

PINON PINES MUTUAL WATER COMPANY

www.pinonpineswater.com

2nd Quarter Update

April 1, 2020

MESSAGE FROM THE WATER SYSTEM MANAGER:

COVID-19:

We are currently monitoring advisories from the State Water Resources Control Board regarding COVID-19. The provision of potable water to our customers is an essential function and we will continue to operate in a normal capacity. According to the World Health Organization, the “presence of the COVID-19 virus has not been detected in drinking water supplies and based on current evidence the risk to water supplies is low.” Public water systems that utilize groundwater sources maintain protective physical measures, including soil barriers, to ensure that water sources are protected from pathogens, including viruses. The most up to date information regarding coronavirus and your drinking water can be found at our website.

New Billing Software and ACH:

We are setting up 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 July 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 up to 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 extend through 2021. When your residence is selected for a meter installation, you will be given a notice with more information about what to expect.

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 depressurized, can cause damage to pipes, valves, and sprinkler heads that will waste large amounts of water if not repaired.

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 3/5/2020 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

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