



# The WATER WORKS

Volume 3 Issue 1

www.wylienortheastwater.com

Winter 2008

*\*On-line credit card payments are up and working great!*

*\*Pay your water bill on-line at [www.wylienortheastwater.com/](http://www.wylienortheastwater.com/).*

***\* Emergency number, 24-hours a day or night: 972-442-2075.***

## Points From The President

We have just completed taking bids for a pipe replacement project, and the work should begin within 30 to 60 days. As each of you knows, our goal is to identify and replace problem sections with the funds from our recent bond sale. This project is phase one of probably 10 to 12 other replacements.

The district is continuing to grow with

a new 1,000 plus lot subdivision already in the works. Do not worry, for we have aggressively planned for just such a situation, so our infrastructure is ahead of the curve. If this development does materialize, our district should be close to total build out. Our focus at that point will continue to pinpoint problem sections of line for potential replacement.

We hope to see you at an upcoming board meeting. Remember we normally meet on the second Tuesday of each month. We welcome your input and suggestions, so let us know of any situations that need attention.

Jimmy Beach  
President  
Wylie NESUD  
Board of Directors

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### Message from the Manager

#### PAY WATER BILL ONLINE

Customers can now make payments on our home Webpage by check. Instructions are on the webpage, <http://www.wylienortheastwater.com/>.

Thank all who signed easements for the water line project. We appreciate the support from all our customers, also we are trying to update all our services for their convenience.

Ms. Sue Jones, G.M.

*Lakes and ponds are permanently wet year round. The main difference between a lake and a pond is the size.*

# Studying Limnology



French scientist Francois Alphonse Forel (1841-1912) is credited with founding the field. Among other things, Forel created a scale of yellows, greens and blues for recording the color of sea and lake water.

Limnology comes from the Greek words for lake and knowledge.

Therefore, the term Limnology is the study of lakes and ponds.

The water on Earth is constantly on the move either down rivers, moving in and out to sea with the tides, and sometimes falling as rain. It may rest in a lake like ours, Lavon Lake. It doesn't just lie there, it is sent through purification and into our homes or down the East Fork of the Trinity River where it will repeat itself before maybe making it into the costal waters.

No two lakes are alike, but they do have one thing in common: they are made up like a birthday cake—in four

separate layers or habitats.

We begin with the Littoral Zone, commonly known to us as the shoreline, where the sunlight can shine through to the bottom and help plants to grow.

The top two water layers are penetrated by the sun's rays making a perfect climate for insects like water striders that zip across the top hunting for other insects; plants like water lilies and cattails; and small fish; turtles, frogs, and ducks. This top zone is called the Limnetic Zone.

The middle zone or layer is called the Photic Zone. It receives enough light to grow plant plankton which forms the base of the lake's food chain.

The bottom layer is the Aphotic Zone which supports bottom feeders and decomposers such as insect larvae and bacteria that convert dead plants into simpler substances. ♦

## Your Environment

### Drought is still a factor

Forget melting Arctic ice. A bigger environmental danger facing us is drought. A large swath of the U.S., including California and much of the Southwest, is at severe risk for freshwater shortages.

Rivers are drying up, and the snowcaps that replenish them are rapidly disappearing, however, new studies show an increase of snowcaps this year over last year. We can only hope this continues until we are back to normal.

Adding to the problem is the fact that the average American consumes 151 gallons of water a day on a per capita basis. In contrast, the British average is just 31 gallons a day. ♦

## Practice Water Conservation!

# Weather Shaper

Did you know the climate of those living around Lavon Lake is influenced by the lake? It is.

Even a small lake or pond can affect the rainfall, visibility, wind, and temperature. If there are no trees to stop the wind, it can blow fiercely straight across the lake without anything to stop it.

When the weather is cold, the winds can pick up moisture from the lake and cause dense fog in the area. Fog often occurs in fall and winter when warm moist air coming off the lake hits colder air over land. It also happens when cold air coming off the land runs into evaporating water over a lake. This produces a giant cloud on the ground—we call it fog..During the high winds this winter the lake water was sloshing fiercely against the bank. The waves were large for Lavon Lake and the sloshing was intense at times. The constant slosh or sway of the water in a lake is called a seiche. It is a French-Swiss word pronounced saysh, which means sway. Seiches are stationary or standing

waves that oscillate back and forth caused by the wind pushing water toward one side of the lake. After the wind stops, the water sloshes back and forth until it reaches equilibrium.

