

Mount Shaddai Homeowner's Association

Owner and Operator of the El Shaddai Water System (#01-57-155)

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December 31, 2005

El Shaddai Water System -- Year End Update

We experienced an occasional surge of rusty water in the system during the late summer and fall months. While this did not constitute a health hazard, it did make the water unpleasant to use and caused staining in clothing being laundered. This problem did not occur at regular intervals and we had no way to predict when it might happen. Whenever rusty water was reported, we flushed all affected mains until a good clear flow was obtained again.

We consulted the experts at Cherokee Well Drilling and learned that the rust probably is coming from the inside of the well casing which was installed in the 1980's. Of course we cannot see this from above ground, but there is a way to inspect the casing. The well head fittings can be lifted several inches and a miniaturized waterproof TV camera maneuvered into the gap between the drop pipe and the casing to observe and record the condition of the casing. If, as we expect, the problem is rusty pipe, we can reline the casing with a specially designed plastic liner. This should cure the problem for the life of the well.

As you might think, this process is fairly costly, but it should cure a serious problem. The problem, the recommended tests and repairs, and the estimated costs were discussed at the 2005 annual meeting. The members present voted to proceed and approved a one-time special assessment of \$75.00 per water right to pay for the repairs. This assessment will appear on your next fee statement.

The water clarity is good at the present time. We have started to improve access to the well in order to allow the heavy service trucks to better reach and work on the well. We expect to have the relining completed before heavy water usage resumes next summer. If your house has been unused for some time and you have rust in the water when you first turn it on, please turn on all outside faucets, yard hydrants and inside cold water faucets wide open until the water is clear. If water is still rusty after 20-30 minutes of flushing, please call Bob Liniger (321-5939) or Jim Solesbee, Jr. (321-8220) and they will arrange to flush the mains in your neighborhood.

We have repaired ALL major leaks and the water consumption is the lowest that we have experienced in several years. This saves us money and will prolong the life of the pump. Please call us promptly if you see any signs of leakage, and we will check it out.

Jim Solesbee, Jr. is planning to take the necessary courses and exam to become a NC state certified water operator. When he does this, I plan to recommend that we turn the system operation over to him. He knows the system well and I am sure that he will do a good job. I will be available for advice and assistance as needed, but it is time for me to retire properly. Thanks for working with me and helping me for all these many years. Please contact me if you need further information or wish to comment.

Bob Liniger