

OCTOBER 2021

PINERY PIPELINE



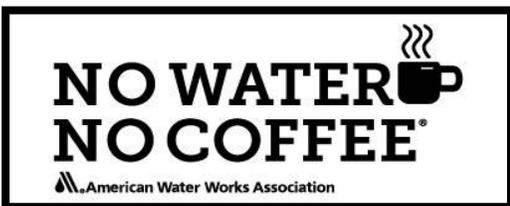
From your board of directors

The Value of Water to You

In the 40 years I have been in the business of providing clean reliable drinking water and wastewater collection and treatment, I have never been told our service rates are too cheap and we should raise them. It didn't matter if the monthly rate for both services was only \$10 or \$12 back in the early 80's. Customers thought utility rates were too high. That thought is never going to change. But when did we go from appreciating any water and/or wastewater service to expecting good water and wastewater services and now to demanding exceptional, high quality, non-interruptible water and wastewater services? I guess, the higher the costs, the higher the expectations.

The American Water Works Association (AWWA) and the Water Environment Federation (WEF), the two national organizations that represent water and wastewater professionals throughout the United States have a joint "Value of Water" campaign. This campaign started in 2015 with some great messaging. One of the messages that compliments this article is: *The true cost of water. Water is free, but the collection, transport and treatment of drinking water and wastewater is not. Your water/wastewater bill ensures that you and your community have reliable access to clean, safe water.*

The Pinery Water and Wastewater Districts basic combined water and wastewater wintertime rates are \$91.37 per month if you use 5 thousand gallons of water per month during winter months and \$112.35 per month if you use 6 thousand gallons per month during same period. These months usually represent what is necessary to meet a customer's indoor water usage needs. Let's use the higher \$112 per month and compare to other needs some of us may have.



I have two cell phones on a major provider. They have cost me \$94 per month for the last 4 years. Do I need two? Probably not. Do I want my own phone? Yes. I have paid \$175 per month for the last 4 years for cable tv/internet. I definitely need internet at home because my wife needed to start working remotely. Do I need cable tv? No, but I sure do like it. My wife thinks because she has to work from home, and I am home all day that she deserves Starbucks coffee. This is \$109 a month. Does she need it? Yes, for both our sanities. The list of needs or wants can include many things

but let's not lose focus on the value and need for water and wastewater.

A lasting legacy. Our friends and neighbors who work in the water sector have a passion for their communities and have devoted their entire careers to water safety. They work 24/7, 365 days a year to ensure that you and your family have reliable access to safe, clean water and an effective wastewater system that is protective of public health and our environment.

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

Upcoming Board Meetings will still be held digitally at 6:00pm on Wednesday, Oct. 20, 2021 (*please see meeting notice for information on joining the meeting by internet.)

Wednesday, Nov. 17, 2021

District Announcement:

The Board will hold a Public Hearing to consider fixing or increasing fees, rates, penalties or charges for Commercial, Irrigator, and Domestic Water and Sanitary Sewer Services for 2022 at the Regular public meeting on November 17, 2021 at 6:00 P.M. via Zoom. Visit pinerywater.com for link to join.



**Terry Franklin,
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.

2. 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.

3. 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.

4. 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>)

AUTOMATIC PAYMENTS

Are you tired of missing your water bill payment or having to find your check book to send in a payment? Those days are in the past because we offer automatic payments with your bank account! Your bill is then paid without you thinking about it, you never have a late fee, you don't have to locate a check, and there is no service fee! You can set up automatic payments right from your own computer as well. If you register your account on pinerywater.com, you can click "I want to set up autopay" to easily put your account on automatic payments. You can also find our printable sign-up form to mail in with a voided check and have our staff enroll you in automatic payments by going to the following link, <https://pinerywater.com/pay-options/>. Automatic payments go into effect the same day they are entered in and are withdrawn on the due date stated on your bill. Sign up today and take the stress away!

Pinery Water and Wastewater District Contact Information:

5242 Old Schoolhouse Road
Parker, Colorado 80134
(303) 841-2797

www.pinerywater.com
information@pinerywater.com

For after-hours emergencies,
(303) 841-2797 EXT 9