

# PINON PINES MUTUAL WATER COMPANY

[www.pinonpineswater.com](http://www.pinonpineswater.com)

1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Update  
January 1, 2023

## **MESSAGE FROM THE WATER SYSTEM MANAGER:**

### ***Fluoride Mitigation Project:***

After careful consideration by the PPMWC Board of Directors with the recommendation of our engineering firm, Quad Knopf, a contractor has been awarded the bid. We will be working with Unified Field Services on our Fluoride Mitigation Project. Information has been turned over to the State Water Resources Control Board along with the Final Budget Approval (FBA). The FBA can take up to six months to be approved by the State so we will not be able to move ahead until middle to late Spring of 2023. We will be sure to let you know the construction time frame as soon as we are aware and able to move forward with our new well drilling, tank demo and construction, as well as the construction of the blending station. Thank you for your patience as we work through this and remember, this project will aid in our continuing effort to supply clean, safe drinking water and replace our aging storage tanks.

### ***New Metered Billing:***

As everyone is aware, a new metered billing will begin this year. As a reminder, your current bill will be just the Metered Base Rate of \$81.00/month which comes out to \$243.00/quarter. In April, the beginning of the second quarter, your bill will be the Metered Base Rate plus your Previous Quarters Usage (Jan, Feb, Mar). The Usage Rate is \$1.00/Hundred Cubic Feet (HCF). To figure that out, you can find your total usage in Cubic Feet (CF) for the quarter and divide that by 100. For example, if your usage for the first quarter is in the Average of our Pinon Pines customers you would have used 2,571 CF and then divide that by 100 equaling 25.71 HCF. That means, your bill in April would be \$243.00 (Base Rate) plus \$25.71 (Metered Rate) which equals \$268.71. For those of you that have automatic payments being made by your bank, you can continue to send them in monthly at \$81.00 or quarterly at \$243.00. Please remember though, this will not cover your usage rate. You will need to provide an extra payment through your bank, credit card on our website, cash or check by mail or drop box at our office door. If you want to make a payment in person at our office, please call ahead to make sure someone will be there.

### ***Winter Weather Preparations:***

We hope everyone enjoyed their Holiday Season with their loved ones and made many memories to cherish. One memory none of us cherish though are broken water lines. Please take the time to make sure your outside irrigation lines are shut off and drained down. Double check that any exposed lines have proper insulation and or heat tape around them. Spend a couple dollars at the hardware store buying insulation covers for your hose bibbs as well if they need it. Service calls in the winter tend to be due to no water and generally we find that the water lines that enter the home are either frozen or have burst from being frozen. If you find your line frozen, apply heat as soon as possible to the line entering your home with a space heater or even a hair dryer. Remember, taking a few minutes to plan ahead can save our precious resource of water and save your pocketbook now that we have moved into the new metered billing.

### ***Water Conservation:***

We have really worked together as a community to continue conserving water. PPMWC is still developing the now required Drought Preparedness and Response Policy, and it will be turned in to the State by June 1<sup>st</sup> of 2023. Once it is turned into the State and approved, we will be sure to provide that information to everyone so we can all actively participate in saving our precious resource for generations to come!

### ***New Billing Format and Payment Availability:***

We now accept debit/credit card payments through our web portal or over the phone for your convenience. There is a fee of 2.9% + \$.30 per transaction. The invoice will detail your usage history in cubic feet, and a cubic foot of water is equal to 7.48 gallons.

### **YOUR WATER BOARD MEMBERS ARE:**

Brandon Grosh, President	(661) 295-4900
William Vanek, Vice President	(818) 451-9329
Dave Hymes, Treasurer	(818) 399-7307
Debbie Smith, Secretary	(818) 625-6472
Roger Huff, Member-At-Large	(818) 438 3978

**BOARD MEETINGS ARE  
HELD THE 3RD TUESDAY OF  
EACH MONTH AT 6:00 p.m.  
1001 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
Santa Carruth, 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 12/8/2022 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 2.1 mg/L, Running Annual Average; Well #7 of 3.1 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](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 Chuck Winagura 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.*