

PINON PINES MUTUAL WATER COMPANY

www.pinonpineswater.com

1st Quarter Update
January 1, 2022

MESSAGE FROM THE WATER SYSTEM MANAGER:

Fluoride Mitigation Project:

The long-awaited State Grant to improve our water system has been approved. The State Water Resources Control Board is still reviewing the final plans and specs. We anticipate going out to bid for the construction of the project as soon as plans and specs are approved. Construction should begin on a new well, a blending station, and a new storage tank sometime during 2022, depending on various state reviews. We hope to complete construction by March 2023. The goal of this project is to facilitate the supply of clean, safe drinking water and replace two of our aging water storage tanks.

Water Meters:

We have installed water meters on all 273 active customers connections. We plan on installing smart water meters on all of the remaining ~5 connections to our system as soon as weather permits. We are now able to let customers know how much water they are using, and let them compare their usage with what we consider a safe yield for our water resources. **We will not begin billing based on metered usage until a full rate study has been completed, using the data collected from some or all of the meters.** This process will likely extend through March 2022.

Winter Weather:

As we weather the cold this winter, keep an eye out for broken pipes. An unnoticed broken pipe can waste huge amounts of water in a very short period of time. Please make sure all your pipes are well insulated. If you find yourself without water pressure this winter, feel free to contact us and we will help to identify the problem. Usually, the waterline entering your home has frozen. Apply heat to the water line entering your home as soon as possible with something like a hair dryer or a space heater to help the pipes thaw.

New Operator/Manager

Please help us to welcome our new Operator/Manager, Chuck Winagura, as he begins to learn this new role. Chuck has been a mountain resident on and off for 26 years and looks forward to serving our community.

New Billing Format:

We are continuing to try out new software that will enable billing based on usage once the meters are all installed. Also, we are working towards accepting ACH and debit/credit card payments. Hopefully, this feature will be functional by the next quarterly billing.

If you have had a meter installed, the new invoices will also detail your usage history in cubic feet. A cubic foot of water is 7.48 gallons. The average person uses approximately 200 cubic feet per month. If your household usage exceeds this amount, please look for ways to conserve.

YOUR WATER BOARD MEMBERS ARE:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Brandon Grosh, President | (661) 295-4900 |
| William Vanek, Vice President | (818) 451-9329 |
| Dave Adams, Treasurer | (661) 491-5022 |
| Karen Laumbach, Secretary | (661) 245-1793 |
| Roger Huff, Member-At-Large | (818) 438 3978 |

**MEETINGS ARE HELD THE
3RD TUESDAY OF EACH
MONTH AT 6:00 p.m.
at the corner of Deer Trail and
Coldwater Drive**

Please contact any of the Water Board Members or Staff if you have any questions.

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|
| Chuck Winagura, General Manager | (661) 245-4420 | This is the Maintenance number |
| Kelly Mielke, Bookkeeper | (661) 245-4003 | This is the Bookkeeping number |

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable.
Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Pinon Pines Mutual Water Company Has Levels of Fluoride Above the Drinking Water Standard

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what you should do, what happened, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Water analyses taken on 12/8/2021 showed that *the drinking water provided by Pinon Pines Mutual Water Company has a fluoride concentration above the maximum contaminant level (MCL), of 2.0 mg/L: Well #5 of 2.2 mg/L, Running Annual Average; Well #7 of 3.2 mg/L, Running Annual Average.*

What should I do?

Children under the age of nine should use an alternative source of water that is low in fluoride. You may also want to contact your dentist about proper use by young children of fluoride-containing products.

- This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. Rather, *this is an alert about your drinking water and a cosmetic dental problem that might affect children under nine years of age. At low levels, fluoride can help prevent cavities, but children drinking water containing more than 2 milligrams per liter (mg/L) of fluoride may develop cosmetic discoloration of their permanent teeth (dental fluorosis).*
- *Dental fluorosis may result in a brown staining and/or pitting of the permanent teeth. This problem occurs only in developing teeth, before they erupt from the gums. Children under nine should be provided with alternative sources of drinking water or water that has been treated to remove the fluoride to avoid the possibility of staining and pitting of their permanent teeth. You may also want to contact your dentist about proper use by young children of fluoride-containing products. Older children and adults may safely drink the water.*
- *Drinking water containing more than 4 mg/L of fluoride can increase your risk of developing bone disease. Although bone disease may develop in anyone exposed to years of drinking water containing more than 4 mg/L of fluoride, dental fluorosis can occur after a relatively short period of exposure (i.e. months) in children under the age of nine.*
- For other health issues concerning the consumption of this water, you may wish to consult your doctor.
- *Some home water treatment units are also available to remove fluoride from drinking water. To learn more about available home water treatment units, you may call the California Department of Public Health, Water Treatment Device Unit at (916) 449-5600 or visit the Department's website at:*
- http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/device/watertreatmentdevices.shtml

What happened? What is being done?

Fluoride contamination is rarely due to human activity. Fluoride occurs naturally in some areas and is found in high concentrations in some of our source water.

We are working with the California State Water Resource Control Board on a funding project to install a blending station and new well to mitigate the fluoride problem.

For more information, please call Austin Mielke of Pinon Pines Mutual Water Company, at (661) 245-4420. Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly.