

PUBLIC WORKS  
1113 BROADWAY  
P.O. BOX 218  
HIGHLAND, IL 62249

# Public Works

( 6 1 8 ) 6 5 4 - 6 8 2 3

JULY 27, 2012

## HOW MUCH WATER DOES IT TAKE?

- 5—7 gallons to flush a traditional toilet
- 36 gallons to take a bath
- 25 –50 gallons to take a shower
- 20 gallons to wash dishes by hand
- 10 gallons to wash dishes using an automatic dishwasher

Joe Gillespie  
Director

Mike Lengermann  
Supervisor ST & A

Russ Parker  
Supervisor W & S

Bill Zimmer  
Supervisor WRF

Mike Buss  
Supervisor WTP

Clint Conrad  
Resident Engineer

Sherry Kesner  
Admin. Assistant

## Maintaining Water Quality



### *100° temperatures + no rain = a challenge to maintain water quality*

The harsh weather conditions over the past month or so are not only uncomfortable, but they create a challenge to those tasked with producing and maintaining our quality drinking water. High temperatures and no rain has caused algae blooms in the lake making the water harder to treat by causing taste and odor problems. More chemicals are required for treatment which not only increases the cost of production, but also creates additional chemical taste and odor problems. Currently the water temperature in Highland Silver Lake is hovering around the 90° mark.

Lack of rain has lowered the lake level to 19” below the spillway, but in 2007 it was down over 31 inches.

From the first of July through July 24th the plant has treated 44,158,000 gallons of water. Last year we treated just over 44,000,000 gallons in the entire month of July. There have been 14 days this month when more than two millions gallons were treated per day. The operators have worked over thirty four hours of overtime so far this month to produce enough water to meet the demand.

Even though there have been no restrictions placed on water usage, please remember that water is precious, use it but don't waste it. A slow drip wastes 15 gallons of water per day. A typical household used 240 gallons a day.