

SPRING/SUMMER 2021

Best Water! Best Service!

Gardnerville
WATER
COMPANY

YOUR WATER COMPANY

Office Hours

Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm
Closed for Lunch 12-1pm

Contact Us

1579 Virginia Ranch Rd
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Board of Directors

Ken Deering, Chairman
Dave Ellison, Vice Chairman
Doug Sonnemann, Treasurer
Barbara Henningsen, Secretary
Carl Spahr, Member at Large

Office Staff

Mark Lovelady, General Manager
Kristien Bennett, Financial Officer & HR
Trebeca Itzen, Senior Administrative
Amber Ambrose, Administrative Asst.

Technical Staff

Jonas Austin, Water Operations Supr
Jon Summers, Senior Operator
Eamon Webb, Operator in Training

Board Meetings

Held the second Tuesday of the
month at 5:00pm on ZOOM.

MARCH 9, 2021

APRIL 13, 2021

MAY 11, 2021

JUNE 8, 2021

**When doing repairs, utilize
the building's shut-off valve
DO NOT TURN OFF THE
WATER AT THE METER PIT!**

Gardnerville Water Company Newsletter

Toilet Tune-ups

Most toilet leaks are easy to fix. Here are simple repair steps to follow:



- ◆ **Water Level Adjustment** - If the water level is too high in the toilet tank, it will spill into the overflow tube, causing the water to run. The float can be adjusted by turning the adjustment screw clockwise. If you have a newer model with the float on the ball-cock assembly, lower the wire link using the "v" shaped clip. The water should shut off one inch below the top of the overflow tube, or some toilets may have a fill line on the inside of the tank to use as a guide. It may take a couple of tries to get the water level where you want it.
- ◆ **Handle Adjustment** - If you have to jiggle the handle to keep the toilet from "running," the guide-wire or the handle itself may be sticking. Adjust the nut that secures it in the toilet tank. If that does not work, you may need to replace the handle. Remember to take it with you when looking for a replacement.
- ◆ **Dye Test** - Most people think that their toilet does not leak. Remove the tank lid (remove in-tank cleaners) and drop dye tablets or food coloring in the toilet tank. Wait 15 minutes and **DO NOT FLUSH!** If colored water appears in the bowl, you have a silent leak and will most likely need to replace the flapper.
- ◆ **Flapper Replacement** - If the flapper ball is worn, it should be removed and replaced. When removing or replacing the flapper, note how the chain is adjusted before the old flapper is removed. You also should check the valve seat for scale or corrosion. If the surface of the valve seat is rough, get some 400-grit wet or dry sandpaper and lightly go over the entire surface. Repeat the process until the surface is smooth. If cleaning does not work, you can purchase a combination flapper/valve seat that is made to fit over the existing valve seat. Make sure to take the existing parts with you when purchasing replacements.

Set Your Yard Up For Success

BILL PAYMENT OPTIONS WITH CONVENIENCE IN MIND

- ◆ **Automatic Bill Payment** - You never have to worry about paying your bill on time with this convenient service. With Automatic Bill Payment, we mail your water bill as usual (or select paperless billing and get your bills online) and your payment amount will be automatically deducted from your checking, savings, credit or debit card. To sign up call (775) 782-2339, or visit us online www.gardnervillewater.org
- ◆ **Pay Online** - Now you can pay your bill online for free using your checking, savings or credit card. Visit www.gardnervillewater.org to pay your bill
- ◆ **Pay by Phone** - You can pay your bill by phone for free using your checking, savings or credit card by calling 775-782-2339
- ◆ **Pay by Mail** - Simply mail your payment, to GWC 1579 Virginia Ranch Rd, Gardnerville, NV 89410
- ◆ **Pay at GWC's Office** - Located at 1579 Virginia Ranch Road, our office is open Monday through Friday 8am to 5pm (closed 12-1pm) or if you wish to drop off your payment, you may take advantage of our payment drop box, located conveniently for your driver to drop in while driving thru the left side of the building.



- ◆ Hydrozone your irrigation system – Separating your planting beds by water needs helps with water efficiency. Put turf, drought-tolerant beds, and more water-needy areas on different zones so that the different water needs can be accommodated easily.
- ◆ Use mulch – a 2 to 3 inch deep layer of mulch helps keep soil moist.
- ◆ Water between dusk and dawn – Watering before the sun comes up reduces evaporation.



Optimize Your Irrigation System

- ◆ Check irrigation controller battery – When your power goes off, it is the battery in your controller box that holds the memory of your irrigation schedule. Otherwise the system goes back to default – often watering every day.
- ◆ Get on a schedule – three times a week is plenty for the plants in Northern Nevada. Choose two week day and one weekend day to spread out your water application. Never water during the day.
- ◆ Spray low or use drip – The higher water droplets fly, the more water is lost to wind and evaporation. Correct to avoid wasteful misting.
- ◆ Check your sprinkler system at the beginning of the season and monthly adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered and not the house, sidewalk, or street. Replace broken sprinklers and drip emitters.

- ◆ Check automatic valves and backflow irrigation devices for cracks and leaks prior to usage



Water Saving Tips for the Upcoming Months:

- ◆ Watch your sprinklers in action. Get your irrigation system tuned up for efficiency.
- ◆ Adjust your sprinklers. Water less on overcast or cool days and never water while it's raining.
- ◆ Make sure nothing is blocking irrigation sprinkler heads.
- ◆ Water your lawn during less windy, cooler times of the day.
- ◆ Set your lawn mower blades one notch higher. Longer grass means less evaporation.
- ◆ Set your sprinklers to water in the cool of the early morning. Never water during the day as you will lose a majority of your water to evaporation.
- ◆ Direct the water drain line to a flowerbed, tree base, or lawn if you have an evaporative air conditioner.
- ◆ Put a layer of mulch around trees and plants to slow evaporation and protect roots from temperature extremes.
- ◆ Look for wet spots to help you find leaky or broken pipes, valves, and fittings in irrigation systems.
- ◆ Careful weeding, pruning, fertilizing and pest control will ensure a healthy landscape and increase water savings.