

VILLAGE OF LEETONIA

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Established : 1869

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Administrator's E-Mail: administrator@leetonia.org

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Arthur V. Altomare
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Dear Water Customers of Leetonia:

I know at times we have all asked why Leetonia has so many water problems, discolored water, line breaks, and so on. There are always comments being made that Leetonia's water cost is so high and you can't even use the water. I just want to make a statement about Leetonia's water cost; it is one of the lowest in the County. It's not the water rates that make Leetonia customers Utilities Bills high; it's the Ohio EPA MANDATED Waste Water Plant up-dates. The minimum SEWER bill is \$37.07 per month. Water is ONLY \$3.38 per thousand gallons used.

That brings up the next topic of discussion, WATER QUALITY.

We are dealing with a system that is approximately 100 + years OLD, and is in need of replacement. We have done a lot of improvements over the past few years, and will continue to do more up-dates as the Village funds can tolerate. We are trying to get a NEW 12" feeder line through town so we will have somewhere to start replacing some of the OLD lines as funds become available. We have secured several grants to help in the up-date process, and will continue to secure outside funds to help with the improvements. There have been a lot of improvements, and most of them you don't see until something happens, and then they come into play. Extra water line valves is one of the big projects you don't see, but when there is a Main Water Line break we can isolate the leak and keep most of the town in water during the repair process. It use to be the whole town would have to have been shut down and be without water. Yes there is a lot of room for improvements in our water quality, and I can reassure you that we are doing everything that is humanly possible with the funds that we have to work with. We will continue to make improvements in your water system and make every effort to provide you with a SAFE, and desirable quality of water you deserve. There are a lot of people working very hard to improve our utilities, the Mayor, Council, Utilities Superintendent, Water Clerk, Utilities Employees and myself work hard everyday to make sure you get the BEST water possible at the BEST rate possible. It's not easy trying to fix a 100 YEAR old problem with little or NO money to do it with. We will continue to do our BEST, and only hope that our customers will try to be a little understanding that it's not an easy fix, but with time it is a fixable project.

We always WELCOME your comments, and complaints, we need to know what's wrong so we know what needs fixed. I would like to **THANK** all the Water Customers of Leetonia for their patience over the last few years, I know that there have been some bad experiences with our water supply, but improvements are on the way. We will continue to do our best to improve your water quality at the lowest possible rate.

Leetonia residents are our most valuable resource and we need to protect them as much as possible, and this means providing the best quality of utilities that we can within a reasonable budget. Everyone **MUST** understand the problems didn't get here in one day, and they won't be fixed or go away in one day. Our problems will take time, money, and teamwork to cure. We need the residents of Leetonia to work along with the Village Officials to come up with solutions and help implement them in a manner that will be both beneficial and affordable to the residents of Leetonia. We all live here, **use the same utilities**, and want the same improvements. This includes the Village Officials, we are all in the same boat, and we **MUST** work together to keep afloat.

I feel very confident the problems Leetonia is experiencing are workable problems, and that Leetonia will survive through them as a team as Leetonia always has in the past. We have the ability to tackle problems and come up with solutions to accomplish our goals as a community. We are a surviving community, and will continue to be so.

Should any resident, water customer ever have the desire to take a tour of Leetonia Water facilities, Superintendent Butch Donnalley would be more than **PLEASED** to take the time to accommodate anyone who would request a tour. Please call Butch Donnalley at the Leetonia Water Plant to set up a tour if you are interested 330-427-8087.

We must always remember that the operation and responsibility of running Leetonia can not rest on any one person's shoulders, we **MUST** all work together to accomplish our goals and make Leetonia a better place to live then it is already. I feel we have a good community to live in and raise our families. We have problems, but the ability to work together is what makes Leetonia unique and a **GREAT** place to live.

We must all step up to the plate and get involved in our community. **REMEMBER**, it's your community. Getting involved will give you the opportunity to express your views and ideas, which will ultimately help make things better for everyone.

In closing, I am not trying to sugar coat the problems, **BECAUSE** by all means we do have problems, and some times the problems become overwhelming. We will work through our problems with the support and understanding of the community.

Your Village Administrator,

Gary E. Phillips