

Entranosa Water News

June 30, 2016

June Usage. Residential demand this month averaged just under 10,000 gallons. Average usage in June 2015 was about 9,100 gallons, and it averaged 9,900 gallons in 2014 – so it was fairly normal June! We encourage you to use what you need – no more, and no less.

Consumer Confidence Report (CCR). We published our most recent CCR on May 6th, and it is posted on our web site. Our most recent lead tests are

<http://ccrwater.net/entranosawater-17033>

Hardness. We measured hardness at the office this morning and it was 27 grains, and based on our total pumping in June, it averaged 29 grains. A grain is approximately 17.1 milligrams per liter. We expect hardness to drop a little in July, to about 27 grains (over much of the water system).

Board Meeting. The Board of Directors will hold its next monthly meeting on the next-to-last Thursday, July 21st at 11:30 a.m. Should you wish to attend, please call to verify the date so we can make proper arrangements and notify you of changes that may affect the meeting schedule.

Leak Adjustment Policy. On the 1st of April we implemented a new leak adjustment policy, and provide insurance coverage for every residential customer. Under the policy, the water bill attributable to a leak during the coverage period will be paid, up to \$1000; less the average monthly bill amount. A claim may be filed once every 12 months. The fee is \$1.65/meter. Each member can choose to opt out of the coverage. This program does NOT apply to commercial accounts. All commercial accounts should contact the office if they have a leak.

Yard Line Repair Insurance. We also offer repair coverage for yard lines, from the meter to the foundation of the home. This coverage is \$4.00/month but it is optional – you must choose to be covered – just call 407-8081 (there is a 30 day waiting period). This coverage does NOT include leaks that started prior to the start of your coverage.

Account information (phone or email) There are times when we need to contact you about a water outage or other water related issues. About 75% of our contact info is current - please help us by updating your contact information, as it changes.

Household Water Pressure. If you have symptoms of high pressure, we'll be glad to check – please call the office.

Annual Meeting and Candidates for Board Elections. The Annual Meeting will be held on September 22nd at the Nature Pointe Community Center. There are three board seats open this year. If you have some time to commit and you're interested in serving the community - please nominate yourself, or a good neighbor! To do so, send a letter (or drop off a note) at the office with your name, address, phone number and the statement “nominate xxxx for the board of directors”. The deadline for nominations is close-of-business on Monday, August 1st.

Monsoons. The recent rains have had the look and smell of monsoons, but we're not quite there. Many indicators are predicting a wet season.

Call 811 Before You Dig - It IS the Law

Entranosa Water & Wastewater Association
(505) 281-8700 (office) / (505) 604-5935 (emergency)

www.entranosawater.com

Office Hours of Operation: Monday – Thursday 8:00 am – 4:30 pm, and Friday 9:00 am – 4:30 pm

The North American Monsoon

In 2004, a major multinational research project was conducted in northwest Mexico and the southwest U.S to better describe the monsoon in North America, and increase our ability to predict it on a daily, weekly and seasonal basis. A monsoon is characterized by seasonal large-scale wind and rainfall shifts. In our case, it normally develops over much of Mexico and the intermountain region of the U.S.

The North American Monsoon is not as strong or persistent as its Indian counterpart, mainly because the Mexican Plateau is not as high or as large as the Tibetan Plateau in Asia. However, the North American Monsoon shares most of the basic characteristics of its Indian counterpart - there is a shift in wind patterns in summer which occurs as Mexico and the southwest U.S. warm under intense solar heating. As this happens, the flow reverses from dry land areas to moist ocean areas. In the North American Monsoon, low level moisture is transported primarily from the Gulf of California and eastern Pacific. The Gulf of California, a narrow body of water surrounded by mountains, is particularly important for low-level moisture transport into Arizona and Sonora. Upper level moisture is also transported into the region, mainly from the Gulf of Mexico by easterly winds aloft. Once the forests of the Sierra Madre Occidental green up from the initial monsoon rains, evaporation and plant transpiration can add additional moisture to the atmosphere which will then flow into Arizona. Finally, if the southern Plains of the U.S. are unusually wet and green during the early summer months, that area can also serve as a moisture source. This combination causes a distinct rainy season over large portions of western North America, which develops rather quickly and sometimes dramatically so.

Rainfall during the monsoon is not continuous. It varies considerably, depending on a variety of factors. There are usually distinct “burst” periods of heavy rain during the monsoon, and “break” periods with little or no rain. Monsoon precipitation, however, accounts for a substantial portion of annual precipitation in northwest Mexico and the Southwest U.S. Most of these areas receive over half their annual precipitation from the monsoon.

The North American Monsoon circulation pattern typically develops in June over southwest Mexico. By mid to late summer, thunderstorms increase over the “core” region of the southwest U.S. – including New Mexico. Once the monsoon is underway (typically, late June), mountain ranges provide a focusing mechanism for the daily development of thunderstorms. Thus much of the monsoon rainfall occurs in mountainous terrain. Since the southwest U.S. is at the northern fringe of the monsoon, precipitation is less and tends to be more variable. Areas further west of the core monsoon region, namely California and Baja California, typically receive only spotty monsoon-related rainfall, and the intense solar heating isn’t strong enough to overcome a continual supply of cold water from the North Pacific Ocean moving south along the west coast of North America. Winds do turn toward the land in these areas, but the cool moist air actually stabilizes the atmosphere.

In addition to the lower level monsoon circulation, an upper level monsoon ridge develops over the southern High Plains and northern Mexico. In June, the ridge is too far south and blocks deep moisture from moving north into Arizona and New Mexico, but by late June and early July, the ridge shifts north into the southern Rocky Mountains.

The exact strength and position of this ridge also governs how far north the tropical easterly winds aloft can spread. If the ridge is too close to a particular area, the sinking air at its center suppresses thunderstorms and can result in a significant monsoon “break.” If the ridge is too far away or too weak, the east winds around the high are inadequate to bring tropical moisture into the mountains of Mexico and southwest U.S. However, if the ridge sets up in a few key locations, widespread and potentially severe thunderstorms can develop.

It is important to note that the monsoon is not an individual thunderstorm. While “monsoon” accurately conjures up images of torrential rains and flooding, calling a single thunderstorm a “monsoon” is incorrect. A monsoon is a large scale weather pattern which *causes* our summer thunderstorms ... and we’re glad!