Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.
**HISTORY OF ILRW**

The first steering committee was formed in March of 1976. As a result of the interest, the steering committee formally incorporated as the Clay County Rural Water System, Inc. and a Board of Directors was chosen. The District began with nearly 500 miles of pipeline and 920 subscribers. Since that time, the Board of Directors, with support of the membership, has changed the name to Iowa Lakes Regional Water and has grown to nearly 1,000 miles of pipeline and provides service to over 4,200 customers in Clay, Cherokee, Dickinson, Emmet, O'Brien, Palo Alto, and Buena Vista Counties in Iowa, as well as Jackson County, Minnesota.

**ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE**

Iowa Lakes Regional Water is a not-for-profit organization governed by a Board of Directors democratically elected by the membership, which provides the strategic planning and sets forth policies that are implemented by the District employee team.

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of rural water is to provide quality and the quantities of water needed for its members. Water is a valuable resource and there are many reasons for using rural water such as preventing the corrosion, rust, plugging, and mineral scaling of pipes, pumps, and other fixtures and equipment that you get with well water. Rural water also saves investing in a new well, repairing, deepening, or adding treatment equipment for your well water. Plus, it assures a water supply, especially during dry weather.

**WATER QUALITY**

As a public water supplier, State and Federal laws require continuous monitoring and testing of the water supply to guarantee safe water for the customers. Rural water hardness usually ranges between 7-10 grains per gallon.

**PAYMENT AND RATES**

The water district does not have any taxing authority. Therefore, the Board of Directors must borrow the funds to build the system and pay off the loans over the long term from the revenue earned by selling water. Each member pays a monthly water bill and the rates are made up of debt service as well as operating and maintenance costs. The rates for the District are reviewed on an annual basis by the Board of Directors and the Board of Directors and management strive to provide quality services at the most reasonable cost.

The average usage per person is 2,000 gallons per month. Thus, a family of four would have an average usage of 8,000 gallons per month, but usage will vary depending on personal habits and may exceed or be less than this average. Monthly bills will range between $109.00 to 133.00 for an average household of four people. There is a minimum charge of $54.59 plus tax each month. Usage is measured in 1,000-gallon increments and billed in addition to the monthly minimum.

**MEMBERSHIP**

The membership is comprised of any one living in the District. Only participating members can vote on the business of the District, such as the election of the Board of Directors. ILRW engages a service-driven philosophy and the Board of Directors strives to govern with consideration given to the viability and health of the District.

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**Iowa’s Time of Transfer Inspection Program**

Iowa’s time of transfer septic system inspection law (SF261) was passed by the Iowa legislature in April of 2008 and took effect July 1, 2009. The new law requires that every home/building served by a septic system have that septic system inspected prior to the sale or deed transfer for the home/building.

All inspections must be conducted by an inspector that has been certified by the department.

**Qualifications of ILRW’s Certified Inspectors**

For over a decade communities and rural residents in Northwest Iowa have been seeking their expertise on wastewater needs including technical services for proper design and construction services for proper installation/construction of wastewater systems.

To schedule ILRW to perform the inspection, please call 712-262-8847 and speak with Erik Johnson.