



## Winter Newsletter - 2024

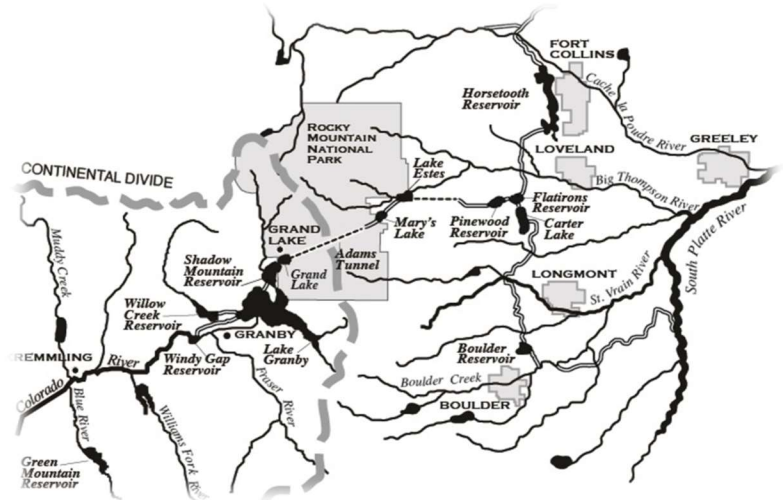
The Longs Peak Water District has delivered safe, quality water to about 1300 homes in Northern Colorado since 1960. We are dedicated to providing quality water as economically as possible while promoting water conservation throughout Northern Colorado. The primary storage reservoir for LPWD is Carter Lake. Our water is treated at the Kugel Plant located near our offices on Vermillion Road. As a supplemental source during summer months, water is also supplied via master meter from Little Thompson Water District. This water is treated at the Carter Lake Filter Plant. We also provide non-treated water for irrigation purposes in two developments numbering 300 homes.



The Board and Staff at Longs Peak Water District wish you a happy and joyful 2024.

### Water Outlook 2024 and Where Does My Water Come From?

Currently, the water outlook for 2024 is looking pretty good, however the District always recommends that customers use their water wisely. Our raw water comes from snowpack accumulated on the Western Slope. It is transferred through a 13-mile tunnel under Rocky Mountain National Park where it is stored in Carter Lake. A customer's annual usage allotted is approximately 230,000 gallons per year. Over the last several years, customers are using more water annually and as of the end of 2022, 70% of the District's customers used over that allotment. 23% of those used over 1 million gallons. Those numbers seem staggering, but in most years, the District can easily obtain the raw water necessary for treatment. And in drought years, the District may mandate water use restrictions.



### Water Rate and Fees

The Longs Peak Water District has always delivered safe drinking water at the most affordable rate. However, the rate structure for the District will be changing in 2024. The District implemented a flat rate structure well over 20 years ago, which worked for many years while other districts had tiered rate structures in place. A tiered rate structure curbs usage patterns of higher users. Longs Peak will be implementing a tiered rate structure starting with your February billing. At a properly advertised rate hearing meeting in December 2023, the Board of Directors set the following rates for 2024 for a standard residential tap.

- Basic Water Fee - \$25.00/month
- \$4.65/1000 gallons up to 20,000 gallons/month
- \$4.85/1000 gallons from 20,001 - 42,000 gallons/month
- \$5.25/1000 gallons from 42,000 – 83,000 gallons/month
- \$6.00/1000 gallons for any usage over 83,000 gallons/month

# FAQs

## Do I need a water filter?

Your tap water is perfectly safe without one. However, everyone has different ideas on water filtration. The District treats your water at our Kugel Water Treatment plant, and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment sets stringent treatment techniques that meet or exceed EPA guidelines. Furthermore, if a customer prefers bottled water, keep the following in mind: Bottled water is only as good as its source. Many bottled waters are actually bottled tap water. Currently, bottled water is not as heavily regulated or tested as tap water. Instead bottled water is regulated through the Food and Drug Administration and is considered a food product. Additionally, water utilities are required to release information on their water's quality and bottled water companies are not.



## Is it okay to drink hot water?

No, never drink or use hot water from the tap for consumption or food or beverage preparation. Hot water systems (tanks, boilers) contain metallic parts that corrode over time and contaminate the hot water.



## I have fish. Can I use the District's water for my fish tank?

No, liquid chlorine bleach is added as a disinfectant to protect the drinking water from potentially harmful microscopic organisms. All chemicals that are added are certified food grade (safe for use in foods). Dechlorinate your water for your fish.

## Paying your Bill

The District has many options for receiving your payment. You can always swing by our office at 9875 Vermillion Road and pay with cash or check. We cannot accept credit cards at the office. If the office is closed, or you're in a hurry, you can leave your payment in our secure lock box in front of the gate. Of course, there are on-line payment options as well via check or credit card. You can choose to have your payment automatically deducted from your bank or credit card account, or log in each month to make your payment. The District has teamed up with Xpress Bill Pay to make this more convenient for you. Currently, the District does not charge any fees for this service.



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Colter Thompson – Operations and Compliance

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**Silent leak test:** A silent toilet leak can waste as much as 500 gallons of water per day! Make sure you don't have one: remove your toilet tank lid and add a few drops of food coloring to dye the water. Wait about 30 minutes without flushing and check to see if the dye has leaked into the bowl.