

May 2014 Pinewood Springs Newsletter

Water District

Progress is slowly being made on the repairs to the Pump Station and the river gallery equipment. This is the part of the water system that takes water from the river and pumps it to the reservoir. The reservoir remains full at this time; however, it is imperative that the repairs be made before the dry season begins (June, July, and August). The repairs have been made to the pump station building, three-phase power has been restored and the electrical panel has been replaced. The next step will be to divert the flow of the river around the gallery to enable us to access the damaged equipment located therein.

For those of you who rent out your home in Pinewood, the Water District would like to remind you that according to the Rules and Regulations of the District, you, the Landlord, are ultimately responsible for your renter's water usage and bills, including all fees and fines.

The next Water Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 28th, at the Firehouse, 7:00 p.m., enter through the back door. To be Wednesday) call Gabi at 823-5345 or email at pswdadmin@att.net

Fire District

During the US36 2200hrs to 0500hrs closure between Lyons and Pinewood Springs, response within the coverage area of Pinewood Springs FPD (fire department) will not be affected. Medevac helicopter access is not impacted and access to Pinewood from Estes Park for our ambulance service is also not impacted. If a medical

emergency would require transport to a hospital facility that will not be efficiently accessible due to the closure, then medevac helicopter transportation will be an option. The only significant impact may be access from our mutual aid partners from Boulder County, i.e. Lyons FPD, Estes Fire and Big Elk Fire will still be able to access the Pinewood Springs area. Free fire mitigation inspections are available through the PWSFPD. Call Josh Thompson for more information, at 303-823-5029. For more good info go to:

<http://www.redcross.org/prepare/disaster/wildfire>

Next Fire Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 13th, 7:00 p.m. at the Firehouse.

New Fire Station and Community Center Project

An important question has been raised and we welcome your questions: What if we are not able to raise the money for the new fire station and community center? What are our options? We have several options that we will evaluate at the end of the two-year campaign: (a) extend the campaign for 1-3 years or until necessary, (b) submit to the Fire Board Directors a revised building plan, (c) seek voter approval of a mill levy increase for the balance needed, or (d) any combination of these three. Our goal is to have a new fire station and community center and to do all we can to make that a reality. It is such an important investment in our community, and for our health and safety, and as we have brought before you, to keep our good home insurance ratings because of our excellent firefighters/first responders. It is all to our benefit. Please join us in supporting the campaign. Donation forms are on the bulletin board and at the fire station. Thank you!

Road Board

The Road Board will have an issue on the November ballot for a 5-mil-rate increase to support the work to maintain and improve our. The average monthly increase will be \$8.53 per property. For all but the

top 25% of the properties, the increase will be less than \$10 per month. As mentioned in the February newsletter, we have one of the lowest rates in the county yet have some of the best-maintained mountain roads for a Larimer County improvement district. Our cost per mile is the lowest in the county. We are able to do this by having our own equipment and a talented crew for the routine maintenance of our roads. Because of this, we were repairing our roads after the flood before anyone from the outside could even get to Pinewood Springs. We ask that you support us in November.

As always, please report any road problems or requests to the Road Board message service, 303-895-3848. Board meetings are normally held the 1st Tuesday of the odd numbered months of the year at 7:00 p.m. in the Firehouse.

Pinewood Springs Community Church News

Adult Bible study starts at 9:00 a.m. where we are currently studying the Book of Acts. Service follows at 10:00 a.m. After church please join us for a soup lunch. We'd love to welcome you! The Church is located at 260 Button Rock Rd. (old gate 6) Phone: 303-823-6272.

Property Owners Association

It's Beetle Block time. Pricing is the same as last year, \$69.00 per 10 pack. Please mail or drop (water drop slot at the fire station) your orders and payment to me by May 21st. Delivery will be early June. Beetles fly early July.

