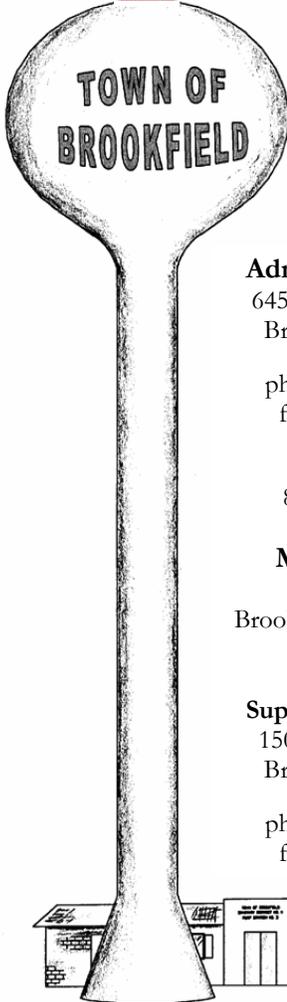


WATER TOWER NEWS

SANITARY DISTRICT NO. 4



Administrative office:

645 North Janacek Road
Brookfield, Wisconsin

phone: 262.798.8631
fax: 262.796.0339

Monday - Friday
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Mailing address:

P.O. Box 1296
Brookfield, WI 53008-1296

Superintendent's office:

150 South Barker Road
Brookfield, Wisconsin

phone: 262.798.8629
fax: 262.796.0339

KEEP FIRE HYDRANTS ACCESSIBLE

If there is a **fire hydrant** on, or near your property, please remember to keep it **free from snow** during the winter months. In doing so, you could save your home, your neighbor's home, or possibly lives!



Lead and Copper in Compliance

The Sanitary District has many older homes that were constructed when lead plumbing materials were commonly used. Lead solder was used with copper pipes until 1984. Even today lead can be found in some new brass fixtures.

Lead and copper testing is mandated by the EPA's Lead & Copper Rule which was adopted in June of 1991. Because we are historically in compliance we have taken the fewest samples allowed by law. The law doesn't give anyone the opportunity to get a pass, so we will continue to sample every three years.

Sanitary District No. 4 completed its ninth round of testing last September on a group of 20 homes that we have been monitoring since 1993. The homes in our test group have copper plumbing with lead solder. EPA regulations require that 90% of the homes in our test group have lead levels of 15 micrograms per liter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{l}$) or less. The 90 percentile level in this round of testing was **4.0 $\mu\text{g}/\text{l}$** , well under the EPA maximum level. Another "thank you" to those who again have taken time to help us with the testing.

Lead is not found in our groundwater or water in the district's distribution mains, but is absorbed from lead plumbing materials. The utility carefully monitors the corrosion potential of our drinking water to minimize the amount of lead absorbed from household plumbing.

We recommend that residents with homes built before 1984 flush their water line before using water for cooking or drinking. It takes time for the water to absorb lead, so the idea is to use water that has not been in contact with lead plumbing materials for more than a few hours. Adequately flushing the water line can require running 1 to 2 gallons of water to draw fresh water from the water main.

Please contact us at 262.798.8631 if you have questions regarding lead in drinking water, lead plumbing, or flushing requirements.



HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

The Sanitary District office, which is now located in the town hall, will be closed for the following holidays:

Thanksgiving	November 24 & 25
Christmas	December 23 & 26
New Year's	December 30 (1/2 day) January 2, 2012



*"Wishing you a safe,
happy holiday season
and prosperous 2012"*

More Information On Our Website

For more information, check out our website with frequent updates. The address is: www.townofbrookfield.com.

The Sanitary District's information can be found under Departments. Information on billing rates, to well permit renewals and forms to renew your permit or make a temporary address change for those of you fortunate enough to escape our Wisconsin winter.

Voluntary Mercury Removal & Chloride Reduction Reminder

Sanitary District No. 4 operates what is referred to as a collection system for our waste. The treatment of said waste is handled by the Fox River Water Pollution Control Center located in the City of Brookfield. The treatment plant is asking for your help in reducing chloride and mercury discharge into the system. Mercury has always been on the DNR's watch list and currently they are also asking for our help in the reduction of chlorides. We have brochures: "Water Softeners and The Environment" and "The Waukesha County Mercury Collection Program" available at the town hall.

