

Tell us what you Think!

Please follow this link: <https://arcg.is/OLKKje> or the QR Code and let us know what you think of our Newsletter!



Treatment Plant Upgrades & System Improvements Near Completion



nearly 19,000 feet of 12-inch waterline from County Road 25 north to Township Road 115. This will provide a greater volume of water to the area and also allow for the installation of fire hydrants. The current plan provides for an anticipated start date in June of this year and a projected completion

date of January 1, 2027. chemicals. At the time, national regulations had not yet been finalized, but Del-Co chose to get ahead of the issue. By March 2022, that early awareness turned into action. Consultants were brought in to evaluate adding granular activated carbon (GAC) treatment at the Olentangy Water Treatment Plant and samples were tested through specialized lab studies to determine the most effective treatment approach.

In early 2023, a conceptual design laid the groundwork just as the U.S. EPA announced draft drinking water standards for PFAS. Next, Del-Co coordinated the project, submitted planning documents to Ohio EPA, and launched a pilot study that ran into early 2024. The next year, in 2025, detailed designs and funding applications were submitted and approved by the Ohio EPA. Now, in 2026, construction will begin to install the GAC system. By 2027, all filters will be completed and brought online, marking the final steps in a years-long commitment to ensuring safe, high-quality drinking water for the community.

date of January 1, 2027.

Natalie Linkous & Dave Wolf

County Road 24 Improvements

A portion of the Del-Co Water system between the Village of Fulton and the City of Mt. Gilead experiences a drop in static pressure whenever a valve station is opened to supply water to areas north of Mt. Gilead. In response, Del-Co designed an improvement project along County Road 24, extending

Olentangy WTP Upgrades to Remove Forever Chemicals

To better understand emerging water quality concerns, in 2020, Del-Co proactively began monitoring for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), also known as forever

Shannen Green & Spencer Sheldon

Smarter Meters. Better Insight. Real Results.

Our Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) program began in 2024 and is almost halfway complete. This ongoing effort is focused on improving service, increasing efficiency, and providing members with better insight into their water use. These upgraded meters allow for more frequent and accurate readings without the need for manual meter reads, helping reduce estimated bills and providing more data about usage patterns. They also

allow us to identify unusual usage patterns sooner, often before they become larger and more costly issues for customers. With fewer truck rolls, we're able to reduce fuel usage, operate more efficiently, and lessen our environmental impact.

When members receive the upgraded meter, they can access details of their usage through EyeOnWater, a free tool that allows you to monitor water use and set alerts for potential leaks or unexpected changes.



with customers catching leaks early and avoiding higher bills. After your new meter is installed, we'll leave a door hanger with easy steps to help you get started with EyeOnWater.

If you're unsure whether your meter has been upgraded or need assistance setting up your EyeOnWater account, our team is here to help. A smarter, more responsive water system is taking shape, and we're proud to put it to work for you.

We're already seeing examples of how this some amazing real-world information is paying off,

Bill Gibson

Infrastructure Development Pressures: Fiber Installations & Data Centers

Drive down almost any road in Del-Co's service area and you'll see a rainbow of utility flags lining streets and yards - signs of major work happening underground. Multiple companies are installing fiber optic cables to improve connectivity across the community. To meet demand, numerous subcontractors are working six days a week from sunrise to sunset!

While most crews take care to avoid existing utilities, the sheer scale of activity can lead to challenges and damaged water mains. When damage occurs, Del-Co Water may need to temporarily shut off water to customers to make repairs. To reduce these

disruptions, Del-Co continues improving how water mains are located, increased the oversight of the projects, and ensures crews are ready to respond quickly if problems arise.

These efforts support important infrastructure upgrades in the community. Del-Co Water appreciates your patience as this work will continue for the next few years, and we remain committed to minimizing service interruptions.

Rusty Griffith & Tonya Layman

Data Centers continue to be in the news and Del-Co has received inquiries from customers seeking clarity on potential impacts to the

water system. The most common concerns involve whether costs would be passed on to existing customers, how water pressure and availability might be affected, and whether water quality would be impacted.

The response to these inquiries is the same as it would be for any large demand users. Any potential large demand users requesting connection must undergo a comprehensive evaluation to ensure that water usage will not negatively impact existing customers. This process includes assessing system capacity, pressure, and water quality, ensuring current service levels remain unchanged.

Costs associated with accommodating large users are not transferred to residential or smaller commercial customers, protecting both system integrity and customer equity. Through this approach, Del-Co remains committed to delivering reliable, high-quality water service while responsibly managing community growth.

Mike Trubilowicz & Darrell Miller

Annual Meeting Save the Date
Thursday,
July 16th, 2026

Cost Consciousness and Rate Update

Del-Co Water experiences the same cost pressures as all utilities do and is responding with a modest rate increase effective May 1, 2026. Our goal of exceeding quality expectations with continuous, reliable service requires chemicals, power, maintenance, and staff, with 100% reliability being our goal!

Effective May 1, 2026, all residential customers will experience a \$1 per month increase to the base bill; while the cost of the first 4,000 gallons does not change from the \$5.00 per 1000 gallons existing tier. Second-tier usage [4,000 to 10,000 gallons] will increase by \$0.50 to \$8.50 per 1000 gallons. The highest tier, in excess of 10,000 gallons will increase by \$1.00 to \$12.00 per 1,000 gallons.

It is important to note that approximately 50% of our monthly residential bills are 4,000 gallons or less, meaning that half of all monthly bills are expected to change by only \$1.00. We thank you for the opportunity to serve you and encourage a visit to our website for further information.

Rick Dunlop



By implementing best irrigating practices, you can do your part to reduce the demand on the water system. Please consider following the recommended watering guidelines by participating in an every other day schedule for watering your lawn and try to limit watering on Monday's to gardens only. Following these guidelines eases the strain caused by increased treatment and distribution of water to meet customer demands.

RECOMMENDED LAWN-WATERING SCHEDULE							
	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
ODD Addresses	X		✓		✓		✓
EVEN Addresses	X	✓		✓		✓	

For more information visit our website @ <https://delcowater.org/water-conservation/>

Conservation Efforts & Best Practices

- **Best Time:** Water early morning (5-10 a.m.) to limit evaporation and disease.
- **Deep and Infrequent:** Water deeply once or twice a week to build strong roots.
- **Target the Roots:** Deliver water directly to roots to reduce waste and disease.
- **Avoid Midday:** Don't water in heat (too much evaporates).
- **Monitor Weather:** Adjust watering based on rainfall; use smart controllers if possible.
- **Overwatering:** Too much water harms roots and promotes disease.
- **Watering at Night:** Wet leaves overnight increase disease risk.
- **Frequent Shallow Watering:** Leads to weak, shallow roots.

Fred Milan