

OCTOBER 2019

PINERY PIPELINE



From your board of directors

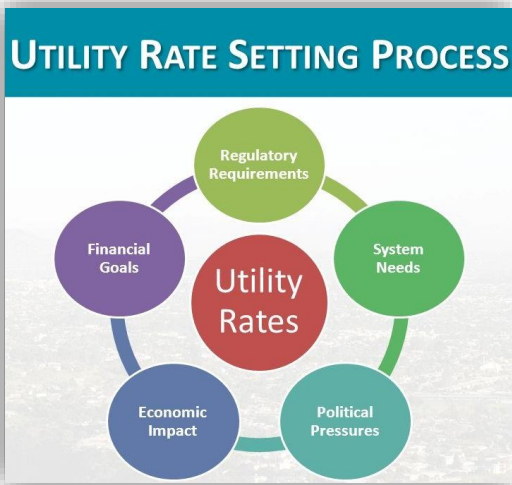
As summer wraps up and the weather turns colder it is time for us to look forward at the District's plans for next year. There will be a lot of time at the next two Board meetings devoted to financial planning for next year and we encourage anyone to attend and help steer the directions of your District.

At the October Special Board meeting scheduled for October 21st, the Board will be reviewing the final draft of the 2020 District Budget and plans to schedule a Public Hearing for November 20, 2019 to gather comments from the community. The District anticipates spending approximately \$13.4M for water and sewer operations, repair and maintenance and capital improvements.

Please join us at our District Office for our monthly held Board Meetings. The monthly meeting has been scheduled to a special time for October.

Monday, Oct. 21st, 2019 at 6:30pm

Wednesday, Nov. 20th, 2019 at 6:30pm



The Board will also be reviewing proposed changes to the water and sewer rates in 2020. Along with the proposed changes to the rates and fees, District staff prepares a comparison of Pinery's rates to its neighboring water providers. So, if you want to see what you are spending on water and sewer service compared to your neighbors, visit the website in late October when the proposed draft 2020 budget and Rates and Fees Schedule fees are posted. Right now, it appears that the Residential customers will see no increase to their water rates or fees for the second year in a row.

Next year, the Board will update its long-term financial plan and investigate any revisions to the current rates structure by update its 2017 Rates and Fees Study. One of the District's four mission statements is to be fiscally responsible to our customers. Being responsible and accountable to you, the customer, means that the District routinely makes sure its rates are adequate to maintain the District's financial integrity while remaining fair and equitable to the customers. This effort will consist of a series of Board workshops (during regularly scheduled monthly Board meetings) that are open to the public throughout next year. The final product will be a clear financial roadmap for the District over the next few years. So please make plans to be informed about the District's rate making process.



Heidi Tackett,
Board Secretary, Pinery Water and Wastewater District Board of Directors



Picture from:
<https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/evergreenmetro/news/winterizing-your-sprinkler-system>

It's time to blow out those sprinklers

Don't let these warm fall days fool you. Our first frost is right around the corner. As you are doing your last lawn maintenance for the year and putting all your gardening tools away, it is time to think about winterizing your sprinkler system. When the frost level reaches the below depth of the irrigation system, winterizing your system can help prevent damage from freezing and ward off costly repairs in the spring. Below are some tips from Rain Bird Irrigation Manufacturing Company to help you winterize your system.

1. Insulate your assets:
 - Shut off the water that supplies your irrigation system. You need to protect your main shut off valve for your irrigation system from the freezing temperatures. You can protect it from freezing by wrapping it with insulation (insulation can be found at any home supply store). If you do not have a main shut off valve for your irrigation system,

you may want to consider installing one as a preventative measure. You also want to make sure any above ground pipes are insulated as well.

1. Stay in control:
 - If you have an automatic irrigation system you will need to shut down the controller (timer). Most controllers have a rain mode which will shut off the signals to the valves and keep all your programmed information. If your controller also activates a pump for your system, make sure you disconnect those wires so that you don't cause overheating damage. An alternative to the rain mode is to shut off the power to the controller. If you do this, you will have to reprogram all settings in the spring.
2. Drain the pipes:
 - Now you need to remove all the water from your pipes so that it won't freeze, expand, and break your pipes. There are a couple different ways that this can be done. However, since there could be a safety risk, we recommend you contact a local irrigation specialist.
3. Protect your valves and backflow preventers:
 - If you have any valves or a backflow preventer that is above ground, make sure that you insulate them just like the pipes and main shut off. Be sure not to block the air vents and drain the outlets on the backflow preventer.



The above photo is a sprinkler system being blown out.
<https://sabhomes.com/winterizing-sprinkler-system/>

(For more information go to <https://www.rainbird.com/homeowners/how-do-i-winterize-my-irrigation-system> and <https://www.hunterindustries.com/winterizing-your-irrigation-system>)

ATTENTION: Are you tired of missing your water bill payment or having to find your check book to send in payment? Those days are in the past because we offer free automatic payments using your bank account. Your bill is then paid without you thinking about it, you never have a late fee and you don't have to locate a check. You can find our sign-up form on our website under 'rates, fees, and forms'. Sign up today and take the stress away! You can also pay your bill through your online banking. Just look for "bill pay", search Pinery Water, submit your payment, and your payment gets applied to your water account in one to two days with no fees!

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