

City of CASTROVILLE

Newsletter

December 2016



News from the Castroville Public Works Department

WATERLINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

WORK PLANNED FOR NEXT FOUR WEEKS

Following is the list of areas the contractor for the Waterline replacement project will be working. Completion of installations on Constantinople from Washington to Vienna, Vienna from Constantinople to Mexico. Later in the month, Houston from Constantinople to Lorenzo, Amelia from Vienna to Petersburg and Lorenzo from Berlin to Houston.

BACKFLOW AND CROSS CONNECTON ALERT

Per City ordinance 2016-005 all backflow devices in the City need to be tested yearly, letters have been sent out to those residents in which we have a record of having such devices on their system. It is the residents, responsibility to assure the testing of their backflow devices and submittal of proper documentation to the City. If you have received a letter you have 30 days from that date to have this work performed, if not submitted within that period a second letter will follow and could subject the recipient to a fine for non-compliance. If you have a backflow device and have not received a letter, or have other questions please contact Cheryl with the City of Castroville Public Works Department at 830-931-4090 for further information.



City Closures

City Employee Appreciation Luncheon

December 7th
11am -1:30pm

Christmas

December 23 & 26

New Year's Day

January 2

Garbage & Recycle

Normal pick up
schedule

Reminder:

Meter Readings due
no later than

December 31st

Online Bill Pay

To sign up for **online bill pay for utility and airport payments**. Go into the online bill pay site:
<https://www.municipalonlinepayments.com/castrovilletx>

Customer Service for help:
830-931-4070

Do Not Become a Target this Holiday Season.

- Place your belongings into the trunk or under the seats and out of sight of potential car thieves.
- Wait to place the presents under the tree.
- Break down original product boxes & place them in garbage receptacles a little at a time.

CITY OF CASTROVILLE

Little Alsace of Texas

1029 FIORELLA STREET



CASTROVILLE, TEXAS 78009

(830) 931-4070

FAX (830) 931-6373

For Immediate Release

Contact:

Lawrence Heinrich, Director of Public Works

1209 Fiorella Street

Castroville, TX 78009

830-931-4090

larry.heinrich@castrovilletx.gov

Notice of Violation Lead & Copper Initial or Routine Tap Sampling

The City of Castroville has failed to meet the monitoring and reporting requirements set by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) in Chapter 30, Section 290, Subchapter F. On October 31, 2016, the City of Castroville received a NOTICE OF VIOLATION (NOV) for failure to complete the Initial sampling for Lead & Copper in the Public Water System from the TCEQ. The purpose of the lead and copper testing is to protect public health by minimizing lead and copper levels in drinking water, primarily by reducing corrosivity. Lead and copper enter drinking water primarily from plumbing. This violation is not an emergency and does not require any actions by the citizens of Castroville. All lead and copper samples for our water system have consistently met or exceeded Federal and TCEQ standards for drinking water as reflected in the annual Consumer Confidence Report. The City water system is in compliance with all regulated parameters for safe drinking water. Since the date of the NOV, the City of Castroville has completed the collection of the samples that were required and have been submitted to an accredited lab for analysis. Any further action taken by the City will depend on the results of the samples that were submitted to the lab. In accordance with TCEQ rules and the NOV requirements a required letter of Notification is accompanying this news release. The City is expected to return to compliance as soon as the results are reported to TCEQ. You can view the full text of the violation on our website www.castrovilletx.gov. The City of Castroville is committed to providing excellent water quality to our citizens.

Castroville, TX (December 1, 2016)



IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

The City of Castroville Texas has violated the monitoring and reporting requirements set by Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) in Chapter 30, Section 290, Subchapter F. Even though these were not emergencies, as our customers, you have the right to know what happened and what we are doing (or did) to correct these situations.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During June 1 – September 30, 2016 we did not complete all monitoring for Lead and Copper and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time.

