

# PINERY PIPELINE



## FROM YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Pinery Water and Wastewater Board of Directors continually review our operations to make sure we are providing long term quality water and wastewater systems at the lowest possible cost.

We employ outside consultants to review our operating practices, as well as rates and fees, to make sure we are meeting our goals. Last year we reviewed many of our operating procedures and we are utilizing consultants to review our rates and fees this year. Policy objectives for this particular study are to provide revenue stability, conservation/demand management and class equity.

When we look at class equity, we are aware of several retired families in our District living on fixed incomes. We try to maintain lower rates for those who conserve water, or have smaller households, however, there are certain fixed costs which apply to all.

All homes and lots have water and sewer connections; the infrastructure must exist and be maintained to provide these two services. This fixed monthly cost for all is \$42.92 for sewer and \$29.22 for water. In addition, we have a water project fee of \$12.50 per month. This fee is being used to expand water supplies to ensure we do not deplete our Denver Basin aquifers.

Therefore, the lowest possible cost if one doesn't use any water, is \$84.64 per month. Unfortunately, there is no way to decrease this base cost. The District oversees state of the art sewer and water systems including hundreds of miles of pipelines, and over 8,000 water and sewer lot connections, with less than 20 full time employees. It should be noted that employees of the District have incentives to operate safely and at the lowest possible cost for you, our customers.

We also provide a tiered billing which rewards conservation. In other words, the more gallons you use the higher the cost per gallon.

It is also important to know that when service for new development is required, the Developer pays their share of the cost for existing assets as well as the cost for additional capacity, if required. This is called a "tap fee." For 2017, new lot tap fees are a minimum of \$38,995 per lot.

If you have any specific questions you would like answered in future Pinery Pipeline issues, please send your questions to:

Pinery Water and Wastewater District  
Attention: Board of Directors  
5242 Old Schoolhouse Rd.  
Parker, CO 80134



Thank you. Enjoy a Safe Summer!

Walt Partridge, Board Chairman



Don't forget to join us at our District Office for our regularly held Board Meetings at 6:30pm on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month

Our next Board Meeting will be held at 6:30pm on Wednesday, July 19, 2017

### Courtesy Watering Schedule - Summer

We ask the following of all residents in the District:

- No watering on Fridays
- No watering between 10:00am - 6:00pm

## **The Water Infrastructure and Supply Efficiency (WISE) Partnership**

The WISE Project is a first-of-its-kind partnership with South Metro Water, Denver Water and Aurora Water that bolsters water supplies to the south Denver suburbs while maximizing existing water assets in Denver and Aurora. The Pinery Water and Wastewater District is a participant in this revolutionary water supply project. It has been investing in infrastructure improvements for the last several years to deliver renewable and reusable WISE water to the District. One of the final steps to be ready to accept WISE water is to transition the District's water disinfection system from Chlorine to Chloramine.

### **What are Chloramines?**

Currently, the District uses low levels of chlorine to disinfect the drinking water. Chlorination is effective at killing bacteria and viruses that may be harmful when ingested. Chloramine is created when ammonia is added to chlorinated water in controlled doses.

### **Is this a new treatment method?**

No. Many water utilities across the country have been using chloramine disinfection for decades; Denver Water has actually used this method since 1917! Some other local water providers using chloramines include the Town of Castle Rock, Centennial Water and Sanitation District (Highlands Ranch), Aurora Water, Castle Pines, Thornton and the City of Westminster

### **Why is the District changing to Chloramines?**

Chloramines help reduce the level of certain potentially harmful byproducts that may be created by disinfecting with just chlorine. In addition, chloramines last longer in the distribution system, meaning the water remains safer, longer.

### **When will this conversion take place?**

The District is currently targeting the third week in March 2018 to convert the entire water supply from chlorine to chloramine.

### **Will I notice a change in my water?**

Customers shouldn't notice any change in the water as chloraminated water has no odor or taste. With that being said, the chlorine smell and taste in our water should be less apparent.

### **Are there any individuals that should pay special attention to the change?**

Chloraminated water is perfectly safe for drinking, cooking, bathing and other daily water uses. There are two groups of people who need to take special precautions with chloraminated water such as those who use the tap water for kidney dialysis machines and fish owners. Chloramines (like chlorine) are harmful when, rather than being ingested, they go directly into the bloodstream.

### **Does my home water softener remove chloramines?**

Most home water softeners are not designed to remove chloramines.

### **Will my faucet filter remove chloramines?**

Yes. However, it must be a high-quality granular activated carbon filter with enough contact time.

### **Can Chloramines be removed by boiling water?**

No. Boiling water will not remove the chloramines from the water.

**Please visit [pinerywater.com](http://pinerywater.com) for additional information**