

# BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

CITY OF AUBURN, NE  
ELECTRIC, WATER & WASTEWATER SERVICES

## BOARD MEMBERS

Charles Knipe  
Richard L. Wilson  
Dr. Michael Zaruba  
David Grant  
Phil Shaw



## GENERAL MANAGER

Ray Luhring

Phone: (402) 274-4981 Office  
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## DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN UPDATE July 22, 2025

There is little or no changes in the wells. In general change will be slow unless rain comes out of the banks of the Little Nemaha and saturates the ground quickly. This community sits on an alluvial aquifer versus the Ogalla Aquifer or the Missouri Valley Aquifer. In general aquifers are large pockets that hold a substantial amount of water and are deep in the ground, generally 250 – 300 feet. An alluvial aquifer is shallow and relies on surface water recharge. BPW wells are around 35-50 feet deep. The BPW wells can recharge with rain, but historically the best recharge comes from the Little Nemaha rising out of the banks and flooding the fields around the well field. We have not had this scenario since 2019. Recent rains have not allowed saturation deep enough to recharge the wellfields. There are communities outside of BPW that are also implementing water restrictions. The Missouri River is a potential long-term option, but state agencies would need to authorize a move in that direction.

We have slowed pumping times which has allowed us to continue using the wells and we have been able to maintain reservoir levels, which is critical. It is vital to manage the pumping levels so that the wells integrity is maintained. Allowing a well to run dry can cause pumps to overheat and cause equipment failure. At this time, we are at mercy of the weather and ground infrastructure. With 178 test sites for potential wells that are not viable, we have turned to Longs Creek for a temporary solution. We anticipate a Spring 2026 completion to bring this water source online. The wells in turn will have much needed relief and an opportunity to recharge the aquifer. If we have not moved out of Stage 3, we expect this to provide us with enough relief to change our status.

This information has been provided at BPW Board meetings which are held on the third Wednesday of each month. In addition, BPW is happy to answer any questions. There may not be a lot of changes in information daily, but we will continue to provide data with daily readings on the number of gallons pumped, pumping times, and reservoir levels. This will keep the public informed of current conditions. See the City of Auburn website at <https://auburn.ne.gov> for updates. The reservoir holds 1.5 million gallons of water and has not dropped below the normal levels and is currently stable. This is due to the implementation of the plan and the collaboration of the members of the Auburn and Peru communities' reduction in use. We appreciate all efforts for conserving usage until levels return to normal.

Alan Slater  
Water/Wastewater Manager

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Auburn Board of Public Works - Updated Daily readings.

Date	Total # of Gallons pumped	Auburn plant GPM pumped	Total # of hours pumped	# of Gallons pumped Auburn	# of Gallons pumped Peru	GPM Pumped Peru	# of hours pumped Peru
10/17/2024	624,558	600	17.34	498,695	125,863	90	23.30
10/18/2024	424,698	600	11.79	354,226	,70,472	90	13.05
06/18/2025	424,026	600	11.47	385,034	38,992	90	7.22
06/19/2025	349,669	600	9.71	303,602	46,067	90	8.53
06/20/2025	510,497	600	14.18	442,317	68,180	90	12.62
06/23/2025	440,283	600	12.23	385,347	54,936	90	10.71
06/24/2025	397,265	600	11.03	328,582	68,683	90	12.71
06/25/2025	370,621	600	13.30	316,678	53,943	90	9.99
06/26/2025	289,835	600	8.30	244,510	45,325	90	8.39
06/27/2025	335,785	600	9.33	286,133	48,625	90	9.19
06/30/2025	342,835	600	9.52	267,119	75,716	90	14.02
07/01/2025	285,095	600	7.92	224,315	60,780	90	11.26
07/02/2025	367,511	600	10.21	302,339	65,172	90	12.07
07/03/2025	418,662	600	11.63	331,985	86,677	90	16.05
07/04/2025	502,405	600	13.96	423,841	78,564	90	14.55
07/05/2025	269,849	600	7.5	201,824	68,025	90	12.6
07/06/2025	305,319	600	8.48	261,929	43,390	90	8.04
07/07/2025	359,543	600	9.99	310,116	49,427	90	9.15
07/08/2025	385,118	600	10.7	301,319	83,203	90	15.41
07/09/2025	289,171	600	8.03	225,847	68,324	90	11.73
07/10/2025	390,567	600	10.85	341,979	48,588	90	9
07/11/2025	259,454	600	7.21	215,135	44,319	90	8.21
07/12/2025	481,276	600	13.37	405,515	75,761	90	14.03
07/13/2025	432,136	600	12.00	352,585	79,551	90	14.73
07/14/2025	235,734	600	6.55	193,303	42,431	90	7.86
07/15/2025	393,910	600	10.94	340,254	53,656	90	9.9
07/16/2025	347,287	600	9.65	283,348	63,939	90	11.84
07/17/2025	411,874	600	12.76	335,671	76,176	90	11.86
07/18/2025	459,447	600	12.76	395,381	64,066	90	11.86
07/19/2025	242,998	600	6.75	189,252	53,746	90	9.95
07/20/2025	329,647	600	9.16	276,486	53,161	90	9.84

