
Administration:

Rachel Cardone, Chair

- Members Present: Frank Metheny, Eric Anderson, Dave Magorty, Valerie Cholvin, Rachel Cardone
- SPU Staff Present: Hilmoie, Julie Burman, Cornell Amaya, Wylie Harper, Bill Wells, Sue Morrison
- Review of May meeting summary – Accepted as written

Dave Hilmoie reported that the Utility has accelerated the plan to deal with removal of invasive species in the watershed. He would like to meet before the June meeting to discuss. Julie will setup a 1+ hour meeting with Dave for interested members. Helen Pitts and Frank Metheny indicated they would be interested.

AGENDA TOPICS:

Algal blooms

Dave Hilmoie

SPU is currently not receiving much in the way of complaints related to algae. Overall, SPU receives 10-20 filter clogging phone calls per year. Algae have existed in Lake Youngs since the 1930's.

It was asked if there's precedence in other utilities throughout the U.S. for notifying customers affected by algae. Dave explained that some algae are more visible, so the concern to be more proactive is larger in those situations. Also, a nearby utility is dealing with algae, but that they have a filtration system in place. The cost benefit to putting filtration on the Cedar is not there yet. These improvements would not justify the cost.

A question was raised regarding cost to test customer water. In response, it was said that the cost would depend upon what tests were performed. A member suggested that programs such as offering discounts on filters during peak algal blooms might be helpful.

Taste and Odor Fact Sheet: Committee comments included removing responses such as "It is impossible to predict when it might be over". Members suggested that a new Q&A fact sheet be developed to better address customer concerns.

SPU Water News

Dave Hilmoie

Over the last 3 years there have been some large events in the media. Specifically, water main breaks at Dexter, University Bridge and Ravenna.

SPU has 190 miles of transmission lines, with an average of 7 leaks per 100 miles. The national average is 20 leaks per 100 miles. SPU is $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ the national average.

Water Supply Levels: Cumulative precipitation is fairly normal. Reservoirs are within a foot which is considered full. News media has asked if there is a water shortage. The answer is no. There is plenty of water. Currently, demand is up, which is what would be expected. If dryness continues and demand stays high, SPU may need to issue an advisor in July/August.

Work Plan

Rachel Cardone / Julie Burman

Julie recapped the work covered by the WSAC this year. Four work plan topics that have not yet been covered are: Emergency management, vegetation management, consumer research, consumer information. The common theme for these four subjects is consumer confidence.

Rachel worked with the group to develop topics of interest:

- Wells & Aquifers:
 - What is the condition of the wells and aquifers?
 - Are the wells and aquifers being monitored?
 - What are the legal issues and responsibilities mandating aquifer protection?
- Licensing / regulatory water law
- Where does SPU's responsibility end and private homeowner responsibility begin for water delivered to a residence?
- Green Water harvesting / Department of Health regulation
- Testing in households – What is the utility thinking?
- Educational Trips – Visit the Lab (?)
- Water Efficiency / Technology recommendations. What programs does SPU have, and how are they managed?

Rachel suggested that a future meeting be used for an SPU presentation of wells and aquifers.

Sue will work with Rachel to setup a survey for WSAC members on the Survey Monkey website. Members will be able to contribute anonymously.

Julie suggested that these topics could also be used for the 2010 work plan.

Wrap Up

Rachel Cardone

- Next meeting Wednesday, July 15th.