape and off the pavement.** Lots of water is wasted by poorly designed and neglected sprinkler systems that spray sidewalks, driveways, and the street. Save water by directing sprinklers toward the landscape.
- **Inspect your irrigation system monthly.** Check for leaks, broken or clogged heads, and other problems, or engage a certified irrigation professional to regularly check your system. Clean microirrigation filters as needed and correct obstructions in sprinkler heads that prevent them from distributing water evenly.
- **Play "zone" defense.** Similar plants should be planted together in an irrigation zone, and each hydrozone should account for the type of sprinkler, sun or shade exposure, and type of plants. You can save even more water outdoors by incorporating water-smart landscaping principles into your landscape design.
- **Check for WaterSense!** A certified irrigation professional can design, install, maintain, or audit your system to ensure you're using the proper amount of water to support a healthy landscape. Ask if your irrigation contractor is certified by a WaterSense labeled program.

Information provided by www.epa.gov/watersense/watering-tips

By Rick Olivier,
Director of Strategic Growth and Innovation,
SBS CyberSecurity

5 TIPS TO PROTECT YOURSELF FROM CYBER-CRIME

In South Dakota, many of us leave our doors unlocked at night, leave our car ignitions running when we stop at a convenience store, and will stop to help a stranger alongside the road if they appear to be in need. We live in a relatively safe place where we trust one another and want to help those around us – both friends and strangers. The fact that we can do these things is part of the reason we love where we live! But the question is... would we act the same way if we lived in a larger city or in another country? The answer is probably "no." Because of the change in location, our behaviors would need to change because of the increased risk that goes along with those bigger cities or different countries. When we connect to the internet from our phones, tablets, or computers, we physically are still in South Dakota, but we are now connecting, and become accessible to the entire world. The internet is a pretty amazing tool that allows us to access a multitude of information from anywhere, but just like the real world there are dangers that can cause harm if we don't protect ourselves.

Here are 5 things I recommend to protect yourself from cyber criminals:

1. Use Strong Passwords That Aren't Used for Multiple Accounts

I'm sure you're sick of hearing this advice, but there is a reason that cyber professionals keep preaching it! When you think of an account getting hacked, you are probably thinking of a movie where a hacker uses information such as important dates, pets name, address, etc. to guess a password. What hackers actually do is use computer programs to attempt tens of thousands of password options in hopes of finding the right one – and if you're using a dictionary word, even with slight modifications, as your password, it will take mere seconds for the computer program to identify it. Hackers also purchase compromised account credentials online, so if your account info (username and password) has ever been stolen from any site you've used, the hacker now has your username and password and will use computer systems to try that same username and password combo on thousands of other websites.

This means that if you are re-using passwords, they may now have access to several of your accounts. Along with using different passwords for each account, I would also recommend using password management software to help you create complex passwords that will also securely save all the passwords you have. I don't have a specific password manager that I recommend, but I encourage you to investigate your options. They'll not only make your accounts more secure, but they can actually make entering account information quicker and easier in the long run.

2. Enable Multi-Factor Authentication

Most online accounts now either require or have the option for you to enable Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA), sometimes called Two-Factor Authentication. MFA requires users to prove they are who you say they are by proving it at least twice. Generally, the first factor is a username and password. The second factor for many sites is a text message, email, or app on your phone where you need to enter a code that was sent or click an approval option. This second factor means that if a cyber criminal gets your password, they would also need to get access to your text, email, or phone in order to compromise your account. MFA, while not unbeatable, is extremely effective. While hackers are quite skilled at what they do, they generally look for the easiest target and using MFA makes you a much harder target. Many online accounts require users to go into the settings and enable or turn on MFA. If you want to be more cyber secure make sure you do this for all accounts, but your priority should be on accounts with financial information, health information, or social media accounts.

3. Install Software Updates

Technology providers are in a race with hackers to find security holes in their products. Large security holes can inadvertently allow cyber criminals access to systems and data which expose both the technology provider and you – the user. When technology providers find these security holes they issue patches or software updates to fix them. As a user, you should install these software updates to fix the identified holes before they cause any significant issues. For many providers these security holes are fixed at the same time as the software is updated for functionality so you may not even know you are fixing security holes, but make sure to do this regularly on all technical devices.

