

Pinewood Springs Newsletter – August 1, 2020

Water District – pswwd.com-303.823.5345

Before the rains came during the last week of July, the mighty Little Thompson stopped flowing. This happens most years in mid-July. The monsoon rain season usually starts about the same month (which it did in last week) and our water supply is replenished for a time until the early snowfalls start. We ask residents to be especially concerned with leaks during this dry spell. Ninety nine percent of Colorado is experiencing a drought. While we have plenty of water in storage, homeowners still need not waste water by letting a running toilet consume thousands of gallons. Please repair all leaky toilets and faucets quickly. If you think you have a leak, please call us and let us help you try to pinpoint the cause.

Next Board meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, August 26th at 7:00 pm.** Because of Covid-19 issues, this meeting will be held virtually. To be included on the next agenda, call or email Gabi (pswdadmin@att.net)

Pinewood Spring Fire Station & Community Center – pinewoodspringsfire.org

Next Fire Board meeting is **Wednesday, August 12th at 7:00 pm.** Because of Covid-19 issues, this meeting will be held virtually. Please check the Bulletin Board at the Fire Station for more information.

Road District- cpease007@gmail.com

Next Board meeting will be on **Tuesday, August 4th** via Zoom.

Pinewood Springs Community Church -303-823-6272

Watch your email and Facebook for news of when Pinewood Springs Community Church will resume services. We are in discussions to ensure that when we do resume services, it will be in the safest way possible. We will keep you informed! You can always call the church (970-823-6272) or email Linda (lswismom@gmail.com).

Pinewood Springs Property Owners Association – pinewoodspringsPOA.com

New signs have been posted at both the Picnic area (Tubs) and Crescent Lake. We are hoping to better identify the boundaries surrounding the Picnic area. Please be aware that the area is bordered by private property. Please don't trespass on your neighbor's property.

The next Board meeting is **Wednesday, August 19th, 7:00 pm via Zoom.**

Both AMERIGAS and POLAR GAS are writing their new contracts and customer list. Don't miss out on the propane discount, join PSPOA today in you haven't joined in the last 4 months.

Please drop a check for \$25.00 (for the year), include your contact info **with email addresses**, in the water drop slot at the Bulletin Board or send it to PSPOA, 61 Kiowa Rd, Lyons, CO 80540

Name _____ Address _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Fire Department approved reflective green address sign available for additional \$10.00 _____

August Tip of the Month: Fire Mitigation

The Pinewood Springs area is a high-hazard fire environment during summer and fall due to hot, dry and windy conditions. The "Home Ignition Zone" (HIZ) is a concept based on research into how homes catch fire due to the effects of radiant heat (for example, from an approaching wildfire). The HIZ is divided into three subdivisions:

1. The "immediate zone" within 5 feet of any exterior surface of the house. Eliminate combustible materials as completely as possible.
2. The "intermediate zone" from 5 to 30 feet from the exterior of the house. Use landscaping and hardscaping to create firebreaks that decrease the intensity of a fire.
3. The "extended zone" from 30 to 100 feet or more, depending on terrain and ground cover. Take steps to interrupt a fire's path to keep it small and on the ground.

(Source: <https://nfpa.org>)

The extended zone around a structure ranges up to 200 feet depending on slope and vegetation. The steeper the slope the more rapidly fire spreads, and dry or dead vegetation and combustible house roofing provide fuel for a fire. Small flames and embers (which can be carried over a mile by the wind) have been shown to be the main sources of ignition in a wildfire.

In the Cold Springs/Nederland Fire of July 9-12, 2016, all twenty-one homes compliant with mitigation principles survived intact, while none of the twenty structures destroyed had been subject to mitigation measures. The Wildfire Partners "Home Survival Success Stories" video states, "Home survival depends on comprehensive, effective mitigation, not luck." <https://nfpa.org>

A mitigation consultation may be requested on the Fire Protection District website <https://www.pinewoodspringsfire.org/> where there is also excellent fire mitigation information. The video "Burning Down The House" explains how flammable debris against the house can ignite and, in the absence of intervention, continue to burn until all combustible material, including the house itself, is consumed.

It is NOT PERMITTED to burn slash from April to October at elevations above 6000', which includes the Pinewood Springs and Estes Park Estates area. A burn permit from Larimer County is required from October to April, but approval must be sought and obtained from the Pinewood Springs Fire Protection District as well before commencing any burning. Go to <https://www.larimer.org/> and enter "burn permits" in the search window. See also the "Open Flame Policy" that applies to all properties within the PSFPD on the bulletin board at the mailboxes or <http://www.pinewoodspringsfire.org/>.

Boulder County has locations for FREE drop off of limbs, slash, pinecones, and other sorted materials. See <https://www.bouldercounty.org/property-and-land/forest-health/>.

For more information see Resident Handbook at <https://pinewoodspringspoa.com/> or the Fire Protection District website, listed above.