

Welcome to the
City of



La Vernia was established by German and Polish settlers in the 1840s and continues to draw an eclectic group of families and businesses to our small country town. We are home to an excellent school system, low cost of living, low crime rate, gorgeous ranch style homes, and dozens of family owned businesses all within our tight knit community. As of 2020, our population sits at 1,249 and is 5,571 within a 3 mile radius. We are lucky enough to keep growing steadily each year.

THIS PACKET CONTAINS MANY NECESSARY AND INFORMATIVE ITEMS. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT CITY HALL AT **(830)-779-4541**.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

CITY HALL: (830) 779-4541

CITY HALL FAX: (830) 253-1198

MUNICIPAL COURT: (830) 779-4541 EXT. 2

PERMIT DEPT.: (830) 779-4541 EXT. 3

UTILITIES DEPT.: (830) 779-4541 EXT. 4

AFTER HOURS UTILITIES EMERGENCY CONTACT: (830) 581-8002 after 5:00PM

FELPS: (830) 216-7000

GVEC: (830) 253-1600

US POST OFFICE: (830) 779-4131

WILSON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE: (830) 393-2535

WILSON COUNTY ELECTION OFFICE: (830) 393-7380

VERIZON: (800) 837-4966

GET INVOLVED

City Council meetings are held at 102 E. Chihuahua St. on the second Thursday of the month at 6:30 P.M. Planning and Zoning Committee meetings are held at 102 E. Chihuahua St. on the first Tuesday of the month. If you would like to volunteer for a committee, feel free to pick up a volunteer application at City Hall. For more City information, visit our website at www.lavernia-tx.gov

And don't forget to follow us on Facebook to keep up with city events and announcements at www.facebook.com/CityofLaVernia

CITY HALL HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday through Friday 8AM to 5PM

City Holidays (Offices Closed)

- New Year's Eve (Closes at 12:00PM)
- New Years Day
- MLK Day
- President's Day
- Good Friday
- Memorial Day
- Independence Day
- Labor Day
- Columbus Day
- Veteran's Day
- Thanksgiving & the following Friday
- Christmas Eve
- Christmas

GARBAGE SERVICE

Your La Vernia utility bill also includes the garbage and recycling fee. Please set your garbage out by **7:00 A.M.** to ensure you do not get missed. Garbage pickup is for household waste only. *Waste Connections* is the only garbage service available inside La Vernia city limits.



RESIDENTIAL TRASH IS COLLECTED EVERY MONDAY AND RECYCLING IS COLLECTED EVERY OTHER MONDAY

**FOR INFORMATION ON COMMERCIAL TRASH, PLEASE CONTACT CITY HALL
AT 830-775-4541**

Regular Fee	\$15.35
Senior Fee (65+)	\$13.72
Extra Garbage Tote	\$8.58
Extra Recycling Tote	\$3.42

The City of La Vernia provides one (1) garbage tote and one (1) recycling tote for solid waste collection. If these become damaged or go missing, please contact the Utility Office for a replacement. The replacement may take up to 10 business days. In addition to your provided cart, you are allowed 5 additional bags.

Twice a year, the City of La Vernia holds a Fall and Spring Clean Up for city residents only. You will need to provide proof of residency with a water bill stub when entering the dumping area.

The Services provided to Commercial, Industrial and Multi-Family Residential Units are as follows.

<u>Container Size</u>	<u>One Collection Per Week</u>	<u>Two Collections Per Week</u>	<u>Three Collections Per Week</u>
One (1) Roll-Out	\$19.01*	N/A	
Two (2) Roll-Outs	\$26.20*	N/A	
2 Cubic Yards	\$65.84	\$131.65	
3 Cubic Yards	\$80.10	\$156.51	
4 Cubic Yards	\$90.67	\$165.20	
6 Cubic Yards	\$104.95	\$214.89	\$383.64
8 Cubic Yards	\$135.39	\$252.15	\$450.27
10 Cubic Yards	\$161.47	\$298.10	\$532.33

Did you know?

