I wanted to provide some background to our customers on the Pinery Water and Wastewater District’s Water Resources Master Plan that is available on the district website. The plan is the culmination of a lot of work by the district staff and a consultant to examine the existing district infrastructure and water resources and provide a plan for their continued maintenance, expansion, and improvement. The expansion and improvements are needed so the district can continue to provide consistent service as we continue to move toward full buildout within our boundaries and to meet our target service levels. The Pinery Board of Directors approved the plan in June 2022. In reviewing the plan, I learned a lot about the district’s infrastructure and water resources and wanted to share some of the most interesting items:

- The district currently serves approximately 13,000 residents, which is expected to grow to over 17,000 sometime after 2050
- The district currently provides approximately 70% of water from renewable rights on Cherry Creek that is collected using 7 shallow alluvial wells
- Much of the remaining water come from non-renewable aquifer sources in the Dawson and Arapahoe formations collected using 18 deep wells
- The district is divided into 10 hydraulic zones, due to its varied elevation, with 8 pump stations moving water from lower pressure zones to higher pressure zones and numerous pressure control values moving water from higher pressure zones to lower pressure zones
- There are 13 underground storage tanks throughout the district with a combined storage capacity of 10.5 million gallons of water
- The water distribution system consists of 112 miles of pipe
- The wastewater system consists of 95 miles of pipe
- The district is consistently delivering over 1 billion gallons of water per year, but there is a lot of variability throughout the year:
  - The water demand in the highest usage month is typically 6 to 7 times that of the lowest month
  - 70% to 75% of water demand is between May and September
- Average wastewater flow has been approximately 548 gallons per minute, but in some months can exceed 1000 gallons per minute

These measures, and many more, help give me context when thinking about the current and future needs of our customers. We continue to invest in maintaining our existing resources, expanding to meet future growth, and to improve the resiliency of our system in the most cost-effective manner possible. I encourage you to look at the Water Resources Master Plan to understand more about where we are and where we are going.

Joshua Connors, Director
Pinery Water and Wastewater District

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

Upcoming Board Meetings will be held at 6:00pm on
Thursday, Sept. 15, 2022
Thursday, Oct. 20, 2022
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 spigot
- 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

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=)

EYE ON WATER

Information about your water usage is at your fingertips. The EyeOnWater app allows you to track monthly, weekly, daily, and hourly water usage. Knowing when your home is using the most water can help you find ways to conserve. The app also allows you to set custom leak alerts to help you avoid costly water waste.

Once the EyeOnWater technology has been installed, a door hanger (shown left) will be left on your door letting you know how to register to use the EyeOnWater technology. Please wait 48 hours after you receive your door tag to register as our staff needs to update our system with the new information.