The table below lists the contaminant(s) we did not properly test for during the last year, how often we are supposed to sample for Lead and Copper, how many samples we are supposed to take, how many samples we took, when samples should have been taken, and the date on which the follow-up samples were taken.

Contaminant	Required sampling frequency	Number of samples taken	When samples should have been taken	When samples were taken
Lead	Annual	10	June 1 – Sept. 30	Nov 7 – Nov 11
Copper	Annual	10	June 1 – Sept. 30	Nov 7 – Nov 11

What is being done?

We are working to correct the problem. For more information please contact Lawrence Heinrich at 830-931-4090 or 1209 Fiorella, Castroville TX 78009.

Samples have been taken and submitted to a certified laboratory and results will be submitted to the TCEQ when received from the laboratory.

Please share this information with all other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (i.e., people in apartments, nursing homes, schools and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This notice is being sent to you by The City of Castroville TX. Public Water System Number: TX 1630005
Date Distributed: December 1, 2016



Know what's below. Call before you dig.

Natural Gas is delivered to more than 60 million customers by 2.4 million miles of underground pipelines in the United States. Even if you don't use natural gas you may have pipelines located near your residence or place of business.

Natural Gas is a naturally abundant gas found as deep as five miles beneath the earth's surface. It is odorless and colorless and produces very few emissions. It is the cleanest fuel used and is the most popular energy used for home heating.

The leading cause of damage to buried pipelines is the failure to call and obtain the pipelines' exact location. Damage to pipelines may cause them to leak. Before you begin any excavation activity - planting a tree, installing landscaping, building a fence or installing a pool - **Texas Law requires you to call the One-Call Notification Center at 811.** Before you call, outline the project site area with a white perimeter. After your first call, please allow 48 working week hours for the location to be marked. If the site is not marked after 48 hours from your first call, please make a second call. Customers will be contacted within 4 hours. The location service is free. Please do not excavate within 24 inches on either side of the markings.

Pipeline markers are used to help in the identification of underground pipelines. They are found where a pipeline intersects a street, highway, or railway. While markers are helpful, they provide very limited information such as approximate location of the pipeline, products transported across the line, the name of the natural gas operator and their emergency phone number.

If you suspect unauthorized activity call (830) 931-4090 to notify the Castroville Public Works Department.

RECOGNIZING A LEAK

* USE YOUR SENSES



SIGHT - dead or dying vegetation in areas of otherwise healthy growth, bubbling in water or blowing dirt.



SMELL - distinctive gaseous odor is added to natural gas to make it easier to detect.



SOUND - hissing, whistling, or roaring noise.

* DO NOT

- ⇒ Touch, breathe in, or make contact with the leak.
- ⇒ Use anything that might create a spark (light a match, turn on or off light switches, use cell or home phones).
- ⇒ Extinguish any fire.
- ⇒ Operate any valves.

* DO

- ⇒ Leave the home, building and/or area of the suspected leak.
- ⇒ Call 911 to notify police and fire.
- ⇒ Call Castroville Public Works at (830) 931-4090.
- ⇒ Warn others to stay out of the area.



Determina lo que está bajo tierra. Llama antes de excavar.

El gas natural se distribuye a 60 millones de usuarios por medio de 2.4 millones de millas de gasoductos subterráneos en Estados Unidos. Aunque usted no use gas natural, las tuberías de gas pueden pasar por su propiedad o su negocio.

El gas natural es un gas que se encuentra en abundancia hasta cinco millas debajo de la tierra. No tiene olor ni color y produce muy pocas emisiones. Debido a su limpieza, es el combustible más común para la calefacción residencial.