The City of La Vernia offers several ways to make your payment. Come in to City Hall between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. We accept cash, check, or money orders. We also accept credit payments through your PayClix account at no charge. See your monthly statement for your account number to access our online payment system, PayClix. The City also offers a payment drop box on the side of City Hall (located by the Council Chambers). The box is checked daily at 8:00 a.m.



NOTE: You may pay your bill online through PayClix at

<https://payclix.com/LaVerniaTX>

PayClix is the website used to collect your local water payments and is the fastest and easiest way to keep track of your utility bill. PayClix accepts all major credit cards.

Charges and Payments

Water meters are read on or about the 20th of the month and accounts are updated with new bill amounts on or about the last day of each month. Water payments are due on the 15th of the month. If the 15th falls on a weekend or holiday, the payment is due the following business day. Payments not received by close of business on the 15th of the month will have a 10% fee added. If the 15th falls on a weekend or holiday, late fees will be added the second business day thereafter.

If payment is not received by 9:00 A.M. on the disconnect day, your service will be disconnected. Once your service has been disconnected, an administrative fee of \$50.00 will be assessed. The full past due amount and other fees must be paid before services are reconnected.

If your water meter is tampered with or turned on without the City of La Vernia's knowledge, you will be subject to pay \$75 for the first offence; \$125 for the second offense and the third offense will result in the

meter being removed. A \$200 charge will be added to turn the water back on.

Extension of payment beyond the date of disconnect may be granted by the City Administrator. Request must be submitted in writing one week before. It will be at the discretion of the City Administrator as to grant or deny the request. There will only be one extension granted per calendar year.

Any account or person that has two returned checks in a calendar year, for whatever reason, will be placed on a cash only basis. After two years, if payments have been on time, you may request to be taken off cash only. The request must be in writing.



****If you do not receive a bill by mail, it is your responsibility to call or come to City Hall to determine the amount of your bill.****

Water Rates

Base Water Rates

Water rates are based on the real costs associated with planning, building and maintaining the infrastructure needed to provide reliable quality water to the water customers. Rates and are as follows:

Meter Size	Minimum Gallon Usage	Inside the City	Outside the City
5/8" Meter (Standard Size)	0	\$20.75	\$30.08
1" Meter	0	\$50.24	\$72.85
1.5" Meter	0	\$99.95	\$144.93
2" Meter	0	\$159.55	\$231.35
** 3" Meter and larger	0	\$239.33	\$347.03

**NOTE: Fire Hydrant Water Rates to be billed at 3" meter size inside the city rates.

Bulk Water Rates (Non-treated/Non-potable) \$.06/gallon

Water Deposit Rates *Unrefundable Admin Fee \$25

Residential	\$125
Residential Rental	\$225
Commercial	\$275

Step Water Rate Charges

Number of Gallons	Inside the City	Outside the City
0-10,000	\$3.98	\$5.10
10,001-15,000	\$4.37	\$5.53
15,001-20,000	\$4.81	\$6.05
20,001-30,000	\$5.30	\$7.00
30,001-40,000	\$5.82	\$7.85
40,001-50,000	\$6.41	\$8.71
50,001-65,000	\$7.04	\$9.56
Over 65,000	\$7.76	\$10.00

Minimum gallon usage starts at zero.

Sewer Rates

	Service Availability (Up to 3,000 gal.)	Per 1,000 gallons over 3,000 gallons
Residential Inside City	\$20.00 base rate	Base rate plus \$2.00 per 1,000 gal.
Residential Outside City	\$30.00 base rate	Base rate plus \$2.25 per 1,000 gal.
Commercial Inside City	\$30.00 base rate	Base rate plus \$1.50 per 1,000 gal.
Commercial Outside City	\$40.00 base rate	Base rate plus \$2.50 per 1,000 gal.

