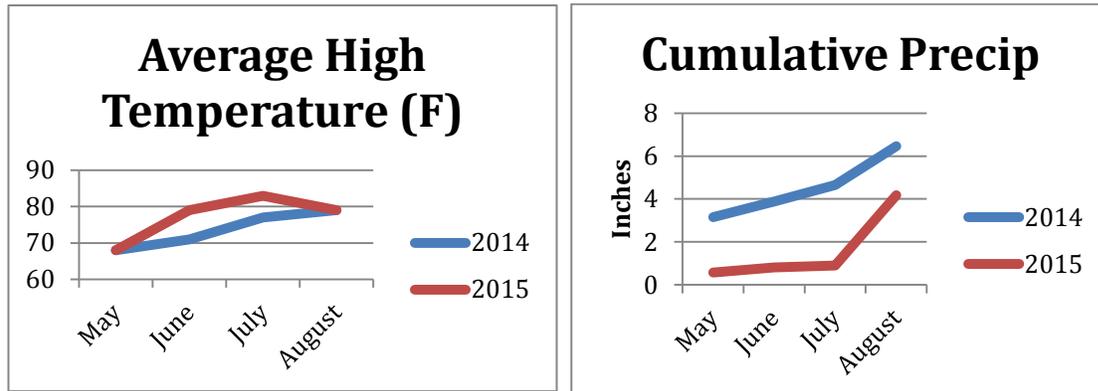


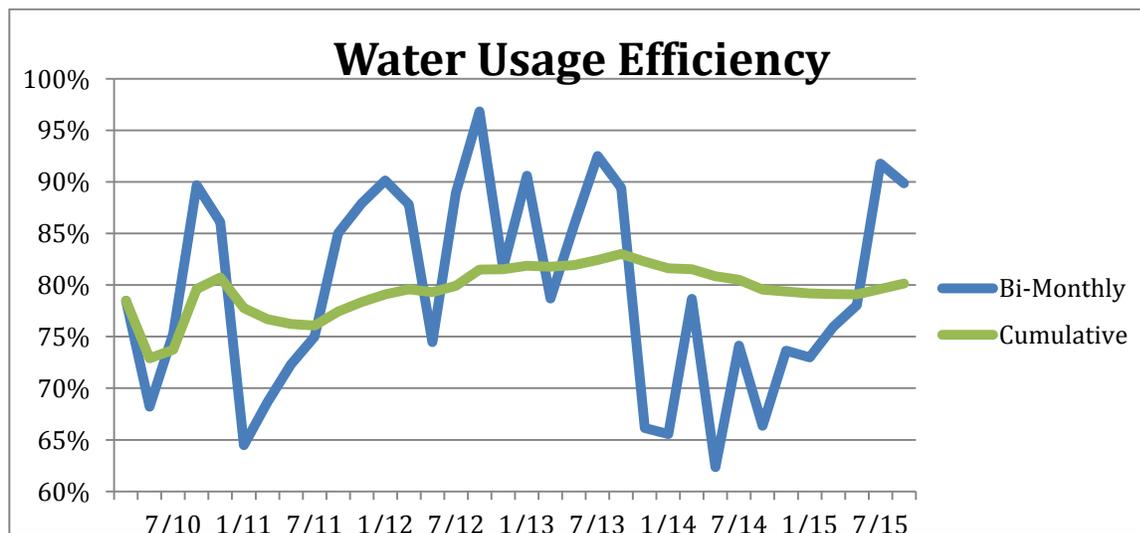
## Westside Water Association Newsletter – September 2015

Summer is turning into fall and with the rains returning to give us a wetter than normal August, the demands on our water system have diminished. The few days of rain in August helped tremendously in moderating the water demands on the system. Be that as it may, the SeaTac weather records (see charts below) showed this summer overall as being both dryer and hotter than 2014. With the addition of the Anderson Well for this summer, our system still showed a dramatic reduction in the concentration of Arsenic compared with 2014. So let's get to the details.



