

Lake of the Woods Mutual Company

Website: <https://www.lakeofthewoodswater.com/>

October 2026 Newsletter

Operating hours – Monday to Friday 9-3. Closed all federal holidays.

RATE INCREASE FOR 2027

Lake of the Woods's board of directors have thoroughly gone over our budget for 2027. The new rate will be **\$85.07 for the base rate** and **\$0.14 cents/CF** of water used. Our new rates & budget are located on the website.

STATE MANDATE: Hazard Assessment – Just last week a brochure and hazard assessment were sent out and to be filled out and returned to the office. We need every home to fill this out.

Why are you receiving this letter?

It is part of the state mandated Cross-Connection Control Policy Handbook that was updated July 2024.

In compliance with the Handbook, Lake of the Woods Mutual Water Company (LOWMWC) has updated our cross-connection control program and policy. The purpose of a cross-connection control program is to prevent any occurrence of backflow into our distribution system to protect our customers from contamination or pollution from any on-site hazards. To evaluate potential for backflows into our system, LOWMWC is conducting an initial hazard assessment of all customers. Each hazard assessment will identify the degree, if any, hazard to LOWMWC's distribution system. Please complete the provided Cross-Connection Control Hazard Assessment Form and return it to LOWMWC. Upon receiving the completed form, LOWMWC can determine the degree of hazard associated with your property and whether a backflow prevention assembly is required. A site survey, by our Cross-Connection Control Specialist, may be necessary if there is no response or after the completion of our Cross-Connection Control Hazard Assessment Form. Refusal to comply can result in water service termination.

"Hard to Find Leak" Solutions

If your water bill is high due to a continuous leak, but you cannot find the leak, it could be the water softener or the Reverse Osmosis (RO) system failing internally. If you know the toilets and faucets are not the problem, you can contact our office to have the Operator come out and monitor the meter while the homeowner turns off the valve to the water softener or the RO. Once the valve is off, the Operator will let you know if the meter shows the leak has stopped. This exact situation recently occurred to a shareholder and allowed them to identify the problem. See attached for more water saving ideas

PLEASE UPDATE YOUR CONTACT NUMBERS WITH THE OFFICE: Please call the office to update all your accounts with your current phone number. This is to ensure you get up to date info when we need to contact you about boil notices or anything else. We know a lot of people are removing landlines from their house and are now going to just cell phones. If you have not let us know we may still have that number for your account.

Our next board meetings are October 7, 2026 & November 4, 2026, zoom link Id# 825 6479 4298, Phone #669-900-9128 above. If you want to attend in person, please submit a written/verbal request 24 hours in advance as space is limited.

If you have any questions, please call the office at 661-245-1448.

Thank you,

Board of Directors, Joan Kotnik – President, Daryl Beckstrand - Vice President/ Treasurer, Mary Dreier - Secretary, Martin Morehouse – Director, & Richard McGee - Director