

Become a Burton Water Co-op member today because:

1. **Ability to vote.**

Only members can vote 'yay' or 'nay' on the final decision package on whether to proceed with the purchase of the Burton Water Company and operate the system as a community controlled Co-op. The package will include the key terms of the Purchase & Sale Agreement, overall financing plan (costs and charges), Bylaws, and election of the operating phase Board of Directors. ***Non-members can not participate in the final vote.***

2. **Customers have to be Members.**

Once the Co-op becomes the owner with approval by the State Utility and Trade Commission, only members can receive water service from the Co-op, which will have become the community's new water purveyor. This information has been clarified for us by our attorney only in the last month.

3. **Opportunity for input.**

Current Burton Water Company customers who do not sign joining agreements may become members by simply accepting water service from the Cooperative, however you will have missed many crucial opportunities for input into management decisions, rates, and service standards.

All members of the Co-op will be billed a membership (equity) fee to cover the cost of the purchase of the Burton Water Company and related costs. This fee is still being determined as we settle final costs and complete financing approval, but likely will range between \$2,000-\$3,000 with options to pay upfront or in payments over time.

4. **Keeping current on all decisions.**

Becoming a member ensures that the Co-op has accurate contact information and can keep you informed and engaged. Over the next several months, we will be sharing detailed information regarding the water system's capital improvement needs, state and local regulatory requirements and impacts to our water rates over time. We want to make these decisions with a shared assessment of risk by all members of our community.

- If you have not done so already, send in your signed joining agreement with the required \$5 fee. -