* Base rate is equal to minimum fee

** Water leaks and filling a swimming pool (must notify Utility Clerk prior to filling the pool) will be reviewed for adjustments.

Apartment rates based on Residential sewer rates

Additional Information

Permits: Should you decide to build, remodel, add to, or do any type of construction to your home or property, we suggest you contact the Permit Department to see if a permit is required before you start. For most permit types, a homeowner doing the work on their homestead can apply for the permit. If you are hiring a contractor, they must apply for the permits and they must also be registered with the City and provide proof of liability insurance.



Code Enforcement: This department is responsible for the prevention, detection, investigation and enforcement of violations of statutes and ordinances within the city. If you see a violation, such as high grass and weeds, contact our Code Enforcement Officer at (830) 779-4541 Ext. 8

Did you know?

Flushable wipes in the sewer system can cause problems, instead of dissolving like toilet paper, they clump together with grease, causing mop like clumps that clog and damage pipes and equipment.

Police Department

The La Vernia Police Department is here to serve and protect 24 hours a day. Our police officers are dispatched through Wilson County. If you are in need of non-emergency police assistance, call the Wilson County Sheriff's Office at 830-393-2535. In case of an emergency, call 9-1-1.



ALARM—Alarm permits are required if you have an alarm system installed in your home or business, regardless of being monitored. These permits can be obtained at La Vernia City Hall. There is no fee for an alarm permit.



Animal Services

The City of La Vernia and Wilson County do not have animal control services. The city does recommend keeping your pets safely inside, if possible, during freezes and heat advisories.

City Park

The City Park is located at 222 San Antonio Road and is open to the public. Park hours are from 8:00AM to 10:00PM Sunday-Thursday and 8:00AM to 11:00PM Friday and Saturday. There are several attractions located in the park including volleyball courts, a basketball court, splash pad, walking trail, horse shoe pit, a playscape, disc golf course and picnic tables.

To rent the pavilion or gazebo for a birthday or event, you must reserve the area by coming into City Hall for an application (102 E. Chihuahua St.) Electricity is included in your rental fee. To obtain electricity, you will need to make arrangements with the city prior to the event. There is a \$35 fee to rent the area and a refundable \$50 deposit. Please make the payments in two separate forms. Liability insurance may be required with a rental. When filling out the rental form, you must list specifically what activities will be present and what will be served during the event. All trash must be cleaned up before leaving or your deposit will not be returned to you. Pets are allowed but must be on a leash. Animal waste bags are provided in the park and we ask that you please pick up after your pet. **Discharging guns, fireworks, firecrackers, air guns, BB guns or bows and arrows are prohibited.**

City Events

- La Vernia's Shop Local Campaign which includes Small Business Saturday and Passport to La Vernia (Saturday after Thanksgiving)
- La Vernia's Spirit of Christmas events include:
 - Spirit of Christmas Tree Lighting (1st Saturday in December at the City Park)
 - Winter Wassailing in La Vernia
 - Passport to Christmas Around La Vernia (Week after Tree Lighting)
 - Santa around La Vernia (Date varies)
- 4th of July in the Park (On July 4th)
- Bluebonnet parade (Date varies)



For more information on our events or to volunteer for a committee, please call City Hall at 830-779-4541.



Other helpful information...

Taxes

The City of La Vernia taxes are billed by and payable at the Wilson County Tax Assessor's Office. The county tax office is located in Floresville, and the local annex office is at 1 Library Lane, Floresville, TX 78114. (830) 393-7312. The current city tax rate is .1999

School District Information



The La Vernia Independent School District (LVISD) main office phone number is (830) 779-6600.
Website: <https://www.lvisd.org/>

START SAVING WATER AND MONEY TODAY ON OUTSIDE WATERING OF YOUR LANDSCAPE

- Reduce your watering frequency to once every five days. This encourages deeper, more drought-tolerant roots on your turf.
- If it rains an inch or more, wait at least five days to water.
- Mulch trees and plants to retain moisture and prevent evaporation.
- If your sprinkler sprays a fine mist, you're losing a lot of water to evaporation. Try a different sprinkler head or better yet, a drop irrigation system.
- When washing your car, use a cut-off nozzle instead of running the hose continuously. This will save 8 gallons of water per minute.
- When installing a new lawn or planning landscaping, consider using plant and grass varieties that are adapted to your site and require little supplemental water once established.

