CASE STUDY - AUBURN LAKES WATER SYSTEM

When Confluence Rivers acquired the Auburn Lakes water system in May 2019, it was a system built for a neighborhood that hadn't arrived yet. The well and water plant were installed in the mid-2000s to serve a planned 182-lot subdivision, but the housing downturn stalled construction, and by 2018, only a handful of homes had been built. The system now serves 67 connections and approximately 168 residents, with additional homes being added each year. At acquisition, it depended on a single deep well and pressure tank, with no flow meter, continuous chlorine monitoring, water storage, or backup power. These limitations left the system with little resilience as the neighborhood began to grow. As part of its approval from the Missouri Public Service Commission, Confluence Rivers committed to bringing the system up to Missouri Department of Natural Resources design standards.

Confluence Rivers moved steadily to modernize the system. A flow meter was installed on the well, providing operators with accurate production data for the first time. The well house was rehabilitated, and the chlorine feed system was rebuilt with new pumps, a chlorine analyzer, and pH and chlorine sensors, allowing for continuous disinfection monitoring. Three new high-service booster pumps were installed to maintain consistent water pressure. Fire hydrants were replaced, and a flush hydrant was added to improve fire protection and system maintenance. The wellhead was also protected with new bollards. Most recently, a new greensand filter was installed to remove iron from the water supply, and a new backup generator was placed into service, helping maintain water service to residents during power outages.

Confluence Rivers has invested over $696,000 in the Auburn Lakes water system through acquisition, system improvements, and ongoing operations. With a ground storage tank currently in design, the system is continuing to build capacity and resilience. These improvements will support continued neighborhood growth while positioning Auburn Lakes to provide safe, reliable water service as the subdivision moves toward full build-out.

Facility at Acquisition



Original well house and pressure tank

Upgrade Work



Installing piping for the new greensand filter



Wiring the new high-service booster pumps