

Summertime at YCUA

With the warm weather comes gardening, pool parties, car washes, and children running through sprinklers. All of these fun summer activities place a greater demand on our distribution system to deliver fresh water. This increased water flow in our transmission mains can result in high and low pressure surges for our customers and, if the stress is great enough, water main breaks.

To combat this problem, we have enacted an odd/even day water restriction based on an ordinance recently passed by our water supplier (see article to the right). What this means is that odd-numbered addresses use outside water only on odd-numbered days and even-numbered addresses use outside water only on even-numbered days.

If severe drought conditions exist, it may be necessary to restrict outdoor water usage altogether.

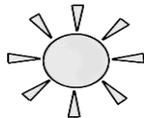
If required, these restrictions will be publicized in the local newspaper and on YCUA's website (www.ycua.org). When these restrictions are in place, please obey them so that all customers in our water distribution system can have outside water on their assigned days.

YCUA is doing its part to help reduce restrictions caused by water main breaks, by continuously upgrading the distribution system.

Have a wonderful summer and feel free to contact me anytime at lthomas@ycua.org or at 734-484-4600.



YCUA Director



For more information, please visit our website at:
www.ycua.org

DWSD Passes Water Usage Restriction Ordinance for all Suburban Water Customers

In an attempt to ease summer burdens on the Detroit water system the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD) has instituted a Water Usage Restriction Ordinance for 2002. The Ordinance reads:

"During the period of Memorial Day through Labor Day, all 126 communities in Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, St. Clair, Lapeer, Genesee, Washtenaw, and Monroe Counties receiving water from DWSD are requested to institute voluntary odd-even water use restrictions to limit outdoor water usage. Individuals with odd-numbered addresses are asked to do outdoor watering only on odd-numbered days. Likewise, those having even-numbered addresses

should water lawns, fill swimming pools, wash cars, etc., on even-numbered days."

Since YCUA purchases its drinking water from DWSD and distributes the water to its customers, a voluntary odd-even outdoor water use restriction is in effect for all YCUA customers in the City of Ypsilanti and Ypsilanti, Pittsfield, Superior, and Augusta Townships and shall remain in effect until Labor Day 2002.

In the event that extreme heat and high water usage require YCUA to upgrade this voluntary outdoor water use restriction to a mandatory outdoor water use restriction, non-compliance can result in disruption of water service to customers.



High Technology Meets Your Water Meter with YCUA's New MXUs

The Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority is in the process of upgrading its meter reading and billing system. YCUA is installing a radio read system. The new system requires a new meter to be installed that is compatible with a Meter Transceiver Unit or MXU. The MXU works on a radio frequency, which can be read and registered by a passing meter truck. This offers many advantages over the older manual read system. With the radio read system, YCUA personnel will no longer need to enter customers' yards and will be able to get more meter readings with greater accuracy and speed, thus eliminating the need for estimated bills and resulting in more accurate billing for our customers.

The MXU may be mounted either inside by the meter or outside. Because the MXU has a battery inside of the unit that will in the future need replacement, we prefer the MXU be installed outside when possible.



Close up view of one of YCUA's new Meter Transceiver Units (MXUs).

A YCUA Meter Service Technician installing an MXU.



Wastewater Disinfection by Ultraviolet Energy

Construction of an Ultraviolet (UV) Disinfection Facility has begun at the YCUA Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). The use of ultraviolet light for disinfection will eliminate the WWTP's chlorine and sulfur dioxide method currently used. The old method utilized liquid chlorine to disinfect the wastewater. Then sulfur dioxide was used to eliminate the residual chlorine before it entered the Rouge River. The elimination of these chemicals will be a benefit to the environment and a great boost in safety for the employees and the community.

Ultraviolet disinfection occurs by sending the processed wastewater through a bank of light bulbs emitting an ultraviolet light. The UV bulbs emit a wavelength of energy that penetrates cell walls and destroys genetic materials. This energy causes permanent inactivation of bacteria, viruses, and other microorganisms by altering the DNA so that the microorganisms can no longer reproduce. There are no known microorganisms that are resistant to UV treatment. Because the new UV treatment is dependent on electricity to operate, the Authority will be using Liquid Sodium Hypochlorite as a back-up treatment method. This method will also be used to disinfect the water recycled throughout the treatment facility. Liquid Sodium Hypochlorite is a stronger version of liquid bleach.

The start up of the new UV disinfection facility is scheduled for February 2003. YCUA is looking forward to switching to the safer and more environmentally friendly method of treatment.

DID YOU KNOW?

THAT you can conserve water while cleaning up? If you can't use a commercial car wash, use a bucket when washing your car at home. Keep a nozzle on the hose to save water. Use a broom instead of a water hose to clear debris from patios, driveways, and sidewalks.

Changes at YCUA

On November 19, 2001, Kurian A. Joychan joined YCUA in the position of Chemist/IPP Coordinator. Prior to that, Mr. Joychan was Chemist for the Oakland County Drain Commission (1991 - 2001) and, previous to that, he served as Analytical Chemist for the City of Detroit, where he was employed for 6 years. Mr. Joychan is responsible for managing the Authority's analytical laboratory, preparing Standard Operating Procedures, QA/QC manuals and charts, assigning lab work, and making Monthly Operating Reports.



Kurian Joychan holds a Master of Science degree in Inorganic Chemistry from the University of Jodhpur and a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry from the University of Kerala, both in India. He is presently studying for his MBA at the University of Phoenix.

Mr. Joychan holds a Class "A" Wastewater Operators Certificate and holds additional certifications such F-2, S-2 Water Distribution, D-1 Water Limited Treatment, and Industrial Storm Water and Construction Site Storm Water, all issued from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality. He holds Industrial Waste Operator Certifications A-1b, B-1a, B-2a, C-2a, C-2e, and C-3a. Mr. Joychan is a Level 3 Wastewater Laboratory Analyst, as designated by the Michigan Water Environment Association.

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Mr. Joychan resides in Novi with Bernadit, his wife of 19 years, and their three children. He is a native of Kerala, India and graduated from Government Boys High School in Vaikom, India. He became a citizen of the United States in 1989. Mr. Joy-

chan works hard to uphold the sound reputation that YCUA enjoys as well as the phrase "YCUA is a family," which he follows each day.

On May 15, 2002, Barbara Kreger was promoted to the position of YCUA's Finance Director. Prior to that, Ms. Kreger was Finance Manager for the Authority for six years. She has been employed with YCUA since September 1, 1971, when she was hired to type contracts during negotiations.

What began as a three-month temporary assignment has resulted in a career that has, thus far, lasted 31 years. Over the years, she has also served the Authority in the positions of Secretary to the Director, Billing Clerk, Data Processing Technician, Accountant, and Office Manager. As the Authority's new Finance Director, Ms. Kreger is responsible for developing policies, procedures, and controls for all accounting functions of the Authority, including budget preparation, purchasing, payroll, accounts payable, financial planning, and investment to maximize the return on financial assets.



Barbara Kreger holds an Associate Degree in Business Administration from Cleary College. She also holds a certificate in data processing from Monroe County Community College.

Ms. Kreger and her husband, Jerry, have two grown sons, Scott and Ross. In her spare time, she enjoys singing with the River Raisin Chorus of the Sweet Adelines International.