



Lehigh County Authority

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FAST FACTS ABOUT LEHIGH COUNTY AUTHORITY

For inquiries & to arrange interviews, please contact Lisa Miller
at lisamiller@lehighcountyauthority.org or 610-398-2503.

Overview

Lehigh County Authority (LCA) is a public water and wastewater utility committed to providing unparalleled service to residents and businesses in all our service areas. Our 153 employees strive to meet this commitment through an unwavering focus on our customers' needs and offering a high level of professionalism, quality and flexibility. We provide water service to more than 54,000 residential and commercial properties throughout Lehigh and Northampton counties, including the City of Allentown, and sewer service to about 35,000 properties, primarily in the City of Allentown. We also provide wholesale water and sewer services in many areas of western and northern Lehigh County. The estimated total population served by LCA systems is more than 150,000.

LCA was founded in 1966 by the County of Lehigh and is governed by a nine-member Board of Directors appointed by the County. LCA is a nonprofit, public agency. Our activities and services are funded solely through revenues from our water and wastewater customers, and our rate-making practices are governed by the Pennsylvania Municipal Authorities Act.

About LCA Water Systems

- LCA operates 14 water systems that provide service in 14 municipalities in two counties.
- The Allentown Division, LCA's largest system, serves about 33,000 residential and commercial properties in the city, and is operated as a 50-year lease under a concession agreement with the city that started in 2013. A residential customer in Allentown using 18,000 gallons per quarter will pay approximately \$330 per year for water service.
- The Central Lehigh Division, the largest LCA-owned system, serves about 18,000 residential and commercial properties, primarily in Upper and Lower Macungie townships. A residential customer using 18,000 gallons per quarter will pay approximately \$210 per year for water service.
- LCA's water is drawn from wells, springs, the Little Lehigh Creek and the Lehigh River. Most of LCA's water is treated at a centralized water filtration plant located in the Allentown Division.
- Water in the Allentown, Central Lehigh and North Whitehall divisions is fluoridated. Other LCA service areas are not fluoridated.
- 2016 Total Water Operating Budget: \$14,500,000

About LCA Wastewater Systems

- LCA's Western Lehigh Interceptor system provides wastewater transportation service for 10 municipalities. Through this system, all wastewater is transported to the City of Allentown's wastewater treatment plant.
- LCA provides direct wastewater service to approximately 35,000 residential and commercial properties in the City of Allentown, and small portions of Upper Milford, Weisenberg, North Whitehall, Washington, Lynn and Heidelberg townships.

- LCA operates small wastewater treatment plants in Heidelberg, Weisenberg, Lynn and North Whitehall townships, where collection systems are too distant from the Western Lehigh Interceptor system to be interconnected.
- LCA's industrial wastewater pretreatment plant serves industrial properties in the Fogelsville area.
- In Allentown, a residential customer using 18,000 gallons per quarter will pay approximately \$200 per year for sewer service. Wastewater rates in other areas are developed on a cost-of-service basis.
- 2016 Total Wastewater Operating Budget: \$23,350,000

LCA Board & Staff

LCA was created by the County of Lehigh under the Pennsylvania Municipality Authorities Act (Act) and is governed by a nine-member Board of Directors, who are appointed by the Lehigh County Executive and approved by the County Commissioners. Two of LCA's Board members positions are designated to represent the citizens of the City of Allentown. LCA's Board is vested with all powers allowed under the Act. LCA's current Board members include:

Brian C. Nagle, Chair
Macungie Borough, Lehigh County

Richard H. Bohner, Secretary
City of Allentown, Lehigh County

Norma Cusick, Assistant Secretary
Salisbury Township, Lehigh County

Ted Lyons
City of Allentown, Lehigh County

Thomas M. Muller, Vice Chair
Lower Macungie Township, Lehigh County

Emrich M. Stellar Jr., Treasurer
Upper Saucon Township, Lehigh County

Scott C. Bieber
Upper Milford Township, Lehigh County

Linda Rosenfeld
City of Allentown, Lehigh County

Deana M. Zosky
Lower Macungie Township, Lehigh County

LCA employs 153 professional and technical employees whose expertise ranges from water and wastewater treatment plant operations, laboratory and regulatory compliance, finance and accounting, customer service and billing, legal, administration, engineering, equipment operation, safety and emergency response, and much more. LCA's leadership structure includes the following:

Liesel M. Gross, Chief Executive Officer
Bradford E. Landon, Solicitor
John W. Parsons, Chief Operations Officer

Edward C. Klein, Chief Financial Officer
Frank J. Leist, Chief Capital Works Officer
Patricia L. Mandes, Chief Compliance Officer

Issues of Importance to LCA

As a water and wastewater utility, LCA takes its responsibilities to its customers very seriously. Some specific topics of interest to LCA include:

- Environmental laws and regulations
- Water supply issues including droughts, water quality and long-term supply sustainability
- Municipal financing and long-term infrastructure needs
- Regionalization of utility services and the impacts on Lehigh Valley residents
- Achieving service economies and efficiency through joint ventures

Every drop matters. Every customer counts.