

JANUARY 2020

PINERY PIPELINE



From your board of directors

Welcome to a new and prosperous year! Hope everyone made it safely through the Holiday Season without any mishaps. I talked with my son who lives in Liberty Lake, WA., just before Thanksgiving 2019, and he told me the Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District had found E. coli in the water delivery system in his area. They were passing out free bottled water and asking people who live in the area to boil water used for drinking, brushing teeth, dishwashing, preparing food, making ice, and while taking a shower keep water out of eyes and mouth. I thought E. coli bacteria (Escherichia coli) only came from lettuce or romaine. However, I've learned that E. coli can come from:

- Private wells contaminated with feces from infected humans and animals.
- Sewage overflow.
- Sewage overflow systems that are not working properly.
- Polluted storm water runoff and agricultural runoff.
- Wells may be more vulnerable to such contamination after flooding, particularly if the well is shallow, have been bored or have been submerged by floodwater for a long period of time.

E. coli can cause nausea, vomiting, stomach cramps, diarrhea, fever of 100-101F, malaise, loss of appetite, and mild dehydration. You can kill the E. coli bacteria by boiling the water for 1 minute (3 minutes above 6500' elevation), let the water cool down, place in a clean container with a tight lid and refrigerate.

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) mandates rules and regulations for our safety related to water supply:

- Our 8 alluvial wells (shallow wells near the Cherry Creek) and 6 deep irrigation wells have a fence and concrete sanitary seal to protect against well contamination. Two of the deep wells also have a lockable steel mesh basket over the well head.
- We use chloramine water disinfectant treatment procedure (Free chlorine plus ammonia) since March 26, 2018 in our potable water supply to our customers which kills 99.99% of all bacteria and viruses. Prior to March 2018, we disinfected with free chlorine.
- We use electronic valves and sensors to dispense the right amount of free chlorine and ammonia in our potable water. The chloramine mixture is monitored 24/7 by electronics and each Friday we print out a graph for the past 7 days for the (CDPHE). If the chloramine mixture goes out of its set parameters an alarm goes off and we are required to fix the problem within 4 hours.
- We are required to sample water quality at 36 different sights (10 sites per month). We sample at 12 sites per month on a 3-month rotation and have the Colorado State lab do the analysis.

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

Upcoming Board Meetings will be held at 6:30pm on

Wednesday, Jan. 15, 2020

Wednesday, Feb. 19, 2020



The Pinery Water and Wastewater District goes above Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment mandates to provide the best quality of water to our customers at a reasonable price.

**Russ Hoakanson,
Board Member, Pinery Water and
Wastewater District Board of Directors**

Are Your Pipes Ready for Winter?!

Winter is fast approaching and each year the District receives calls from homeowners with no water due to freezing. Here are some tips to help prevent and thaw frozen pipes at home.

How to Prevent Frozen Pipes

- Keep garage doors closed if there are water supply lines in the garage.
- Open kitchen and bathroom cabinet doors to allow warmer air to circulate around the plumbing. Be sure to move any harmful cleaners and household chemicals up out of the reach of children.
- When the weather is very cold outside, let the cold water drip from the faucet served by exposed pipes. Running water through the pipe - even at a trickle - helps prevent pipes from freezing.
- If you will be going away during cold weather, leave the heat on in your home, set to a temperature no lower than 55° F.

How to Thaw Frozen Pipes

- If you turn on a faucet and only a trickle comes out, suspect a frozen pipe. Likely places for frozen pipes include against exterior walls or where your water service enters your home through the foundation.
- Keep the faucet open. As you treat the frozen pipe and the frozen area begins to melt, water will begin to flow through the frozen area. Running water through the pipe will help melt ice in the pipe.
- Apply heat to the section of pipe using an electric heating pad wrapped around the pipe, an electric hair dryer, a portable space heater (kept away from flammable materials), or by wrapping pipes with towels soaked in hot water. Do not use a blowtorch, kerosene or propane heater, charcoal stove, or other open flame device.
- Apply heat until full water pressure is restored. If you are unable to locate the frozen area, if the frozen area is not accessible, or if you cannot thaw the pipe, call a licensed plumber.
- Check all other faucets in your home to find out if you have additional frozen pipes. If one pipe freezes, others may freeze, too.

Reference: <http://www.redcross.org/get-help/how-to-prepare-for-emergencies/types-of-emergencies/winter-storm/frozen-pipes>

Volunteer for the Pinery Water Efficiency Task Force:

The District is looking for interested resident customers that would like to be part of this proactive approach to protecting our water resources. If interested, please call our District office at (303) 841-2797 or email your interest to information@pinerywater.com.

Freezing Weather Maintenance Checklist

The infographic shows a cross-section of a house with various maintenance tasks labeled:

- Add Insulation in Your Attic
- Clean Gutters to Allow Water to Drain Freely
- Seal All Windows with Caulking or Weather Stripping
- Seal All Doors with Weather Stripping
- Insulate Pipes in a Laundry Room and Bathroom on Exterior Walls
- Buy a Roof Rake to Safely Remove Snow on Your Roof
- Insulate Pipes in Cabinets on Exterior Walls
- Prevent Tree Branches from Overhanging Your Roof/Gutters

To-do List

- Prevent Frozen Pipes
DisasterSafety.org/freezing_weather/prevent-frozen-pipes/
- Reduce Ice Dam Risks
DisasterSafety.org/freezing_weather/preventing-ice-dams-on-homes/
- Prevent Roof Collapse on Homes
DisasterSafety.org/freezing_weather/prevent-roof-collapse/
- Installing Weather Stripping & Seals
DisasterSafety.org/freezing_weather/installing-weather-stripping-seals/

Additional winter weather resources are available at DisasterSafety.org/freezing_weather

Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety

Pinery Water and Wastewater District Contact Information:

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Parker, Colorado 80134
(303) 841-2797

www.pinerywater.com
information@pinerywater.com

For after-hours emergencies,
(303) 841-2797 EXT 299