4. Don't Believe That People Online Are Who They Say They Are

Cyber criminals are very good at playing on their victim's emotions. An example of one of the ways they do this is with online dating scams. The criminal will try to make a personal connection with you and eventually try to get you to send them money. Millions of people fall victim to these dating or love scams every year, however they are not always easy to spot, as the criminals are very good at what they do and can develop those relationships for months before making their ask. Cyber criminals are also known to send emails claiming to be someone they are not (phishing) including a government agency, news organization, legal entity, etc. and then scare you into going to a site they send you to, in order to get you to send them confidential information or money. Be VERY leery of anyone online who is asking you to do something quickly, and if the ask is eliciting some sort of emotional reaction – there's a good chance this is part of a scam. If you're unsure if something online is a scam, ask someone you trust with some technical savvy or reach out to local law enforcement.

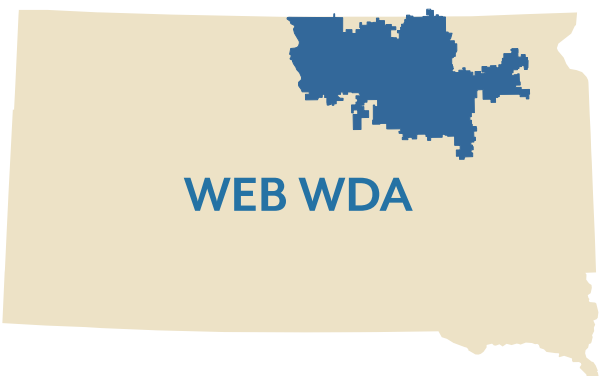
5. Keep Your "Friends" List on Facebook Private

This is a very specific security tip, but something I've seen a lot recently is where someone claims their Facebook account has been hacked and their friends are getting new friend requests from them. Generally, the accounts are not actually hacked but a hacker has "spoofed" your account by using your name and profile picture, then pretending to be you by making another Facebook account with your name. The easiest way to prevent this is to make your "Friends" list private so strangers are unable to see who your Facebook friends are. To do this, go into your Facebook account to "Settings," then "How People Find and Contact You," then "Who Can See Your Friends List." If it is set to "Public" anyone can see who you friends are and attempt to spoof them into thinking the new account is you. If you change the setting to "Friends" only your accepted Facebook friends can see your friends list – this is what I recommend. The only way that spoofing works for a cyber criminal is to trick your friends into thinking a spoofed account is actually you, which means if the criminal doesn't know who your friends are the scam doesn't work.

While these tips won't keep you safe from all cyber-crime, it will significantly reduce your risk. Following these tips will also require you to take the time to implement them and being cyber secure is not always convenient, but if you experience the headache of becoming a victim of cyber-crime, you'll wish you had proactively taken the time to complete these before the bad things happened. Enjoy the benefits of having the world at your fingertips online but be vigilant and stay safe!

WEB WATER DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

WEB Water Development Association, Inc. is located in Aberdeen, SD, and was formed in December 1975 by community leaders from Walworth, Edmunds, and Brown counties looking to improve their drinking water. The acronym for WEB was taken from the names of these three counties. Within a year of development, the interest had grown to six counties, and within four years, the project had grown to 10 counties. The WEB Water project was authorized by Congress on September 20, 1980, as part of a settlement of the Oahe Irrigation Project with support from President Jimmy Carter. It took two more years of hard work, lobbying, and negotiation until Congress reauthorized the WEB Water Project. On September 22, 1983, President Ronald Reagan signed WEB Water into law. The WEB Water Board of Directors then entered into a loan and grant agreement with the U.S. Department of Interior on September 29, 1983, with construction work beginning on October 20, 1983. The first WEB customers – the Keith Vojta family, who had been hauling drinking water for their farm home for 14 years – received water on May 26, 1986.