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07/21/2025	358,492	600	9.96	303,011	55,481	90	10.27
07/22/2025	428,824	600	11.91	373,930	54,895	90	10.17
Reservoir levels							
07/08/2025	22'	Full		07/15/2025	22'	Full	
07/09/2025	22'	Full		07/16/2025	22'	Full	
07/10/2025	22'	Full		07/21/2025	22'	Full	
07/11/2025	22'	Full		07/22/2025	22'	Full	

Pumping well levels are monitored by measuring water levels above the top of screens in the well when the well is running. Normal water levels run 15-20 feet above the screens. The following data shows the amount of water measured above the screens.

	Well 1	Well 2	Well 3	Well 4	Well 5	Well 6	Well 11	Well 13	Well 19	Well 20
10/22/2024	9'	9'	2'	1'	6.5'	5'	5'	16'	2'	1'
02/28/2025	14'	11'	10'	8'	7'	8'	9'	11'	4'	4.5'
06/18/2025	15'8"	12'8"	5'	5'8"	4'9"	7'0"	8'1"	10'1"	4'0"	4'0"
06/19/2025	15'8"	12'8"	5'	5'6"	4'9"	7'0"	8'1"	10'0"	4'0"	4'0"
06/20/2025	15'8"	12'8"	5'	5'6"	4'9"	7'0"	8'1"	10'0"	4'0"	4'0"
06/23/2025	15'8"	12'6"	5'	5'5"	4'9"	7'0"	8'1"	9'9"	4'0"	4'0"
06/24/2025	16'0"	12'8"	5'2"	5'6"	5'	7'0"	8'1"	10'0"	4'0"	4'3"
06/25/2025	17'0"	14'	10'	8'8"	8'8.5"	9'	10'3"	12'2"	5'5"	5'9"
06/26/2025	17'0"	14'	10'	8'9"	8'9"	9'	10'2"	12'2"	5'5"	5'9"
06/27/2025	17'0"	15'	11'5"	9'7"	9'1"	9'	9'5"	14'	6'0"	5'9"
06/30/2025	17'0"	14'8"	11'2"	8'4"	9'05"	9'	9'4"	14'	7'1"	5'4"
07/01/2025	16'8"	14'6"	11'0"	8'2"	9'0"	8'5"	9'1"	13'8"	6'9"	4'5"
07/02/2025	16'8"	14'6"	6'3"	9'1"	8'7"	9'8"	8'	16'6"	6'6"	4'6"
07/03/2025	16'5"	14'4'	6'3"	8'8"	8'4"	9'1"	7'6"	16'0"	6'1"	4'4"
07/09/2025	16'5"	14'4"	6'3"	10'0"	8'4"	11'3"	7'6"	12'1"	6'11"	4'4"
07/10/2025	16'5"	14'4"	5'8"	8'6"	8'4"	16'6"	7'6"	9'9"	6'11"	4'5"
07/11/2025	16'5"	14'4"	5'8"	8'	8'4"	8'4"	7'6"	8'2"	6'11"	4'5"
07/14/2025	16'2"	14'0"	5'4"	8'1"	8'1"	9'1"	7'4"	8'4"	4'5"	4'0"
07/15/2025	16'2"	14'0"	5'4"	8'1"	8'1"	9'1"	7'4"	8'4"	4'5"	4'0"
07/16/2025	16'4"	14'2"	5'6"	8'2"	8'2"	9'2"	7'4"	8'8"	4.6"	4'2"
07/18/2025	16'8"	14'6"	8'7"	9'3"	8'7"	9'8"	8'8"	9'2"	5'5"	5'2"
07/21/2025	16'8"	14'6"	8'7"	9'3"	8'7"	9'8"	8'8"	9'2"	5'5"	5'3"
07/22/2025	16'8"	14'6"	8'7"	9'3"	8'7"	9'8"	8'8"	9'2"	5'5"	5'5"