

Hello MEWA Members and welcome to March! [March 5, 2024]

**2024 PROJECT PLANNING:** MEWA is currently scheduling our summer capital improvement projects (and partnering with the Metro District on their 2024 road improvements) and if you are building OR thinking about building this year and need a curb stop and/or line extension installed PLEASE reach out to [mewawater@gmail.com](mailto:mewawater@gmail.com) now so that we can get that work funded, materials ordered, and construction scheduled.

**2024 INVOICES:** Membership bills (denoted by Quickbooks as “Pledges” because MEWA operates as a 501(c)12 “Mutual Irrigation Company”) were sent out in January, and payment of those were due by January 31st. We are still collecting and delinquent accounts will continue to incur late fees of \$25/month. If for some reason you HAVE NOT received your invoice yet, PLEASE email [mewabilling@gmail.com](mailto:mewabilling@gmail.com) and [mewawater@gmail.com](mailto:mewawater@gmail.com) and our MEWA treasurer Roberto Van de Wyngard at [vandewyngard@yahoo.com](mailto:vandewyngard@yahoo.com) ASAP. We also have around 23 members with outstanding balances that are 90 days or more overdue. Y’all will be receiving phone calls/letters/emails very soon before we escalate to formal collection procedures, water service shutoff, water certificate revocation, and/or property liens as needed.

**WATER METER PICKUPS/INSTALLS:** There are still a handful of members who have NOT picked up & installed water meters. PLEASE pickup and INSTALL a water meter ASAP. Contact Board member Brent Groenke at [brent.groenke@yahoo.com](mailto:brent.groenke@yahoo.com) for pickup. Jeremy Allenbaugh [liquidwaterservices@gmail.com](mailto:liquidwaterservices@gmail.com) (text 303-957-7411) our Operator in Responsible Charge (ORC)/water tester has already helped install many of them for you as he is regularly in PanArk at least once per week. Members have also had good experiences with Sanchez Plumbing 970-376-1022 and Providence Plumbing 719-239-1667. PLEASE take the time and effort to get a meter installed as soon as you can to AVOID the Tier 3 usage rates. If part-time here, please plan ahead with Brent on meter pickup and install a meter as soon as you arrive. Meters will also help us identify and troubleshoot any water leakage in the MEWA system. Part-time resident Robert Vining at 66 Mt Elbert has offered his complimentary handyman services for anyone needing installation help, call “Son for Hire” (390) 390-4247.

**TIS THE FREEZIN’ SEASON:** Although we have only received one report of a frozen water line (and one frozen septic leach field), we are not out of the woods just yet! We experienced very cold early season temperatures with below average snowfall so the frost line is definitely already very deep. MEWA still has a couple of Aqua-Flo freeze protection units for member sale. <http://www.groupwd.com/wd-aquaflo>. Member cost is \$1800. If you have not done so already, please read our [MEWA Frozen Line Policy](#).

**CJK MILLING PROPOSAL TO REOPEN THE LEADVILLE MILL UTILIZING CYANIDE LEACHING:** Public comments to the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining, & Safety (DRMS) are open until April 3<sup>rd</sup>, go here for more information <https://www.cc4lc.org/call-to-action-toolkit> Please note that MEWA’s #1 priority is preservation of our underground water supply.

**LAKE COUNTY SHORT TERM RENTALS (STR):** The County adopted new STR regulations on Feb 28th viewable here: <https://www.lakecountyco.com/277/Short-Term-Rentals> Please note the County’s efforts to preserve our underground water supply via septic system inspection reports and phasing out non-modern seepage pits.

**MEWA Annual Member Meeting Saturday July 20<sup>th</sup> at 10am:** We have scheduled our 2024 Annual Member Meeting for Sat July 20<sup>th</sup> at 10am at the new Lake County Fire Station II. We will be sharing details of our recently completed Emergency Response Plan (ERP) and Vulnerability Assessment (VA). This meeting will also include new MEWA board member elections so if you are interested in volunteering to help out our association please give it some serious thought and email your interest to [mewawater@gmail.com](mailto:mewawater@gmail.com) We are especially looking for full-time (or mostly full-time residents) to help out. Stay tuned for more details in the next couple of months!

THANK YOU and please reach out to [mewawater@gmail.com](mailto:mewawater@gmail.com) with any questions/comments/concerns!

Sincerely,  
your MEWA Board

<https://www.mountelbertwater.org/>