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| Rawls Springs Utility District  March - April 2012  Volume 3, Issue 2 | | | C:\Documents and Settings\Myrtle\My Documents\My Pictures\Microsoft Clip Organizer\MC900297983[1].wmf | |
| ***Office Number: 601-268-2248***  ***Board of Directors***  *Diane Zachary – President*  *Allen Haralson*  *Jimmie Kirkham*  *Robbie Parish*  *Anthony Bowens*  ***Office Manager***  *Linda Bray*  ***Maintenance/Utility***  *Luke Ellis*  *Allen West*  ***Operator***  *David Draughn*  ◊◊◊◊◊◊  ***Rawls Springs Utility***  ***District is a member***  ***of the Mississippi Rural Water Association***  ◊◊◊◊◊◊ | Expect a New Look! | | | |
| In order to better serve you, our customers, Rawls Springs Utility District is always on the look-out for ways to keep your water system current. Often that means changes and modifications to water lines, fire hydrants and meter replacement. You will see work being done on the lagoons as well as maintenance on and around our water towers. | Now you can expect to see changes in your monthly billing as well. A new billing software will be implemented in the next month or two. Rates will not change nor will due dates. The changes will primarily be in how billing is handled in the office but you should be aware that your bills will “look different.” In addition, if you pay at the window, | | you may be asked to confirm your telephone number and other information necessary to keep account information current. A notice will be posted on the payment window alerting you to the new billing. Information will also be posted on line. If you have any questions or concerns regarding these changes, as always, feel free to call the office. |
| Thinking About Hot Water | | | |
| Most water heaters sold in the United States are tank-type, using either gas or electric heating elements. They are available in various capacities, with most residential water heaters being made in 30, 40 or 50 gallon capacities. Proper maintenance of your water heater will not only extend the life of the appliance, but provide an efficient and problem-free supply of hot water. Some | tips:🌢Adding a blanket will save on energy costs. 🌢Keeping the thermostat at the medium setting will save energy and reduce sediment build-up (sediment that builds up at the bottom of the tank makes it more difficult for the burner to heat water). 🌢Flushing the water heater every 6 months will extend the life of the heater and help reduce the amount of sediment | | particles that reach plumbing fixtures, particularly faucet aerators and showerheads. 🌢Check plumbing pipes and fittings for leaks. Even a small leak (drip) will even-tually rust the outside of the tank wall and cause the heater to fail. 🌢Refer to the water heater manual pro-vided by the manufacturer. This will provide many more trouble shooting tips for your particular model. |
| Fun Facts | | | |
| ☺ An ancient Greek vase from around 500 BC shows a boy playing with a yo-yo.  ☺ If you attempted to count the stars in a galaxy | at a rate of one every second, it would take around 3,000 years to count them all. ☺ Jimmy Carter, born 1924, was the | | first U.S. president to have been born in a hospital. ☺ More calories are burned sleeping than watching TV. |
| What Is a Public Utility System? | | | | |
| *Rawls Springs Utility District is dedicated to providing safe drinking water that meets or exceeds all of the State and Federal Government Standards. In addition, the system maintains a sewage system that disposes of wastes in an effective and efficient manner.* | Water and waste water utility systems are classified as either a public or private utility. “Utility” is defined by the American Heritage Dictionary as the condition or quality of being useful; a useful article of device; a public service such as gas, water, electricity or transport-tation. “Utility man” is defined as a worker expected to serve in several capacities. “Water” is defined as a clear; colorless, nearly odorless and tasteless liquid essential to most plant and animal life and the most widely used of all solvents. There is no definition in the American Heritage Dictionary for “waste water” or wastewater.” However, waste water is generally defined as the waste product derived from the use of water requiring complicated and/or elaborate treatment prior to discharge into the environment.  A drinking water and/or waste water utility helps to provide the most important and basic service of all of the services provided to the public. Public utilities, especially public drinking water and waste water utility systems such as Rawls Springs Utility District, are the foundation of modern civilization. All civilized societies known of | throughout history had established public drinking water and waste water utility systems, although some may seem primitive and crude.  Robby Mayfield, in the *Faucet* of the Mississippi Rural Water Association, says modern civilization was brought about by man’s ability to provide water and the disposal of waste water in areas densely populated by people. Drinking water and waste water utility systems are essential for the public health of dense populations. If and when civilization collapses, water and waste water utility service will be the last to go. When there is no longer drinking water and waste water utility services available in densely populated areas, there will no longer be a civilization or civilized society.  In Mississippi, utility service areas are estab-lished in three ways: State of Mississippi legislation, municipal and/or county government and by the issuance of a “certificate” of need and necessity” issued by the Mississippi Public Service Commission to a group or corporation to establish a public or private utility. Each Mississippi utility has an established service, or franchise, area. When a | | utility’s franchise service area is established, the utility has the exclusive right to provide the designated service to the defined area. In today’s society, utilities are a necessity. Mayfield says, “When I pay my bills, I pay my utility bills first. I pay my water - wastewater …electricity, gas, and telephone bills. Then I pay everything else. All utilities are important, but water and waste water are the most important and most difficult utility services to live without.”  Being designated a “utility” or “public utility” carries with it a great deal of response-bility. We know you, our customers, expect Rawls Springs Utility District to operate in a certain way, and your expectations differ from what you expect from private business and corporations. You expect consistent delivery of safe drinking water and for those of you on the sewer system, removal of waste water. All residents of the Rawls Springs area expect proper treatment of the waste water. Our utility men as well as our operator work to meet or exceed all state and federal requirements. The office works to provide friendly and efficient customer service. We all strive to see that any problem is immediately addressed. We are YOUR utility system. |