Elected officials who played a major role in the development of WEB Water were US Senator Tom Daschle (D), who was working with the Carter Administration, and U.S. Senator Jim Abdnor (R), who was working with the Reagan Administration. Other elected officials also involved were Senator Jim Abourezk, Senator Larry Pressler, Congressman Clint Roberts, Senator George McGovern, Governor George Mickelson, and Governor Bill Janklow.

WEB Water now serves more than 8,500 meters, averaging 6,376,500 gallons/day. Besides rural hookups, WEB Water serves 112 bulk services through 6,800 miles of pipe in Walworth, Edmunds, Brown, Day, Spink, Hand, Hyde, Campbell, Faulk, Potter, McPherson, Beadle, Clark & Marshall counties in South Dakota; Emmons, Dickey, and McIntosh counties in North Dakota.

WEB Water is overseen by a nine-person Board of Directors, including a Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer. Each Director can serve a total of four 3-year terms. They also employ 47 people throughout the WEB Water system.

The success of the WEB Water system is an example of what communities can do when they work together. Like the Rural Electric Cooperatives, the development of Rural Water has been a grass-roots effort that has served South Dakota well. Hundreds of local leaders and citizen volunteers donated their time, helped sign up their neighbors, attended meetings, served on Steering Committees, served on the WEB Water Board, traveled to Pierre and Washington, DC, to present testimony, and went door-to-door explaining to Congressmen, Senators, and federal officials why a rural water system was needed in South Dakota.

Over thirty years ago, WEB Water was the first water project of its kind. Funding a regional pipeline project by federal authorization through the Interior Department had never been done before. The idea of piping Missouri River water through thousands of miles of pipelines to farms, homes, and towns seemed outlandish to many in government – and looked almost impossible to many in South Dakota. Regional water systems are commonplace today because of the precedence WEB Water set. Other South Dakota projects have benefited from the precedent set by WEB Water; Mid-Dakota Rural Water, Lewis & Clark Regional Water, Perkins County Rural Water, West River/ Lyman-Jones Rural Water, BDM Rural Water, and Mni Wiconi.

As of 2023, WEB has embarked on its Moratorium Improvements project, which includes upgrading its Water Treatment Plant by six million gallons daily. The work has started with a completion date of 2025. This summer, WEB will begin the Mainline Parallel project that will bring a 49.5" pipe from WEB's intake to the corner of Highway 83 and 12. The completion date is also scheduled to be done in 2025. The PVC Pipe project, which will include 100 miles of pipe throughout their system, is set to go to bid this summer.

DIRECTORS:

Tim Van Hatten – Chair *(Bulk)*
Craig Oberle – Vice-Chair *(Spink, Beadle, Hand)*
Lori Goldade – Secretary *(Brown)*
Les Hinds – Treasurer/State Association Director *(Bulk)*
Allan Walth – Director *(Walworth, Potter)*
Bob Whitmyre – Director *(Day, Clark, Marshall)*
Dick Werner – Director *(Campbell, McPherson, Emmonds, Dickey, McIntosh)*
Jeff Stoecker – Director *(Edmunds, Faulk, Hyde)*
Henry Orth – Director *(Bulk)*

STAFF:

Angie Hammrich – General Manager
Clayton Larson – Water Treatment Plant Manager
Shane Phillips – Operations Manager
Eric Hansen – Construction Manager

STATISTICS:

