



Dear Customer:

When we at the West Morgan – East Lawrence Water and Sewer Authority (WMEL) release our Water Quality Report every year, we inform you about our work to provide the nearly 12,000 connections we serve with top quality water at every tap. In each report, we detail how we treat your water to levels that meet or exceed existing state and federal drinking water standards.

Today, we would like to inform you about the completion of our latest effort to continue providing you with a safe and dependable water supply and how the water you currently receive will start being treated with an additional advanced treatment process starting on/or about May 1, 2021.

At that time, WMEL will began distributing drinking water produced through the new JD Sims – RM Hames Reverse Osmosis Water Treatment Facility. Construction and testing of the reverse osmosis equipment inside the facility has been completed, and WMEL has been approved by the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) to begin using this additional treatment as part of our drinking water production process.

There is nothing you need to do during this improvement to your drinking water. Reverse Osmosis, also known as RO, is a process that pumps water under high pressure through membranes at our facility to remove impurities. As a result, the JD Sims – RM Hames Reverse Osmosis Water Treatment Facility is specifically designed to address the past health advisories, meet current water treatment challenges, and ensure compliance with drinking water regulations that are anticipated in the future.

Because of the project, The Alabama Rural Water Association recently honored WMEL with their 2021 Water and Wastewater Utility Vision Award. The award recognizes utilities who demonstrate “Vision” for growth, improvement and expansion of their system operation by applying and being approved for a State Revolving Fund loan. The facility’s construction was funded by the SRF program.

On WMEL’s website – www.wmel.org – we have created an information page to provide you with important details about the facility and reverse osmosis treatment process, including a video showing how it works. We have also provided answers to frequently asked questions.

We invite you to visit our website. You can also contact WMEL’s Water Quality staff by emailing us at wmelwtp@hiwaay.net. Thank you for your patience and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jeaniece Slater
General Manager
West Morgan – East Lawrence Water and Sewer Authority



Dear Courtland Water System Customer:

The mission of the West Morgan – East Lawrence Water and Sewer Authority (WMEL) is to strive to provide quality water and customer service to all of our customers. Since WMEL acquired the Courtland Water System in 2010, we have done our best to improve the level of service. However, we have spent an inordinate amount of time repairing leaks, moving and replacing meters, replacing deteriorating water mains and addressing water quality issues.

In 2020, WMEL worked with Town of Courtland leaders to help them apply for a Community Development Block Grant from the State of Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA) to address the aged infrastructure. Today, we are happy to detail that Courtland was awarded a \$350,000 Community Development Block Grant by the ADECA. To help with the project, WMEL is contributing \$142,000 to the effort.

This letter is to inform you that later this year WMEL will begin the first of four biennial (every two years) phases of construction work to replace the deteriorated water system in Courtland. When the work is completed, all of the residents of Courtland will be transferred onto the new system. We hope our partnership with Courtland establishes a working model for collaboration that can be repeated in other locations having similar issues with their water infrastructure.

During the four phases of the project work, WMEL will:

- Install several miles of new water mains;
- Transfer customer connections to the new mains;
- Relocate water meters to the public right-of-way;
- Install new water service lines from the meter to every customer's structure;
- Install new pressure regulators and backflow preventers at every customer's structure;
- Conduct driveway and roadway repairs related to the construction work; and
- Replace existing fire hydrants.

When work takes place on your phase of the project, your water service will likely be impacted for short periods of time. You will be notified before the disruptions take place. On WMEL's website – www.wmel.org – we have created a page to provide you with important details about the entire project, including maps showing you where each of the four phases of work will be conducted. We also have answers to frequently asked questions.

We invite you to visit our website. You can also contact WMEL with questions about the project at ccameron@wmel.org. Thank you for your patience and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jeaniece Slater
General Manager
West Morgan – East Lawrence Water and Sewer Authority