

FEBRUARY 2021

# PINERY PIPELINE



## *From your board of directors*

2020 was another year without much precipitation, resulting in exceptional drought conditions. The prognosis for 2021 is going to be about the same according to the weather folks, so it is likely you will be seeing water restriction signs if dry weather conditions persist.

Rest assured, we are not running out of water. Restrictions are put in place to make sure that residents do not demand more water than can be delivered at any given time. Successful and ongoing measures have been implemented over the past several years to make sure our supply is sustainable.

Obviously, even though we have adequate resources, wasting water is never a good thing, and since efficient use of water is relative to our sustainability, we want to emphasize that you should "Use what you need, but no more."

With this in mind, the District is going to provide you with the "Eye On Water" program that will allow you to monitor your water usage. You may or may not have heard of it. Regardless, it's a great tool that we think you will find helpful.



***The District will be installing the "EYE ON WATER" device to your water meter this year at no additional cost to you.***

All you need is internet access. It's also smartphone accessible and could prove to be helpful when you are out of town. One of its many features is leak detection, which will alert you to unusual water usage caused, for example, by a broken water pipe, leaking toilet, or malfunctioning water feature.

Upon installation, you'll receive instructions on how to utilize it. If you already have Eye on Water, the District will reimburse your personal installation expense. However, exclusions from this refund will apply when the expense was covered through tap fees, and to those who installed it to take advantage of the District's one-time high water use adjustment policy.



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

**Please join us at our District Office for our monthly held Board Meetings at 6:00pm on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month.**

**Upcoming Board Meetings will still be held digitally at 6:00pm on Wednesday, Feb. 17, 2021**

*(\*please see meeting notice for information on joining the meeting by internet.)*

**Wednesday, March 17, 2021**

## How to master the Freeze

Winter in Colorado can bring us some warm days, don't let those warm days fool you though. The next day could bring some freezing temperatures and frozen pipes with it. The District receives more calls from homeowners who have lost water service. The main culprit for the lost service is frozen water pipes. Did you know that most frozen water lines occur inside the house?



Inside your home, the slightest chilly draft near plumbing lines can freeze the water line. Homeowners are encouraged to check where their water service line enters the home and follow the piping. Small gaps in the exterior woodwork just above the top of the foundation or basement wall are the usual culprits. These gaps allow cold air from the outside to enter the room. If the basement is finished, then this cold air enters the wall. Properly insulating the water line from the cold air and caulking seams, or holes near the piping, greatly improves your chances of having uninterrupted water service in cold weather.

Rarely do water service lines freeze. They are buried in the earth nearly 5 feet down and, typically, frost does not get that deep. However, if an outside pipe does freeze, it most often occurs in a sprinkler system that has not been properly winterized or in the water meter pit. Most water meters in the District are installed in a meter pit located outside, near the front property or driveway. The ground temperature at the bottom of the meter pit typically prevents the meter from freezing. In addition, the meter cover is designed to insulate the meter from the surface temperature.

If you are away on vacation, or not occupying your home during the winter, think about having someone check your home and running the water occasionally. You might also consider turning your water off while you are away. It's after the freeze that split or broken pipes thaw out and extensive damage to your home can occur.

In the event you truly have no water, please call the District at (303) 841-2797 between 8:00am and 4:00pm for help in this situation. After hours calls will be connected to our answering service.



## GARDEN IN A BOX | PLANT A NEW PERSPECTIVE

Maybe you participated in last year's Garden in a Box program. Or maybe you've decided that this is the year you'll finally get your yard in shape – but how can you get the gorgeous, colorful garden you've always wanted without paying the professional price tag and doubling your water bill? Easy. With just a click, you can order a xeric (low-water) garden kit that's ready to pick up and plant in May. These pre-designed kits are tailored to Colorado soil, and the simple plant-by-number maps take the guesswork out of buying and planting. Plus, the garden kits can help you save around 1,000 gallons of water compared to a traditional grass lawn (not to mention savings on your water bill!)

There's a Garden in A Box to fit your budget. Gardens sell out quickly - visit [ResourceCentral.org/Gardens](https://ResourceCentral.org/Gardens) and receive \$25 discount for being a Pinery Water and Wastewater District customer. Order your water-wise Garden in A Box today!**If you have any questions or want more information about Garden in a Box, go to [ResourceCentral.org/Gardens](https://ResourceCentral.org/Gardens) or call 303-999-3820 x 222**

## SLOW THE FLOW – SOLVE YOUR SPRINKLERS

Again this year, the Pinery Water District and Resource Central are teaming up to provide a free sprinkler consultation to our customers. Resource Central technicians will run a few tests to check your sprinklers' efficiency and diagnose any problems your system might have. At the end of your consultation, which takes about 75 minutes, you will receive a customized watering schedule designed to reduce water usage and keep your lawn healthy and beautiful all summer long! **Simply call (303) 999-3824 or sign up at [ResourceCentral.org/Sprinklers](https://ResourceCentral.org/Sprinklers). Stay green, save blue.**