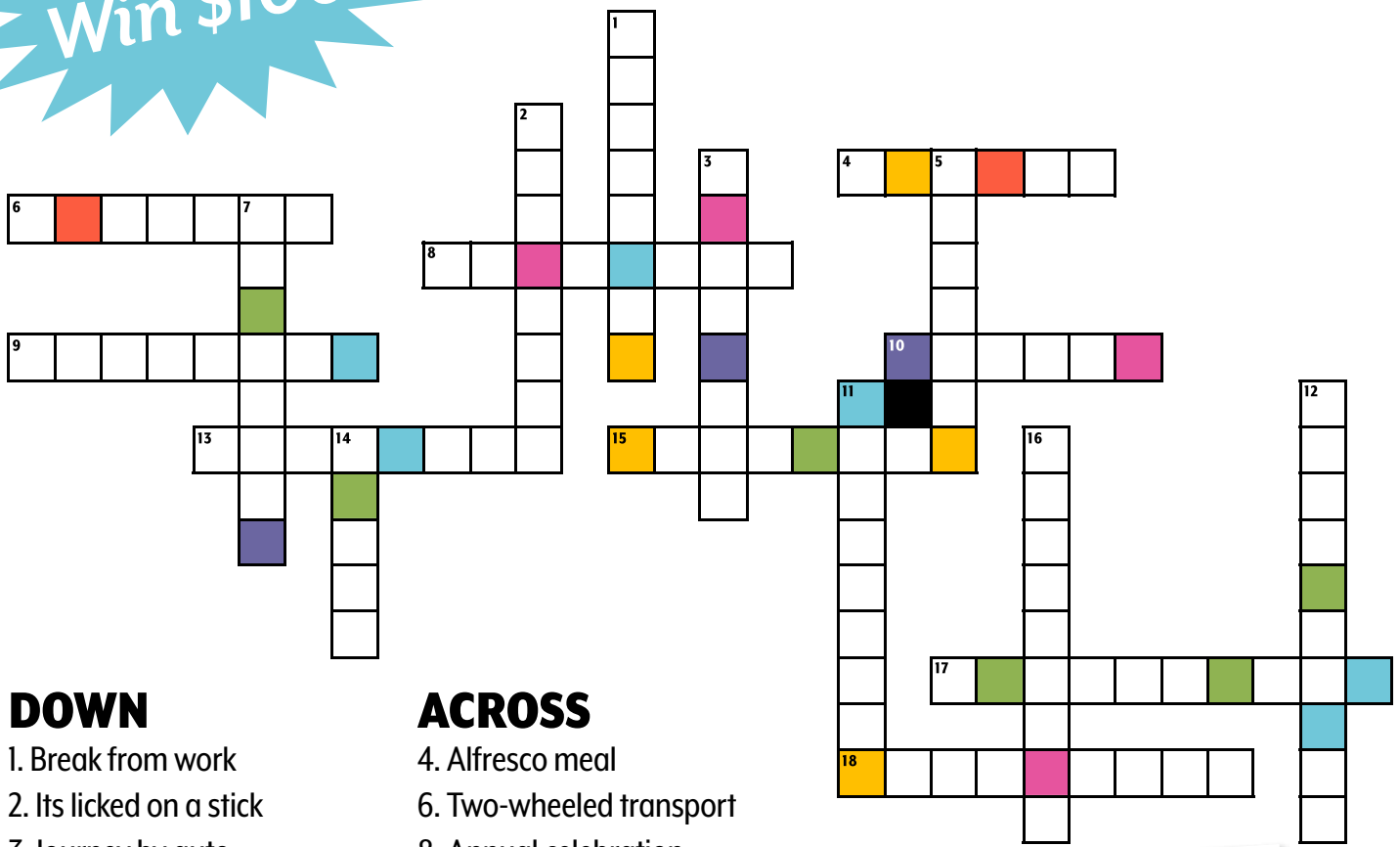
Hookups: 8,500
Miles of Pipeline: 6,800
Water Source: Oahe Reservoir
Counties Served: (SD): Beadle, Brown, Campbell, Clark, Day, Edmunds, Faulk, Hand, Hyde, McPherson, Marshall, Potter, Spink, Walworth. (ND): Emmons, Dickey, McIntosh
Towns Served Individual: Akaska, Andover, Athol, Ashton, Barnard, Bath, Butler, Columbia, Ferney, Frankfort, Glenham, Hillsview, Holmquist, Lily, Lowry, Loyalton, Mansfield, Mina, Miranda, Mound City, Rockham, Turton, Verdon, Zell
Towns Served Bulk: Bowdle, Brentford, Bristol, Chelsea, Conde, Cresbard, Doland, Eden, Eureka, Faulkton, Forbes, Frederick, Grenville, Groton, Herreid, Hosmer, Ipswich, Java, Leola, Long Lake, Mellette, Northville, Onaka, Pollock, Redfield, Roscoe, Roslyn, Selby, Seneca, Stratford, Warner, Webster, Wecota, Westport, Wetonka, Zeeland

