

PINON PINES MUTUAL WATER COMPANY

www.pinonpineswater.com

1st Quarter Update
January 1, 2020

MESSAGE FROM THE WATER SYSTEM MANAGER:

Rates:

The water rates for 2020 will increase \$5.00 per lot. We have been allocating the rate increases to our Capital Improvement Fund, in order to have cash reserves available for the repair and replacement of our aging infrastructure.

New Billing Software and ACH:

We are currently looking into a new billing software program to streamline our invoicing and enable us to accept credit card and ACH payments. We hope to have this feature available by April 1st.

Fluoride Mitigation Project:

Last year we submitted our grant application for funds from the California Water Resource Control Board to start construction on our project. Currently they are finalizing the review of our application and will hopefully prepare a funding agreement in the coming months. 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 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 installing water meters on some customer's connections. This year we plan on installing smart water meters on half of the connections to our system. Once a meter is connected, we will be 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 take until 2021. If your residence is selected for a meter installation, you will be given a notice with more information about what to expect.

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 fix 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 quickly.

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 10/9/2019 showed that some of *the drinking water provided by Pinon Pines Mutual Water Company has a fluoride concentration of 3.5 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

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) 295-4900
Larry Borcharding, Vice President	(661) 245-1408
Dave Adams, Treasurer	(661) 491-5022
Karen Laumbach, Secretary	(661) 245-1793
John Everroad, At-Large	(661) 645-4831

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