Mosquito Control

With our year round warm climate, mosquitoes can also be a year round problem. And while we need to remember we share outside spaces with nature, we don't have to embrace a mosquito problem. When it comes to prevention, remember the 3D's –

Drain, Dress and Defend

Drain—Problems can be caused by water filled containers; where mosquitoes breed. Make sure to drain standing water.

Dress—Wear light colors, loose fitting clothing, and when possible, wear long sleeves and pants

Defend—Choose a repellent that has been registered with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). These have been reviewed and approved, posing a minimal risk for humans when used as directed.





DATE: _____

RESIDENTIAL: _____

ACCOUNT #: _____

COMMERCIAL: _____

DEPOSIT AMOUNT: _____ **(Unrefundable Admin Fee \$25)**

APPLICATIONS ARE PROCESSED BETWEEN 8:00 AM AND 3:00PM. ONLY COMPLETED APPLICATIONS WILL BE PROCESSED. 24 HOUR NOTICE IS REQUIRED. NO CONNECTIONS WILL BE DONE ON WEEKENDS OR HOLIDAYS.

PLEASE PRINT IN BLUE OR BLACK INK

ACCOUNT NAME: _____ DATE TO BEGIN: _____

SERVICE ADDRESS: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____ SECONDARY PHONE NUMBER: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____ **(*FOR USE OF PAYCLIX)**

DL#: _____ STATE: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT: _____ PHONE: _____ RELATION: _____

HOME OWNER: _____ CLOSING DATE: _____

RENTER: _____ OWNER/AGENT: _____ PHONE #: _____

COMMERCIAL: _____ CONSTRUCTION: _____ FIRE HYDRANT: _____

***PAYCLIX: SIGN UP TO PAY YOUR UTILITY BILL ONLINE AT <https://payclix.com/LaVerniaTX>**

With Payclix, customers submit electronic utility bill payments to their utility company in just 3 clicks. Users can submit payments with Visa, MasterCard, Discover or eCheck (electronic check).

Please initial below.

I hereby agree to the following conditions:

_____ 1. Turn-on hours are from 9:00 AM to 3:00PM daily. It is the responsibility of the customer to have someone at the residence if they would like someone present for turn-on. The City is not responsible for any damage incurred due to fixtures being left on in or out of the residence.

_____ 2. I agree to pay the bill for such services, once per month as set in the ordinance by the 15th of each month.

_____ 3. I further agree to give written notice or email the utility clerk at jbegole@lavernia-tx.gov to disconnect services when I move or permanently vacate the premises.

_____ 4. I agree that the deposit will be paid toward the account for any unpaid service owed by me when closing my account.

_____ 5. I agree that if I do not receive a bill by mail, it is my responsibility to call or come to City Hall and determine the amount of the charge for services and pay on or before the 15th of each month.

_____ 6. I hereby covenant to protect and save harmless the City of La Vernia for all claims for damage occasioned by the bursting of any pipes used for the supplying of water and wastewater under this application.

_____ 7. I understand my deposit shall not exempt me from any related water and/or wastewater connections fees.

_____ 8. If I tamper or turn on any meter without the City of La Vernia's knowledge, I will be subject to pay \$75 for the first offense; \$125 for the second offense and the third offense will result in the meter being removed. A \$200 charge will be added to turn the water back on.

_____ 9. If I default on any of the above agreement, I authorize the City of La Vernia to disconnect the water or any other service being furnished to me at my expense and will be charged according to the City of La Vernia current ordinance.