### Leaks

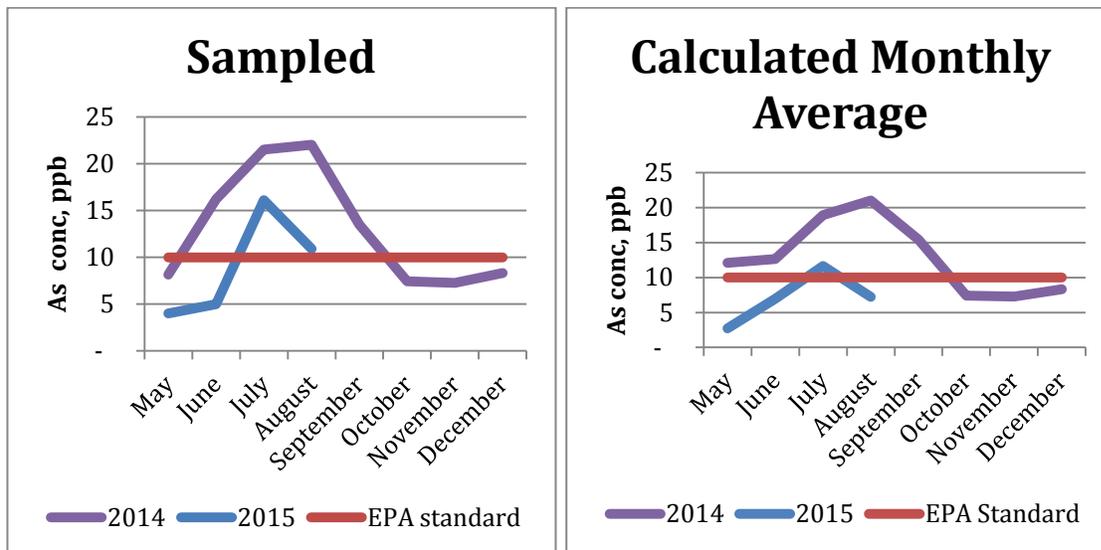
Although we experienced a number of leaks this summer, they were found and fixed quickly, so the leak trend continues in a good direction. We still have a loss in the lower (gravity fed) part of the system and will continue to try to find these. It is likely that they are a number of smaller leaks rather than one or two bigger ones and thus will be hard to pin down. Nonetheless, we experienced less than 10% loss for the summer, which is the best result in several years.



### Arsenic Contamination

Notification of our Arsenic concentration in the water delivered to users is updated regularly on the Westside Water Association website ([www.westsidewater.org](http://www.westsidewater.org)). As we have seen in previous summers, we exceeded the EPA limit of 10 parts per billion for part of the summer. But this summer, we exceeded it by a far smaller amount and for a far shorter time. The addition of the Anderson well vastly improved our Arsenic situation even in the face of the hotter/drier summer conditions. The two charts below show (left) the Arsenic concentration for samples grabbed to coincide with maximum Canyon Well usage (the Canyon Well is our primary source of Arsenic

contamination, and we use it to blend with the well points and Anderson Well water when demand exceeds the supply of those two primary sources). The chart on the right shows the average concentration in the system by month. It is calculated based on the relative amounts of each source and their known Arsenic concentrations. Using this metric you can see that our average Arsenic concentration only exceeded 10 ppb during July – a huge improvement.



### Arsenic Filtration

A major disappointment again this summer was our inability to get the Arsenic filtration system on line. The volume of the piping, settling tanks and filters means that it takes a couple of days for the system to come to equilibrium with a given mixture of iron, oxidant and polymer constituents required for our water chemistry. Given a number of tasks (including fixing leaks and general maintenance of the system), we had only so many days to devote to trying to find the right combination of chemicals and flows. At this point the Board believes that it would be a significant project to bring this system on line, possibly involving bringing in another consultant. We still have the Canyon Well water for blending purposes, and it is likely that we will put the filtration project on the backburner for now.

### Where to Now?

In spite of the encouraging improvements in Arsenic levels that we have seen this summer, we are not there yet. The Board is committed to delivering water to the members such that the instantaneous Arsenic concentration does not exceed the standard set by the Safe Drinking Water Act of 10 parts per billion. In order to meet this commitment, we still need to bring some additional capacity on line. As part of our original agreement with Chris Anderson on the Anderson Well, WWA secured the right to drill another well on his property. The board is exploring this option, as well as a few other possibilities. We expect to be communicating with the membership in the next two months on a proposal for solving our Arsenic contamination issues.

### A Renewed Plea for Electronic Communication

As we have requested in previous issues of the newsletter, we ask that you e-mail [contact@westsidewater.org](mailto:contact@westsidewater.org) so that we can communicate electronically with you. If you are a landlord, please also send in your renter's email address (and names and alternate contact info for those in an adult role). If there is an emergency, contacting everyone as quickly as possible may save lives. Thanks for your cooperation in this effort.