



Waterlines

A Newsletter from Belmont Terrace Mutual Water Company
Sebastopol, California

July 2020

Keeping You Up to Date

This periodic newsletter is designed to keep everyone who depends on Belmont Terrace water up to date on the status of our system and events that could impact our water supply. If you have any questions, comments or suggestions about what we should cover in the newsletter, please contact the editor, Ed Thompson, at ethompsonjr@gmail.com or 707-861-9988.

Recent Water Use Trends

During March and April, the latest period for which we have data, total water usage by Belmont Terrace residents increased significantly – about 40 percent – over last year.

	2019	2020
March	458,700	632,100
April	511,300	723,600

Figures in gallons.

This is probably attributable to the fact that we have had less rainfall this year and the air temperatures have been warmer. (Plus, many of us have spent more time at home because of the coronavirus lockdown.) Nevertheless, it underscores the need for continual water conservation because we are just now getting into the summer months when water use typically peaks.

We want to thank the two residents who recently agreed to modify their irrigation schedules to avoid excessive water use and runoff. And we urge all residents to monitor their systems and reduce water use whenever possible.

Though our well does not seem to be in any danger of running low, we do have to meet state standards for adequate water storage capacity based on how much we use. Last summer, we came very close to exceeding the amount that would trigger a requirement that we add storage capacity – at significant expense to us all.

Emergency Response Committee

This January, Claire Schlecht volunteered to fill the role as our Emergency Response Committee (ERC) Leader. She has been very efficient in working with the Board and water operators to guide our block captains in posting recent water Alerts and Notices.

Claire works full time as Executive Assistant at Tanium and is relatively new to the neighborhood. She and her fiancé, Cole, moved into 974 Dorthel in February of 2019. While Cole grew up in nearby Forestville, Claire originally hails from Louisiana, but she's really taken to Sebastopol. They have six cats, five chickens and a fair-sized garden. The family is very happy here in Belmont Terrace and very grateful to have been so warmly welcomed into this community! Should you wish to reach Claire with any questions about the ERC role, her contact details are claireschlecht@gmail.com, 646-734-8644.

The following people have volunteered to serve as block captains for their streets:

Tara Kelly – Bella Vista Street
Dee Kosten – Daniel Street
Jeff McGee – Danmar Street
Bill Mattinson – Dorthel Street
Tom Neuwirth – Norlee Street
Laurie Binder – Tocchini Street

We thank all of these folks for their willingness to help keep Belmont Terrace safe and sound.

Tank Cleaning & Re-roofing

The Board is still looking at options for cleaning and re-roofing our water storage tank. Recent inspections have shown that there isn't much sediment accumulation in the tank, so there is no urgency about draining and cleaning it. We are going ahead with re-roofing the operations building to deal with some small leaks.

Repair of Leaking Street Valve

In April, our operators arranged for the repair of a leaking valve in the main line on Dorthel Street. The repair was successfully completed on time and within the budget. Routine repairs like this are fairly common in an old system like ours, so it is important not only that we maintain a "rainy day" fund to finance them, but also that we anticipate potential problems and upgrade the system when necessary.

Web Site Update

Did you know that BTMWC has a web site that Debby Turner, a neighbor and one of our water operators, took the time to set up some years ago? Feel free to explore this web site (belmonterrace.org), which has a wealth of information for residents. Some topics include: Contact info on Board members and water operators, By Laws, Consumer Confidence Reports, annual Financial Statements, important Policies, and Newsletters. If you have any questions or suggestions about this web site, please contact board member Dee Kosten (Kosten@sonic.net) who has recently committed to making some updates. Thank you!

Belmont Terrace Management

Board of Directors:

Steve Paulick, President	707-823-4810
Sandy Pete, Secretary	707-799-4798
Laurie Mattinson, Treasurer	707-829-2628
Dee Kosten	707-829-1084
Bill Mattinson	707-829-2628
Ann Thompson	240-338-0346
Ed Thompson	202-309-1162

System Operators:

Bruce Petersilge	707-820-7787
Debby Turner	707-820-7633
David Vigil (Operator-in-Training)	

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NEWSLETTER**