

Public works Report – July 2026

During the month of July, the Town of Lake City produced 18,289,749 gallons of safe drinking water. The Wastewater Treatment Plant processed 4,814,148 gallons of wastewater. For comparison, in July of last year, the Town produced 19,253,900 gallons of water and processed 4,896,685 gallons of wastewater.

Water

Public Works has been working to establish a complete and accurate inventory of the water meters in our system. During this process, several leaks were identified—some resulting from improper operation of service valves and others located upstream of street-side valves that would otherwise have gone undetected in water-usage data. This work will support grant applications for the planned Kamstrup meter conversion and help account for previously unaccounted-for water throughout the system.

In July, the State conducted a sanitary survey of our records, wells, and distribution system. Several physical deficiencies were found, well equipment being out of date as well as distribution infrastructure, also, several records had not been updated or maintained since the previous survey five years ago. Some of these deficiencies constitute violations and will require public notice in next year's Consumer Confidence Report (CCR). The significant deficiencies and violations will need to be resolved within 45 days. I've touched on the more important things within the states report if you would like further details both the Public Works director and the town manager can send a copy of the findings. Note that these deficiencies DO NOT affect water quality.

Wastewater

On the 24th, floodwaters carried debris, including pine needles and sticks, into the final pond at the wastewater treatment plant. Public Works staff removed the debris by hand to prevent clogging of downstream valves and pipes. Significant amounts of dirt and mud remain in the cell and will be removed once renovation progress allows the pond to be taken offline. Treatment operations continue uninterrupted, and samples are scheduled to be sent on the 5th.

Streets and Alleys

As is widely recognized, a large portion of our ditch system was filled with sediment and portions of our streets sustained significant damage from the recent flooding. Public Works has begun cleanup, prioritizing areas of greatest need to prevent further damage to private property. Oceanwave Dr. will be the first section we clear. Reestablishing ditches and jetting culverts is a time intensive process that will require continued effort. The County has provided assistance in areas to accelerate recovery.

Other

Staff assisted Parks and Recreation with the installation of basketball hoops behind the Armory and with tree planting around Town Park. Public Works also completed substantial fire mitigation work around the Morningside water tank and in other areas of

Lake City. In addition, the Town Manager secured generators and developed contingency plans in the event power was lost due to wildfire activity. This has been an especially eventful month for the Town of Lake City. We sincerely appreciate the community's support and understanding. While full restoration will take time, the work is progressing steadily and will be completed within the month if all things allow.

Thank you,

Ethan Wuest

Interim Public Works Director