La causa principal de daños a las tuberías enterradas es que la gente excava sin llamar para que vengan a localizarlas y marcarlas. Los daños pueden causar fugas o escapes de gas. Antes de que comience a excavar - ya sea para plantar un arbolito, hacer una alberca o un jardín, o para levantar una cerca - la ley de Tejas exige que primero llame al **Centro de Notificación de Servicios, al 811.**

Antes de llamar, marque con pintura blanca el perímetro del área donde planea excavar. Después de llamar, espere 48 horas hábiles para que localicen y marquen las líneas. Si no las marcan dentro de esas 48 horas, llame otra vez. Entonces le deben devolver la llamada dentro de 4 horas para darle luz verde o decirle si debe esperar un poco más. El servicio de localización es gratuito. Por favor, no excave dentro de 24 pulgadas a los lados de los indicadores o marcas.

Los indicadores de las tuberías se utilizan para ayudar a identificar tuberías subterráneas. Se encuentran donde los gasoductos cruzan por debajo de calles, carreteras o vías de ferrocarril. Aunque las señales son útiles, su información se limita a la ubicación aproximada de las tuberías, los productos que transportan, la compañía responsable y su número telefónico de emergencia.

Si observa actividades sospechosas llame al (830) 931-4090 para notificar a la Ciudad de Castroville.

RECONOZCA UNA FUGA

* UTILICE SUS SENTIDOS!



VEA - si hay una mancha de vegetación descolorida o seca, burujas en un charco o polvo volando cerca de una tubería.



OLER - Al gas se le agrega un olor fuerte y repulsive para detectar fugas



ESCUCHE - Si oye un sonido de siseo silbido o rugido.

* LO QUE NO DEBE HACER

- ⇒ No respire gases derramados, ni tenga contacto con éstos
- ⇒ No haga nada que pueda hacer chispas (No encienda cerillos, no use el teléfono de la casa o celular, no encienda ni apague luces)
- ⇒ No trate de apagar un incendio
- ⇒ No accione válvulas

* LO QUE SÍ DEBE HACER

- ⇒ Aléjese de la casa, edificio o área de la fuga.
- ⇒ Llame al 911 para avisar a la policía y a los bomberos
- ⇒ Llame al (830) 931-4090 para notificar a la Ciudad de Castroville.
- ⇒ Advierta a los demás para que no se acerquen.

MAYOR & CITY COUNCIL CONTACT INFORMATION

Mayor, Jeff Gardner	210-557-6169	mayor@castrovilletx.gov
Mayor Pro Tem, District 5, Victor Ortiz Jr.	830-538-3687	district5@castrovilletx.gov
Councilmember District 1, Jesse Mendoza	830-538-9362	district1@castrovilletx.gov
Councilmember District 2, Kyle L. McVay	830-538-2630	district2@castrovilletx.gov
Councilmember District 3, Phil King	210-355-6546	district3@castrovilletx.gov
Councilmember District 4, Eric Cherry	210-391-6924	district4@castrovilletx.gov

CITY COUNCIL & BOARD MEETINGS

City Council

- December 13th @ 6:00 pm

Library Advisory

- January 11th @ 6:30 pm

Planning & Zoning

- December 7th @ 6:30 pm

Airport

- December 10th @ 9:00 am

Meeting dates and times may change.
Check the city's website for up-to-date
information.

castrovilletx.gov/AgendaCenter

Historic Landmark

- December 20th @ 6:30 pm

City Administrator, Marie Gelles	830-931-4070	marie.gelles@castrovilletx.gov
City Secretary, Debra Howe	830-931-4070	debra.howe@castrovilletx.gov
Interim Com. Dev. Director, Gordon Browning	830-931-4090	Gordon.browning@castrovilletx.gov
Economic Dev. Director, Claudia Mora	830-931-0234	claudia.mora@castrovilletx.gov
Finance Director, Ernesto Briones	830-931-4070	ernesto.briones@castrovilletx.gov
Librarian & PIO, Christina Reedy	830-931-4095	christina.reedy@castroville.tx.gov
Police Chief, Chris Filline	830-931-2222	chris.filline@castrovilletx.gov
Public Works Director, Lawrence Heinrich	830-931-4090	larry.heinrich@castrovilletx.gov



24 HOUR UTILITY EMERGENCIES (830) 931-4091