

# PINON PINES MUTUAL WATER COMPANY

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

2ND QUARTER UPDATE

April 1, 2019

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

### ***New Board Director:***

We recently filled an opening on our Board of Directors. We are excited to welcome Dave Adams as the newest member of our team. Dave is an experienced businessman and familiar with California water issues, having spent many years in the agriculture industry.

### ***Fluoride Variance:***

This quarter we submitted our grant application for funds from the California Water Resource Control Board. Currently they are reviewing our application and will hopefully be preparing us a funding agreement this year. 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. 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 started on our plan to install water meters on our customer's connections. This year we plan on installing at least 10 smart water meters on select homes. This will help to determine how much it will cost to install meters throughout the rest of the system and to begin estimating how much water is being sold/lost in 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.

### ***Spring Cleaning:***

As the weather warms up many of us will be turning the sprinklers on again. Be sure to check your irrigation systems for leaks as you turn them on. Water left in the system to freeze over winter, even when shut off, can cause damage to pipes, valves, and heads that will waste water if not repaired.

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

Our water table is currently very low for this time of year. We would like to ask everyone to review our water apportionment plan on our website and consider following some suggested habits in order 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. We have had above average precipitation this winter, however the water table has not yet risen accordingly. Sometimes it takes years of good winters to make up for several years of drought. At this time, we do not feel it is warranted to change the water conservation suggestions.

## **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 1/10/2019 showed that some of *the drinking water provided by Pinon Pines Mutual Water Company has a fluoride concentration of 3.4 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 Borcharding, Vice President	(661) 245-1408
Dave Adams, Treasurer	
Karen Laumbach, Secretary	(661) 245-1793
John Everroad, At-Large	(661) 645-4831

**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 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