

May 2018



## Locally Owned and Locally Operated

by Ken Weber, CEO

Municipally owned utility services represent the epitome of the phrase “Locally Owned and Locally Operated”.

- Municipal utility ownership and control keeps salaries and investments within the community, rather than sending wages and profits to out-of-town corporations
- Municipal employee wages create local economic activity with dollars spent with local retail and service businesses
- Municipal employee wages and benefits contribute to the overall long-term vitality of the community
- Municipal rates contribute to improved reliability and systems operations, at the lowest possible costs
- Municipal ownership keeps capital investment, coupled with operations and maintenance expenditures, focused on our own infrastructure

Any net revenue, in excess of depreciation, is put back into the local systems operations and upgrades.

Payments In Lieu Of Taxes (P.I.L.O.T. Fees) made to the City of Harlan contribute to an overall reduction of local taxes required for city operations.

These are only a few of the many benefits afforded by local Municipal Utility ownership.

Our HMU Board meetings are open to the public. You can in fact, be heard by your fellow citizen/consumers.

For more information regarding your Municipal Utility, or for answers to other related issues or concerns, feel free to contact your HMU office anytime. We are “just down the street”, not somewhere else in another part of the state or country. You can receive a face-to-face answer, rather than be frustrated with an automated response.

Yours now and long into the future.

## Quick Tips

### MEMORIAL DAY CLOSING

In honor of Memorial Day, the HMU office will be closed Monday, May 28th. Emergency calls will be taken at 755-5182.

### RSVP ENCLOSED

RSVP cards for the Tuesday, June 12th Municipal Celebration are included with this month's bill. If you are planning on attending our annual customer appreciation dinner, please return the card indicating the number of people in your party. If you can't attend, there is no need to send the card.

### OUTAGE UPDATES

Outage updates, as well as other HMU operations, administrative or channel 15/16 programming information are posted on Facebook and Twitter. Follow us to get accurate information.

### EMPLOYEE NEWS

Patti Burroughs, previously a CSR-Telecom, is now working with Utility billing. Patti will begin to assume the duties of payments, collections and shut offs over the next two months. Previously administered by Deb McLaughlin, Patti will transition to these duties during May and June.

# May is National Electric Safety Month

This month is a good time to look around your home and eliminate potentially deadly electric hazards.

**Start with your wiring.** Homes over 40 years old may not be wired to handle a modern electric load. A complete electrical inspection may be in order to ensure your wiring and fuse box can handle today's electric demand

**Check outlets.** Older homes may still have two prong outlets. Adapters or 'cheater' plugs that convert three prong cords to two prong outlets are a temporary fix. Replace outlets with modern three prong receptacles and keep things safe. Cover unused outlets accessible to children.

**Check power cords.** Make sure all power cords are in good condition not frayed, cracked, cut or chewed by pets. Never remove the ground pin (the third prong). Change the outlet to accommodate the plug.

**Extension cords.** Another temporary fix. If power is needed in an area that doesn't have an outlet, install a new receptacle instead of permanently using an extension cord.

**Outdoor Safety.** When painting, cleaning gutters or doing work requiring a ladder, always look up for overhead power lines.



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## 2018 Water Quality Report



**Ensuring a safe and plentiful water supply is one of our oldest and most sacred duties.**

The 2018 Water Quality Report is now available. The report is designed to be an easy to read and understand update to customers on our annual water testing. It lists certain contaminants, their levels of concentration in the water and whether or not those levels are in violation of standards. As in past years, no violations of recommended levels of contaminants were found.

The report can be found in the May 11th and May 15th editions of the Harlan newspaper or online at **Harlannet.com**.