I hereby comply and agree to all provisions found in the City of La Vernia Water Ordinance, available for review at the City Hall.

Customer Signature: _____ Date: _____

REQUEST FOR ACCOUNT RECORDS CONFIDENTIALITY

The Texas Open Records Act provides that a government- operated utility which provides water, wastewater, drainage, sewer, gas, and electricity for compensation may not disclose personal information in a customer's account record **IF** the customer request, **IN WRITING**, the utility keeps the information confidential. Personal information, as defined by House Bill (effective date 9-1-1993) means an individual's address, telephone number, or Social Security Number.

If this is your intention that the above information in your account records is kept confidential, please mark and complete the bottom portion of this form.

_____ I/WE, the undersigned, hereby request that my/our account records at the City of La Vernia Utility Department be kept confidential, as permitted by the Texas Open Records Act.

Please list below any spouse, business partner, and/or other persons whom you give authorization to view or have access to your account.

NAME	PHONE	RELATIONSHIP

Customers Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____

SERVICE AGREEMENT

I. **PURPOSE.** **The City of La Vernia** is responsible for protecting the drinking water supply from contamination or pollution, which could result from improper private water distribution system construction or configuration. The purpose of this service agreement is to notify each customer of the restrictions, which are in place to provide this protection. The utility enforces these restrictions to ensure the public health and welfare. Each customer must sign this agreement before the **City of La Vernia** will begin service. In addition, when service to an existing connection has been suspended or terminated, the water system will not re-establish service unless it has a signed copy of this agreement.

II. **RESTRICTIONS.** The following unacceptable practices are prohibited by State regulations.

- A. No direct connection between the public drinking water supply and a potential source of contamination is permitted. Potential sources of contamination shall be isolated from the public water system by an air-gap or an appropriate backflow prevention device.
- B. No cross-connection between the public drinking water supply and a private water system is permitted. These potential threats to the public drinking water supply shall be eliminated at the service connection by the installation of an air-gap or a reduced pressure-zone backflow prevention device.
- C. No connection, which allows water to be returned to the public drinking water supply, is permitted.
- D. No pipe or pipe fitting which contains more than 0.25% lead may be used for the installation or repair of plumbing at any connection which provides water for human use.
- E. No solder or flux which contains more than 0.2% lead can be used for the installation or repair of plumbing at any connection which provides water for human use.

III. **SERVICE AGREEMENT.** The following are the terms of the service agreement between the City of La Vernia and

_____.

- A. The Water System will maintain a copy of this agreement as long as the Customer and/or the premises is connected to the Water System.
- B. The Customer shall allow his property to be inspected for possible cross-connections and other potential contamination hazards. These inspections shall be conducted by the Water System or its designated agent prior to initiating new water service; when there is reason to believe that cross-connections or other potential contamination hazards exist; or after any major changes to the private water distribution facilities. The inspections shall be conducted during the Water System's normal business hours.
- C. The Water System shall notify the Customer in writing of any cross-connection or other potential contamination hazard, which has been identified during the initial inspection or the periodic reinspection.
- D. The Customer shall immediately remove or adequately isolate any potential cross-connections or other potential contamination hazards on his premises.
- E. The Customer shall, at his expense, properly install, test, and maintain any backflow prevention device required by the Water System. Copies of all testing and maintenance records shall be provided to the Water System.

IV. **ENFORCEMENT.** If the Customer fails to comply with the terms of the Service Agreement, the Water System shall, at its option, either terminate service or properly install, test, and maintain an appropriate backflow prevention device at the service connection. Any expenses associated with the enforcement of this agreement shall be billed to the Customer.

CUSTOMER'S SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

For Office Use Only:



City Representative: _____

Date: _____ Cash _____ Credit _____ Check# _____

Meter Information:

Size: _____ Meter Reading: _____ Serial: _____ Sequence#: _____

City Sewer: _____ Septic: _____

Garbage Service:

Residential: _____ Commercial: _____

Senior Citizen: _____