Mercury

Mercury is an extremely toxic, non-degrading substance in the environment. As an environmental contaminant, mercury travels far and wide in air and water. Mercury poisoning has been linked to nervous system, kidney, and liver damage, and impaired childhood development. What can you do to reduce mercury in your wastewater? Remove mercury at the source by bringing your mercury to a hazardous waste or authorized mercury collection site. Mercury can be found in electrical switches, thermostats, fluorescent lights, thermometers, blood pressure gauges, chemical reagents and cleaners. Do not pour mercury down the drain and do not place it in the trash. Please call Waukesha County at (262)896-8327, or go to www.waukeshacounty.gov/recycling for more information.

Chloride

The DNR is requiring the Brookfield treatment plant to identify significant sources of chloride discharged to the sewer system. State regulation NR211.40 authorizes publicly owned sewage treatment works to regulate chloride discharges from all sources. Voluntary source reduction efforts will be sought from any significant dischargers. What can you do to reduce chloride in your wastewater? A major origin of chloride discharge is water softeners and water softening processes. Source reduction efforts include using the minimum salt dosage required during softener regeneration. Or you could use potassium chloride, which is more expensive, instead of sodium chloride. Another way is to replace your old softener with a softener that uses a meter instead of a timer for regenerations.

FORWARDING UTILITY BILL

Due to the fact that the U.S. Postal Service does not forward any mail that is addressed to "current resident", if you have moved, or are leaving the area for any considerable length of time and would like your utility bill to be sent in your name to another address, we require that you make that request "in writing". You can come into our office for an **Address Change Form** or you can download a copy from the town's website at www.townofbrookfield.com, click on "Departments", "Sanitary District No. 4 Information" and look for our forms.

EXERCISING YOUR VALVES

When we come out to make a scheduled meter change, we find that many of the valves before and after the meter have not been exercised and are stiff or frozen. This can be problematic when we change the meter. It could be catastrophic if something in your house breaks and you need to turn the water off as that is your main feed line. It would be prudent to exercise the valves, turning them off and on at least once a year, as we do with our main valves.

WELL PERMIT RENEWALS For 2011 PAST DUE

If you received notification last April that your well permit needed to be renewed, and you haven't sent in your paperwork, your well is now **not** in compliance. Sanitary District ordinance requires that penalties be assessed against you, the property owner, and you may be forced to abandon the well.

If you have not completed the process, **you need to call the Sanitary District office at 262-798-8631, as our next step will be to turn your name over to our attorney.** All expenses involved in the abandonment of the well will be billed to you, and if not paid, will be placed on the property tax bill.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Well, it is that time again when we all try to guess who has the right forecast. Is it the Farmers Almanac, the National Weather Service, is it John Malan or your Uncle Bill's bad knee that has been right for forty years. Whoever you trust you know it is Wisconsin, mild or nasty, it will be winter. So, I need to give you my yearly song and dance about cold weather behavior. Please turn off your outside hose bibs, try to keep your local fire hydrant clear of snow for our friends at the fire department (remember the house you save could be yours) and keep an eye open for any running water. That running water could be a broken main or lateral. Thank you.

Right now we are doing the same things you are, getting the snow-blower running, putting away all our summer toys and trying to get all those things done we just didn't get to when it was nice. We still have a lot of projects to do, so I hope Mother Nature will cooperate. Our biggest project is to begin work on the new water tower now that the bids are in and the contract has been signed.

As I told you last time, we had a full load of water testing this summer, including Lead & Copper which is due every 3 years. Thank you again, to the 20 residents who took early morning samples. We passed all the tests with flying colors. The water remains safe and compliant with the Federal Safe Drinking Act. Just as a note to the new people in town, you may have a Waukesha address, but you still live in the Town of Brookfield and you get your water and sewer service from Sanitary District #4 – Town of Brookfield. This is not meant to be a slam on my water brothers in Waukesha, but please note that we have high iron and iron filters in our water system, not radium. So when you read about Waukesha problems and lake water dreams, remember you only have a Waukesha address. Again, sorry to my water brothers in Waukesha.

I know you are just reading this to get to my latest slam on bottled water. Today I'm only going to leave you a little math problem. "If Terry has 1000 gallons of water that he paid \$1.33 for, how much will it cost to refill his 12 oz. water bottle? (hint, about 0.0001257 cents) WOW! I think this Christmas I'm going to give cases of refilled bottled water to my friends and family. You know a case will only cost 0.00299 cents. I wonder if Scrooge ever thought of that. You might not know I'm Santa for the Town of Brookfield's annual tree lighting, so I would never do that. But I might give two cases. Have a nice holiday season, and don't forget to drink lots of water next to the old Yule Log.

Merry Christmas, HO,HO,HO

Terry Heidmann – Superintendent