

APRIL 2024

# PINERY PIPELINE



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## *From your Board of Directors*

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Happy spring! I hope everyone is enjoying the ever-increasing temperatures.

I recently had the opportunity to tour a number of our District facilities and speak with several members of our staff and I wanted to share some of the things that I learned. First, you may have seen mentioned in previous newsletters or other materials put out by the District that we will be undertaking several upgrades to our wastewater treatment plant (WWTP). Our WWTP mostly relies upon biological processes to purify water. Over time, as water fixtures have been made more efficient, this has led to less water flowing into the WWTP. The result of this is an increased concentration of solids in our wastewater. This means that to keep those biological processes functioning properly we need to upgrade equipment, such as the equipment that provides needed oxygen to the process.

We are also upgrading other components to provide greater redundancy and increase capacity in other parts of the process. There are some components that have reached an age where it is getting more difficult and costly to find parts to perform repairs, so they must be completely replaced.

Another thing that I learned relates to items such as flushable wipes. While these may be marketed as being safe for wastewater treatment systems, the fact is that they are not. These types of materials stay within the flows and then end up needing to be removed from the wastewater as it enters the WWTP. So please try to avoid introducing these into our wastewater system.

Relating to potable (drinking) water supplies, I also wanted to take a moment to provide information related to an activity many of you may have noticed, fire hydrant flushing. Periodic hydrant flushing is a part of standard maintenance for any water district. Hydrant flushing is used to:

- remove sediment and rust from the system;
- check that our hydrants are working properly and that flows are sufficient; and
- help with maintaining water quality within the system.

I want to spend a little more time on the third bullet. Our staff is constantly monitoring our water supplies for signs that water quality may be decreasing in our distribution system. Decreased water quality would be noticed by you as water with a poor taste or brown/orange discoloration. When staff sees that water quality has decreased in certain parts of the system, they will proactively flush hydrants to remove that water, allowing fresher water to flow in.

While this may seem wasteful, I can assure you that it is necessary and beneficial. All water systems lose water for any number of reasons such as hydrant flushing, leaks, and line breaks. However, due to our District's proactive water line replacement and maintenance efforts we typically only lose about 3% of the water we pump. This is considered a very low rate of loss and trying to decrease this further

would likely be cost prohibitive. So, if you see a member of our staff flushing a hydrant, know that they are there to ensure the hydrant is functioning in the event it is needed or to ensure that we are continuing to deliver **Quality Water for Life.**



**Josh Connors, Director,  
Pinery Water and Wastewater District**

**Please join us at our District Office for our monthly Board Meetings typically held at 6:00pm on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month. However, the next two meetings have been changed to:  
Monday April 29, 2024  
Monday May 20, 2024  
Both meetings will begin at 6:00 PM.**

## SPRING LAWN CARE

The warmer weather makes most people eager to get outside and work on their lawn to make sure their lawn looks its best. Being too eager could cause you some damage though. When it comes to spring lawn care you want to take it easy on your lawn. Look at the spring lawn care list below to get your lawn looking its best for summer.



### **Spring Lawn Care Checklist:**

- Wait until the soil dries out before you start working in your yard.
- Sharpen your lawn mower blades and change the oil.
- Help the snow melt by spreading piles.
- Have your soil tested if it has been more than three years.
- Mow low to remove the dead grass tops.
- Aerate your lawn if it did not get done in the fall.
- Over seed bare spots.
- Apply crabgrass preventer (pre-emergence) around Easter.
- Light nitrogen fertilizer application around Memorial Day.
- Wait to water your lawn until late spring/early summer.

Read more from original site: [Spring Lawn Care & Maintenance Tips http://www.better-lawn-care.com/spring-lawn-care.html#ixzz5jllxKcCX](http://www.better-lawn-care.com/spring-lawn-care.html#ixzz5jllxKcCX)

## SPRING SPRINKLER CHECKS

With spring upon us we will want to get our irrigation systems going and start watering. You may want to wait until our last freeze passes so that you do not do any costly damage. Once the last freeze is over with, go over these few important steps to help you eliminate damage. You may also want to contact an irrigation specialist to look over your system in addition.

### **Spring Start-Up Checklist**

- Open the system main water valve slowly to allow pipes to fill with water gradually.
- Verify the proper operation of each station valve by manually activating all zones from the controller.
- Walk through each station on the controller, checking for proper operation of the zone. Check for proper operating pressure (low pressure indicates a line break or missing sprinkler), proper rotation and adjustment of sprinkler heads, and adequate coverage. Check and clean filters on poorly performing sprinklers. Adjust heads to grade as necessary.
- Reprogram the controller for automatic watering. Replace the controller back-up battery if necessary.
- Uncover and clean the system weather sensor, if applicable.

Read more from original site: <https://www.hunterindustries.com/spring-start-checklist>

## TURF REPLACEMENT PROGRAM

Are you pouring money into a lawn you don't use? Could your landscape benefit from more color and texture? Watch your water bill shrink while your landscape grows with the 2024 Turf Replacement Program! Through a partnership with South Metro Water Supply Authority and a grant from the Colorado Water Conservation Board, Pinery Water customers are eligible for discounts on lawn replacement services from Resource Central. Funding is limited, so apply today! Visit [ResourceCentral.org/lawn](https://ResourceCentral.org/lawn).

## HYDRANT FLUSHING

Crews will begin flushing hydrants throughout the District beginning the week of March 18th, Monday through Friday, 7 AM to 3 PM with plans to wrap up around the middle of May.

**Lawn Replacement**  
Upgrade to a waterwise yard!

Discounts available  
\*Available on first come, first served basis. Applies to goods & services only.

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Your resourcecentral.org/lawn

Applications open now!  
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turfremoval@resourcecentral.org  
303-999-3820 x 221

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### **Pinery Water and Wastewater District Contact Information:**

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