Yearly Assessment Due

The yearly \$25.00 assessment for the Property Owners Association is due by June 1st. There is a small change this year. Both propane

co-ops, Amerigas and Polar Gas want the paid member list on July 1st. Anyone who has not paid their membership at that time will not be eligible for the discount. If you pay during the month of May, your name will be entered in the drawing for a \$25.00 gift certificate from either Villa Tatra or the Colorado Cherry Company.

If you have ordered a house number sign, it's ready. Please contact Gabi to arrange for pickup. The annual PSPOA meeting is May 21st, 7:00 p.m. at the Fire Station. Enter through the back door.

Upcoming Pinewood Event

SAVE THE DATE May 31, 2014 and join us in the first annual Spring Run Off 5K-10:00 a.m. and 1.5-mile fun run/walk-11:00 a.m. Start and finish at the Pinewood Springs Fire Station.

Kiowa road is the main route so we also would appreciate your cooperation during the race to have minimal traffic during the run times. This is a fundraiser for the new Fire Station and Community Center Project. We need your help. Online registration through

www.pinewoodspringsfire.org/ Volunteer to help at pinewoodspringrunoff@gmail.com We need your help with setup, route monitors, water table helpers, clean up and even cheerleaders!

Thank you from Geri Plank and the Brigade

From Gary Clements and the Division of Wildlife:

HAVE A HEART, DO YOUR PART. BE "BEAR AWARE" THIS SPRING DENVER, Colo. - Each year in Colorado dozens of bears must be relocated or euthanized because of conflicts with humans. Often times these conflicts can be avoided by following a few simple steps. Colorado Parks and Wildlife is asking people to do their part to keep bears out of trouble.

Bears have awakened from their winter naps and are searching for food. Bears are always looking for easy meals and are often drawn to towns, residences and campgrounds for a quick treat. Once a bear identifies a location as an easy food source they will return over and over again, which is why it's important to not attract them to the area in the first place.

Colorado, generally, has a two-strike policy for bears. The first time a bear becomes persistent in its search for food near humans, it may be trapped, tagged and taken to a remote area to be released. If the bear gets in trouble again, it is destroyed. Sometimes, however, if a bear shows very aggressive behavior on a first encounter it can be euthanized.

"Destroying a bear is never an easy decision for a wildlife officer," said Abbie Walls, public information officer for CPW in southeast Colorado. "But human health and safety is always our number one priority. That being said, if humans take just a few minutes out of their day to do what is right, we could really cut down on the amount of conflicts we have every year."

Bears are not typically aggressive towards people, but may become so if food is present. Never approach a bear--If you see a bear encourage it to leave the area by yelling, throwing rocks, or spraying water at it from a safe distance. However, if food continues to be present, they will likely return.

Follow these tips to help keep bears out of trouble:

- Keep garbage in a well-secured location and only put out garbage on the *morning* of pickup.
- Clean garbage cans regularly to keep them odor free.
- If you don't have secure storage, put items that might become smelly

into the freezer until trash day.

- Don't leave pet food or stock feed outside.
- Bird feeders should be brought in at this time of year -- birds don't need to be fed during the summer.
- If you have bird feeders clean up beneath them, bring them in at night and hang them high so they're completely inaccessible to bears.
- Secure compost piles. Bears are attracted to the scent of rotting food and they'll eat anything.
- Allow grills to burn for a couple of minutes after cooking to burn off grease and to eliminate odors. Clean the grill after each use.
- Clean up thoroughly after picnics in the yard or on the deck. Don't allow food odors to linger.
- If you have fruit trees, pick fruit before it gets too ripe. Don't allow fruit to rot on the ground.
- Always close garage doors.
- Keep the bottom floor windows of your house closed when you're not at home.
- Do not keep food in your car and lock the doors.
- Talk to your neighbors and kids about being bear aware.

For more tips and information go to,

<http://cpw.state.co.us/learn/Pages/LivingwithWildlife.aspx>.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife manages 42 state parks, more than 300 state wildlife areas, all of Colorado's wildlife, and a variety of outdoor recreation. For more information, go to cpw.state.co.us.

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