Small seiches happen all the time and they are usually ignored as dangerous but admired for their beauty. Big ones can produce waves ten feet tall and produce giant storms on big lakes like the Great Lakes. They become so strong they can slam ships together and wash people off piers.

Rainfall is caused by water evaporation into the air. Water vapor in the air cools as it rises and condenses into tiny droplets we call clouds eventually falling back to earth as rain. ♦

**The first known dam was built in Egypt around 3,000 B.C. Many dams have been built since then. The water distribution causes a slight change in Earth's wobble as it spins.**

## The SS Edmund Fitzgerald

One of the most famous lake shipwrecks occurred on Lake Superior on November 10, 1975 when the SS Edmund Fitzgerald sank to the bottom during a storm. The entire crew of twenty-nine men went down on that ship.

In a tribute to the men who lost their lives, Canadian signer Gordon Lightfoot wrote a famous ballad some of you might remember. The title of the song was, *The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald*.



Some say her mysterious story is surpassed in books, film and media only by the story of the Titanic.

Lightfoot's ballad had one haunting chorus:

"In a musty old hall in Detroit they prayed in the Maritime Sailors' Cathedral  
The church bell chimed, 'til it rang 29 times  
For each man on the Edmund Fitzgerald." ♦

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**NEW** Web address:

**[www.wylienortheastwater.com](http://www.wylienortheastwater.com)**

### Lavon Lake

Lavon Lake boasts a wide variety of fish including largemouth bass , sand bass , crappie, channel catfish, blue catfish and flathead catfish, along with many varieties of sunfish. With recent restocking of striped bass by Texas Parks & Wildlife, look for these fish to become legal size within the next few years. While there is very little aquatic vegetation on Lavon Lake, the northern ends of both arms of Lavon Lake are heavily timbered and often hold both crappie and catfish in good numbers. Other hot spots on the lake include the power plant warm water output next to Little Ridge Park and the island located off of Clear Lake Park. ♦

<http://www.lakelavonfishing.com/>

Editor's Synopsis from "The Last Drop," by S. C. Gwynne, *Texas Monthly*, February 2008, p. 170-171, 261-262, 268-269. *Texasmonthly.com*

### Synopsis of "THE LAST DROP"

"The good news is that Texas has an incredibly detailed plan for how to deal with the looming shortfalls in every one of its major urban areas. The bad news is that you can't drink a plan"

If you have not read this article, it might be enlightening for you to make a trip to your local library and read the February 2008 issue of *Texas Monthly* magazine, "The Last Drop." You won't be able to put it down once you begin to read it.

This article warns of what is in store for us if we do not push for a more pro-active Texas and Region C Water Plan.

The Region C Water Plan includes the counties of Collin, Cooke, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Fannin, Freestone, Grayson, Henderson, Jack, Kaufman, Navarro, Parker, Rockwall, Tarrant and Wise. This article declares that we are getting too big for our water supplies, as if we didn't fear that in the summer of 2006 before very big rains in the spring and summer of 2007. The 'Water Plan' is not providing for the large increase in population especially in the counties of Collin, Dallas, Tarrant, Denton, and Rockwall counties. The problem is that Region C relies on surface water.

It isn't just our area, this pertains to all of Texas. Our population is expected to increase from 6.6 million to a whopping 13.1 million by 2060. The executive director of the NTMWD came under fire during this last drought because of failure to provide us with a sufficient reserve. In the 1930s to the 1980s the populace were enamored with dams and lakes, but that changed. Now the environmentalists fight against the areas being taken to use as a water supply. Land owners fight it because they don't want to be displaced from their homes and farms by the dam and reservoir development.

It is difficult to preach 'water conservation' when 30-40 percent of water loss is from leaks in the infrastructure that brings our water from the source over equipment built 45-50 years ago. If a public supplier finds a leak, the cost of repairing or replacing it may cost billions of dollars to fix it, and the suppliers don't have the funds.

In the works for our area is the building of artificial wetlands for effluent water use or reuse. That means that we are using our flushed water again after it has been treated and filtered for consumption. This has consequences. By reusing the water siphoned for our use, Houston and the Gulf area will see less water since they get theirs from the Trinity River. This is only one of the strategies for Region C. The plan proposes: 1) reuse; 2) new reservoirs; 3) new pipelines; 4) conservation, or else! This may be the plan but it may become a giant fight in the courts. It will pit large cities against small rural areas, Texas against Oklahoma, Louisiana, and Mexico, the federal and local governments and environmentalists against business and residential water users. It still means you can't drink a plan! ♦