RURAL WATER CROSSWORD & WORD SCRAMBLE CONTEST

SUMMERTIME FUN

Enter to Win $100

SCRAMBLE ANSWER



DOWN

1. Break from work
2. Its licked on a stick
3. Journey by auto
5. It's in tents
7. Drink from a stand
11. Flashy Display
12. Juicy fruit
14. Sandy spot
16. Horticulture pasttime

ACROSS

4. Alfresco meal
6. Two-wheeled transport
8. Annual celebration
9. Sandal-less, say
10. Nature Walk
13. Outdoor cookout
15. Taking a dip
17. Shades
18. Watering Device

RULES: Use the colored squares in the puzzle to solve the word scramble above. Call your Rural Water System (See page 2 for contact information) or **enter online at www.sdarws.com/crossword.html** with the correct phrase by July 15, 2023 to be entered into the $100 drawing.

Only one entry allowed per address/household. You must be a member of a participating rural water system to be eligible for the prize. Your information will only be used to notify the winner, and will not be shared or sold.

Congratulations to Lori Kingsbury with the Tripp County Water User District who had the correct phrase of "Every Action has a reaction" for April 2023.

SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

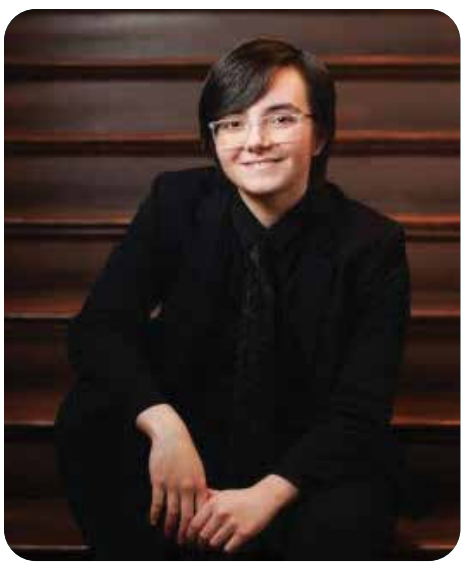
The board of directors of the Mid-Dakota Rural Water System is pleased to announce that four students have been chosen to receive a scholarship of $500 each. The very deserving individuals are Abby Hasart, the daughter of Mike Hasart from the rural area near Huron; Ashlee Kaup, the daughter of Colby and Tami Kaup from Hoven; Danielle Nowell, the daughter of Joshua and Kasey Nowell from the rural area near Hitchcock; and Ollie Smith, the daughter of Denise Langley, Adam Peterson, Alan Peterson and Jeanie Peterson from the rural area near Pierre. Abby is planning to attend Dakota Wesleyan University to pursue a career in Athletic Training. Ashlee plans to attend Northern State University to pursue a career in Accounting and Instrumental Music. Danielle currently attends South Dakota State University to pursuing a career in Ag Communications. Ollie is planning to attend South Dakota School of Mines for a career in Geological Engineering.

The board and staff at Mid-Dakota congratulate the winners and would also like to thank the other students for taking the time to submit an application. Best wishes to all of them in their future endeavors.

Abby Hasart

Ashlee Kaup

Danielle Nowell



Ollie Smith

MID DAKOTA RURAL WATER SYSTEM

Rate Table Effective January 1, 2023

501 Residential 1-Unit

$43.00	per month minimum bill
$5.30	per 1,000 gallons 1st 33,000
$7.55	per 1,000 gallons over 33,000

502 Rural Household 2-Units

$53.00	per month minimum bill
$5.30	per 1,000 gallons 1st 10,000
$4.24	per 1,000 gallons next 56,000
$7.55	Per 1,000 gallons over 66,000

504 Rural Household 4-Units

$71.00	per month minimum bill
$5.30	per 1,000 gallons 1st 10,000
$4.24	per 1,000 gallons next 122,000
$7.55	per 1,000 gallons over 132,000

