

**PINON PINES MUTUAL WATER COMPANY**

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

1ST QUARTER UPDATE

January 1st, 2018

**MESSAGE FROM THE WATER SYSTEM MANAGER:**

***Board Opening:***

We have an opening on our Board of Directors. If you are interested in helping to guide the direction of our water company, or would like more information, please contact any of the individuals listed on the next page, or email us at [pinonpineswater@gmail.com](mailto:pinonpineswater@gmail.com).

***Fluoride Variance:***

This quarter we have been revising our grant application for funds from the California Water Resource Control Board, after receiving a request to update some of our environmental documentation. Self Help Enterprises has been fundamental in helping us in this task. Once the application is submitted, it is expected to take 6-9 months to get a funding agreement. Once funding is secured, construction can begin on a new well, a blending station, and a new storage tank. We hope to complete construction during 2019/2020.

***Water Meters:***

We have begun to plan for installing water meters on our water system. This year we plan on installing a few meters on a voluntary basis, to determine how much it will cost to install the meters on the rest of the system. 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 take until 2021.

***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.

***Water Conservation:***

Our water table is currently as low as we have ever seen it this time of year. We would like to ask everyone to check out our new water apportionment plan on our website to see what you can do to save water. Please look at your water use practices and make sure that you are using your water efficiently. Our water comes from below our feet, and if over exhausted, it can require costly measures to find a new source of safe drinking water. If we do not get much precipitation this winter, we may be required to enact more strict water conservation measures in the spring.

**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. A water analysis taken on 10/2/2018 showed that some of *the drinking water provided by Pinon Pines Mutual Water Company has a fluoride concentration of 3.3 mg/L, Running Annual Average*. This is above the maximum contaminant level (MCL), of 2.0 mg/L.

## 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 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.*

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

Brandon Grosh, President	(661) 755-2192
Larry Borcherding, Vice President	(661) 245-1408
Karen Laumbach, Secretary	(661) 245-0786
John Everroad, At-Large	(661) 645-4831

**MEETINGS ARE HELD THE  
4th MONDAY OF EACH  
MONTH AT 6:30 p.m.  
at the corner of Deer Trail and  
Coldwater Drive**

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

Austin Mielke, General Manager	(661) 245-4420	This is also the Maintenance number
Kelly Mielke, Bookkeeper	(661) 245-4003	This is also the Bookkeeping number