

# PINON PINES MUTUAL WATER COMPANY

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

3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Update

July 1, 2022

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

### ***Fluoride Mitigation Project:***

The State Water Resources Control Board has reviewed and approved the final plans and specifications. We anticipate the project going out to bid in the next month or two so we can begin the construction of our new well, blending station, and new storage tank. Although we are still aiming for construction to be completed by March of 2023, it may take a little longer since we are behind our projected schedule at this point. This project will aid in our continuing effort to supply clean, safe drinking water and replace our aging storage tanks.

### ***Water Meters:***

Now that we have installed smart meters on all of our customers connections, we are 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. The meters are just one of the tools we plan to use towards our water conservation practices and are currently waiting on assistance with a rate study to go along with it. Currently, there is no timeframe established as of this moment for metered billing, but we can use the information the meters give us as a way to monitor our water use and conservation. **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 the meters.**

### ***New Board Members:***

Please help us welcome Debbie Smith and Dave Hymes as the newest members of the Board of Directors. Debbie Smith has had a seat on the Board in the past and brings plenty of experience and knowledge to the table as she fills the position of Secretary. Dave Hymes, although new to the Board and water in general, brings an attitude of mindfulness and service to the community as he fills the position of Treasurer. Although there are currently no openings on the Board, we welcome the participation and company of our community. We meet at 1001 Coldwater Dr. on the third Tuesday of every month at 6 pm.

### ***Summer Weather and Water Conservation:***

The temperatures are rising and so is our use of water. While there is nothing like running through the sprinklers on a bed of lush green grass, we must remember that California is in a drought. September of 2021, Gov. Gavin Newsom asked Californians to voluntarily cut water use by 15% - 20% and that Water Suppliers Statewide activate "Level 2" of their contingency plans. Our community, by itself, is doing alright with our water supply as we received almost 11" of water this year. However, this doesn't mean we are out of the woods and free from drought. While PPMWC is developing the, now required, Drought Preparedness and Response Policy, we ask that you try to limit watering of your beautiful yards to just two times a week. To make the most of your water and limit evaporation, please water before 8 a.m. or after 6 p.m. If you find that your lawns and trees need a third day of watering to maintain the beautiful appearance that we are all accustomed to, please do so. This is just one recommendation to begin the practice of water conservation. If you feel that you may have a leak on your property, give us a call at (661) 245-4420. We would be happy to come assist you so that we can all do our part to conserve whatever water we can.

### ***New Billing Format and Payment Availability:***

As promised, we have listened to our community. We now accept debit/credit card payments through our web portal or over the phone for your convenience. There is a fee of 2.9% + \$.30 per transaction.

- A) Go to [www.pinonpineswater.com](http://www.pinonpineswater.com)
- B) Click on "Pay My Bill"
- C) Use your Account No. to set up or access your account
  - a. Please call us if you don't know your account number (it is on your invoice)
- D) You can also see your account history and send us a message through this portal

Remember, the new invoices will detail your usage history in cubic feet. A cubic foot of water is 7.48 gallons. The average person uses approximately 200 cubic feet per month. The average household uses, indoor and outdoor combined, roughly 1,220 cubic feet per month. If your household usage exceeds this amount, please look for ways to conserve.

**YOUR WATER BOARD MEMBERS ARE:**

Brandon Grosh, President	(661) 295-4900
William Vanek, Vice President	(818) 451-9329
Dave Hymes, Treasurer	(818) 399-7307
Debbie Smith, Secretary	(818) 625-6472
Roger Huff, Member-At-Large	(818) 438 3978

<p><b>MEETINGS ARE HELD THE 3RD TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 6:00 p.m. at the corner of Deer Trail and Coldwater Drive</b></p>
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Please contact any of the Water Board Members or Staff if you have any questions.

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

**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 3/9/2022 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 3.2 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 Chuck Winagura 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.*