

MAY 2019

PINERY PIPELINE



From your board of directors

The Pinery Water District is on a Mission for you with the Vision of providing "Quality Water (to you) for LIFE". The next time you see one of the District vehicles in your neighborhood, you might notice this slogan on its tailgate. There is meaning behind it. With Values for the community which include open lines of communication, staff teamwork, professionalism and safety, the overall objective is to do the right things for the right reasons.

The acronym "LIFE" portrays the Mission and how the Vision is to be fulfilled:

LONG TERM SUSTAINABILITY (L)

The District has the obligation to provide quality water to every household in the District. Believe it or not, this is a real challenge! Presently there are over 4,400 homes with a buildout projection of around 5,700, and while most of the water comes from Cherry Creek, more water is needed than can be provided from this source alone. The Water Infrastructure and Supply Efficiency (WISE) program along with the Walker Reservoir project are two long term solutions to this dilemma.

Innovative Solutions (I)

This challenge is being met through some incredible innovation by the District staff and management. What they have done over the past several years is really impressive. A good example of innovation was taking advantage of our excess water supply capacity from the WISE project. The District is selling the excess capacity to two neighboring water districts, which may allow for using the proceeds to reduce debt. Another example is trading water supplies with other districts, reducing expense, the saving from which are passed along to you. Both are great innovative solutions.

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY (F)

When it comes to financial matters, the cost of service keeps increasing while the District is doing its best trying to hold the line on price increases to you, the customer. The objective is not profit oriented, but rather is the attempt to break even. This year the District kept prices the same as in 2018 and is partially the result of management control over expenses.

Excellent Service (E)

The District presently has 22 staff members each focused on making sure that quality water flows when you turn on your faucet. All too often this is taken for granted. From the front desk to the maintenance crew, electrician, construction inspector, billing supervisor, water and wastewater operators and superintendents, engineers, analysts, and District Manager they all know what's important: Take care of the customer.

So next time, give the person you see in the vehicle a Thumbs up!

Please join us at our District Office for our regularly held Board Meetings at 6:30pm on the 3rd Wednesday of each month.

Upcoming Board Meetings will be held at 6:30 pm on Wednesday, May 15, 2019
Wednesday, June 19, 2019









Steve Tinnes,
Treasurer, Pinery Water and Wastewater
District Board of Directors

Why is My Water Bill So High?

An unusually high water bill is most often caused by a leak or change in water use. Some common causes of high water bills include:

- A leaking toilet, or a toilet that continues to run after being flushed
- A dripping faucet; a faucet drip can waste 20 gallons of water a day or more
- Filling or topping off a swimming pool or hot tub
- Watering the lawn, new grass, or trees; also check for an open hose spigots
- Humidifiers attached to the furnace that are improperly adjusted or not working correctly
- Kids home for summer vacations or school holidays; guests
- Water-cooled air conditioners
- A broken water pipe or obvious leak; check the pipes in the basement or crawlspace; the water heater could also be leaking
- Water softener problems – cycles continuously
- Running the water to avoid freezing water pipes during cold weather

Leak Size	Gallons Per Day	Gallons Per Month
 A dripping leak consumes:	15 gallons	450 gallons
 A 1/32 in. leak consumes:	264 gallons	7,920 gallons
 A 1/16 in. leak consumes:	943 gallons	28,300 gallons
 A 1/8 in. leak consumes:	3,806 gallons	114,200 gallons
 A 1/4 in. leak consumes:	15,226 gallons	456,800 gallons
 A 1/2 in. leak consumes:	60,900 gallons	1,827,000 gallons

The most common one that is seen is a leaking toilet. Below you can find an assessment you can do on your toilet to see if you have a leak. How much a leak can add to usage: <http://www.precision-locating.com/waterleaks.html>

Do-it-yourself Toilet Assessment

- First check for the most common leak: a deteriorated or defected flush valve (flapper) ball at the bottom of the toilet tank. If it does not make a tight seal water will leak into the toilet bowl. To check for a leaky toilet follow these steps
 1. Take the lid off of the tank behind the bowl, flush the toilet, and then wait for it to fully refill.
 2. Put a few drops of dye or a colored dye tablet (food coloring works well) in the tank.
 3. Wait at least 20 minutes; longer if you suspect it is a small leak.
 4. If there is any color in the toilet bowl, there is a leak.

The second most common type of leak has to do with an improperly adjusted or broken fill (ballcock) valve. To check for this take the lid off of the toilet tank, flush, and see if water is draining into the overflow tubes when the tank is full.

(Read more about leaks from the original site: <https://www.cityofdavison.org/DocumentCenter/View/402/Common-Causes-of-High-Water-Bills?bidId=>)

A very special thanks!!

Hopefully all the “Bomb Cyclones” are behind us and spring will start warming up soon. Sometimes during intense weather like blizzards and thunderstorms we experience interruptions in electricity. One thing that most people don’t know is that without power, we can’t pump water to our customers. When we do lose power, we work very hard to keep the water and wastewater facilities functioning until electrical service is restored. During the March “bomb cyclone”, with all the power outages, we lost remote control contact and power to most of our pumping facilities. The District worked through the night (literally), slept on cots at the office, and several times had to hike into facilities through the blizzard with tools in a back pack because the vehicles could not get through the snow and drifts. This is the type of dedication and commitment to *Excellent Service* that we have on staff here at the District. The Board of Directors here at the Pinery wanted to publicly acknowledge the District staff for keeping the water flowing to our faucets during a time when many other critical services were lost. **Well done and thank you!**



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