506 Rural Household 6-Units

$88.00	per month minimum bill
$5.30	per 1,000 gallons 1st 10,000
$4.24	per 1,000 gallons next 188,000
$7.55	per 1,000 gallons over 198,000

511 Livestock

$31.00	per month minimum bill
$4.24	per 1,000 gallons 1st 300,000 (per year)
$5.30	per 1,000 gallons 301,000 to 700,000 (per year)
$7.55	per 1,000 gallons over 700,000 (per year)

161, 162, 164, 165 Special Class I & II

$16.40	per GPM per month minimum bill
$27.00	per GPM per month demand charge
$0.59	per 1,000 gallons

163, 166 Special Class III

$4.69	per Pers (equiv) per month minimum bill
$5.35	per Pers (equiv) per month demand charge
$0.59	per 1,000 gallons up to contract amount
$7.55	per 1,000 gallons over contract amount

1 Minimum & demand charges do not include any water.
2 Livestock (511) water allocations are annual use, not monthly.
3 "equivalent" population "person" = contract GPD ÷ 270

After Hours or Emergencies
Call Mid-Dakota
TOLL FREE at: 1-800-439-3079

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Mid-Dakota Rural Water System

Annual Water Quality Report

January 1, 2022 - December 31, 2022

SECRETARY'S AWARD

The Mid-Dakota Rural Water System has supplied 22 consecutive years of safe drinking water to the public it serves and has been awarded the Secretary's Award for Drinking Water Excellence by the South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

WATER QUALITY

This report is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided last year. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

WATER SOURCE

We serve more than 6,428 customer accounts, or a population greater than 32,600, an average of 6,206,000 gallons of water per day. We get our water from the Oahe Dam on the Missouri River which is a surface water source. The state has performed an assessment of our source water and they have determined that the relative susceptibility rating for the Mid-Dakota Rural Water public water supply system is medium.

For more information about your water and information on opportunities to participate in public meetings, call 605-945-0437 and ask for Bill Sarringar.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.

Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food & Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk

of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants can be obtained by calling the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The Mid-Dakota Rural Water public water supply system is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

DETECTED CONTAMINANTS

The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the 2022 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done January 1 – December 31, 2022. The state requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old.

2022 Water Quality Test Results

2022 TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS FOR MID-DAKOTA RURAL WATER (EPA ID 2175)

Substance	90% Level	Test Sites > Action Level	Date Tested	Highest Level Allowed (AL)	Ideal Goal	Units	Major Sources of Contaminant
Copper	0.3	0	08/24/22	AL=1.3	0	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead	1	0	08/24/22	AL=15	0	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.

Substance	Highest Level Detected	Range	Date Tested	Highest Level Allowed (MCL)	Ideal Goal (MCLG)	Units	Major Sources of Contaminant
Antimony	0.32		3/22/22	6	6	ppb	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder.
Arsenic	2		3/22/22	10	0	ppb	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
Atrazine	0.280	ND-0.280	11/13/19	3	3	ppb	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops.
Barium	0.035		03/22/22	2	2	ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of nautral deposits.
Fluoride	0.52		10/11/22	4	<4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Haloacetic Acids (RAA)	21.35		11/15/22	60	0	ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination. Results are reported as a running annual average of test results.
Selenium	0.96		03/22/22	50	50	ppb	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines.
Total Trihalomethanes (RAA)	41.98		11/15/22	80	0	ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination. Results are reported as a running annual average of test results.

TERMS & ABBREVIATIONS USED IN TABLES

Action Level (AL) – the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow. For Lead and Copper, 90% of the samples must be below the AL.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) – The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) – The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Running Annual Average (RAA) – Compliance is calculated using the running annual average of samples from designated monitoring locations.

