

**PINON PINES MUTUAL WATER COMPANY**

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

1st Quarter Update

January 1, 2021

**MESSAGE FROM THE WATER SYSTEM MANAGER:**

***Fluoride Mitigation Project:***

Early in 2019 we submitted our grant application for funds from the California Water Resource Control Board to start construction on our project. Currently they are still finalizing the funding agreement for our project. They are taking a painstakingly long time to complete this process and we are doing our best to encourage them along. **If you are interested in getting involved, feel free to contact our state Assemblymember, Vince Fong, regarding how long the State is taking to help your water district.**

<https://ad34.asmrc.org/> <or> (661) 395-2995

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 2021 if the state can get us the money soon. 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 installed water meters on over 100 customers connections. This year we plan on installing smart water meters on most of the remaining 200 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 the end of 2021. When your residence is selected for a meter installation, you will be given a notice with more information about what to expect.

***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)

***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 water line 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. Water analyses taken on 12/10/2020 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 2.2 mg/L, Running Annual Average; Well #7 of 3.3 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 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  
Vice President- Vacancy

(661) 295-4900

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