UNITS

ppb – parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/l)
ppm – parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)
pCi/l – picocuries per liter(a measure of radioactivity)
ug/L – micrograms per liter or parts per billion (ppb)

Mid-Dakota Rural Water System, Inc.
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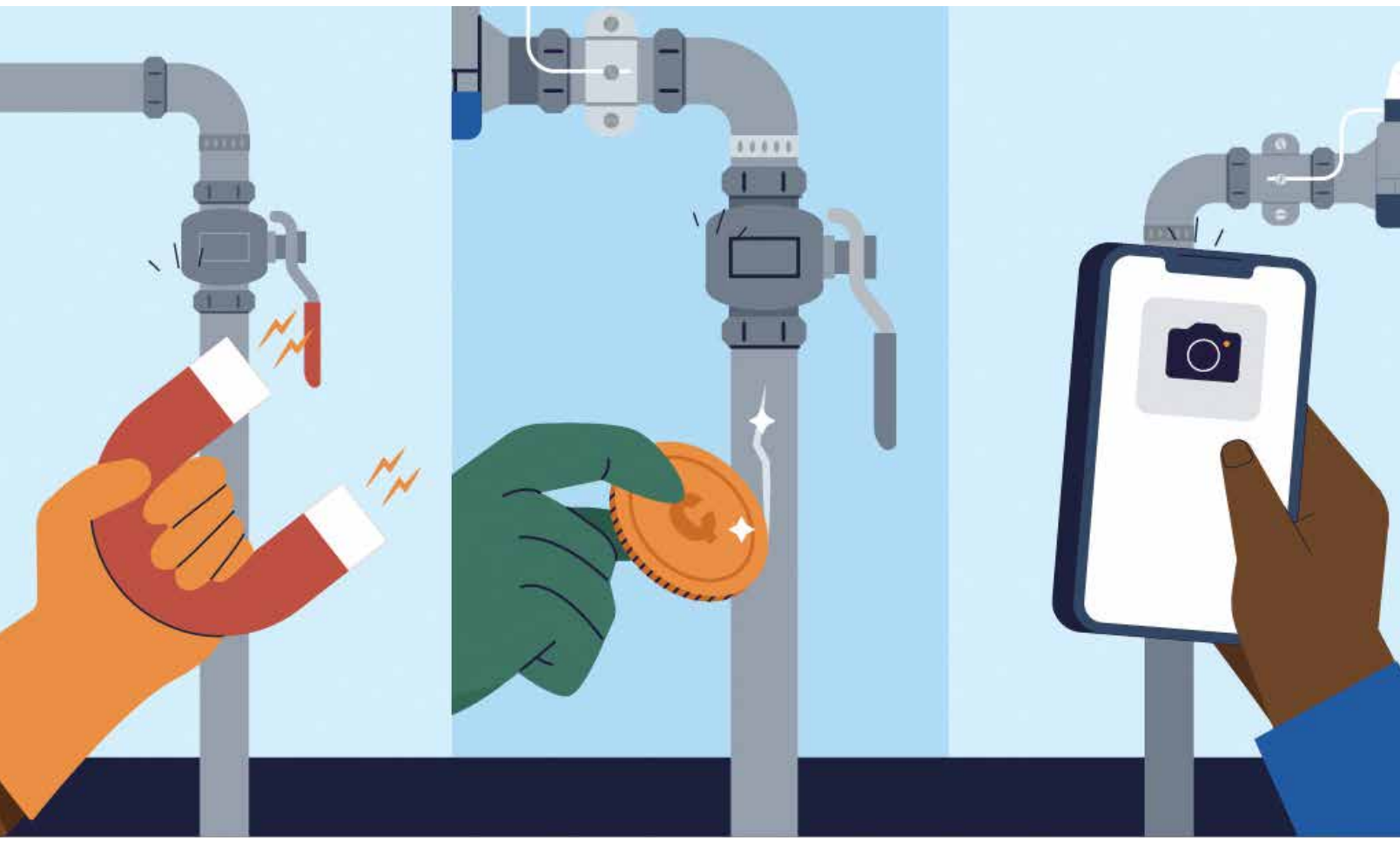

It's up to you!

Unlock the mystery of your property's water pipe material with the step-by-step survey at

survey.SDWaterPipes.com

SEE PAGE 5 FOR MORE INFORMATION

BACK PAGE CONTENT PROVIDED BY:

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