

# Pinewood Springs – February 2023 Newsletter

## Water District – [pswwd.com](http://pswwd.com)

There is a new ruling out from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. The backflow assembly on your home must be tested by a licensed backflow tester and the results must be reported to the water district soon. We have included a flyer about this new ruling and a questionnaire with your bill to determine if you have a possible backflow issue. Please complete it and drop it in the water payment box by the bulletin board or mail it in with your next water payment to 183 Cree Ct. Lyons, Co 80540.

Also, if you live upstream from the treatment plant, please use caution when burning slash next to the river. Any runoff will take the ashes into the river and directly into our water filtration system. The fine particles of ash clog our filters which are very costly to replace.

**Next Board meeting is on February 22nd at 7:00 pm.** To be included on the next agenda or to receive a Zoom invite, please call, 303-823-5345, or email Gabi ([pswdadmin@att.net](mailto:pswdadmin@att.net))

## Pinewood Spring Fire Station & Community Center

Planning to burn slash on your property? You must have a valid burn permit issued by Larimer County and signed off by the Pinewood Springs Fire Department. Apply online on the Larimer County website where you will also find the requirements needed to burn slash safely. Visit [www.larimer.gov](http://www.larimer.gov) for more information.

**The next Fire Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 8th at 7pm.** Contact Chief Ted Plank, [chief@pinewoodspringsfire.org](mailto:chief@pinewoodspringsfire.org), for Zoom link info before 12 noon on February 8th.

## The Road District - [pinewoodspringsPOA.com](http://pinewoodspringsPOA.com)

The Road Board is still seeking a Board Member. If you want more information or have any road issues, please contact Joan Paskewitz @ 303-823-5937 or John Lorang @ 303-823-5114 . **Next meeting, February 7th.**

## Pinewood Springs Property Owners Association

A little birdie told me that Rich and sometimes Patty Troiano are the hard-working neighbors that keep the area around the mailboxes clear of snow. Thank you, Rich and Patty! You are much appreciated!

**Third-degree trespass** deals with individuals who have trespassed on land or premises that are not enclosed or fenced. Please ask your neighbor if it is permissible **before** you access their property or take a short cut across their land. This includes hiking and cross-country skiing. (CRS 18-4-504)

Where have all the volunteers gone? PSPOA is still looking for someone to step up and volunteer to serve on the Board. We meet once a month for about an hour. Our mission is to maintain the two parks in Pinewood and to do community minded projects around the community.

Have an idea for a community project? Let myself or one of the other Board members know.

**Next meeting is Wednesday, February 15th, 7:00 pm via Zoom.** For more information, access our website at [pinewoodspringsPOA.com](http://pinewoodspringsPOA.com)

## Pinewood Springs Community Church

For the months of February and March, services will be held in Fellowship Hall rather than in the chapel. As always, all are welcome - we've plenty of room! Service is at 10am with coffee and conversation (or soup on the 3rd Sunday) following in Fellowship Hall.

February 5th will have Bruce Brackman in the pulpit. Jessica will finish out the month for us. Of note, communion is now the 2nd Sunday of every month and as mentioned before, Jessica Lesko is our part time pastor. She will fill our pulpit on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Sundays of every month. On the third Sunday of every month, we have Soup Sunday after service. For February that will be **February 19th**. We invite our community to join us! It has proven to be very tasty.

# From the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment Backflow Prevention and Cross Connection Control Rule

## Background

Public water systems across Colorado are committed to protecting their customers from backflow of contaminants into the drinking water system from cross connections. Backflow occurs when water flows in the wrong direction and can introduce contaminants backward into a potable water system and contaminate the water. The contaminated water can come from a connection with a non-potable contamination source (like a car wash, boiler or non-residential irrigation system). These connections are called cross-connections. Contaminated drinking water from cross-connections is a public health risk and must be prevented. All public water systems must comply with Colorado's Primary Drinking Water Regulations, which contains a specific rule to prevent backflow. This rule helps protect customers by making sure that backflow prevention assemblies are installed and tested annually. Customers also have a role in helping keep drinking water safe from backflow.

## Customer Responsibility

**Backflow assemblies must be tested by licensed backflow testers and results must be reported to your water system by the timeframe they specify.** Backflow testing is typically relatively inexpensive and quick. Failure to comply with the annual testing requirements may result in fines, having your water turned off and possible violations for your water system. If violations are issued to the water system, they may be required to notify all of their customers of the violation within 30 days and that it was caused by a customer not testing backflow assemblies as required. In the public notice, water systems can identify the customer that caused the violation.

Please be advised that under Colorado State Law CRS 25-1-114(1)(h) it is unlawful for anyone to create or allow a cross-connection. Failing to test a backflow assembly is essentially creating a cross-connection. Failing to comply with these and your water system's requirements puts people at risk of illness and is not allowed under state law.

## Behind in Testing Your Backflow Assemblies?

If you have been notified by your water system to test backflow assemblies and have not done so, please contact your water supplier immediately to coordinate to achieve compliance and protect your customers. A list of backflow testers is available online at: <http://www.bpecc.us/testerstechnicians.html>  
More information about backflow prevention is available at: <https://cdphe.colorado.gov/bpccc>

## Protecting You and Your Drinking Water System from Potential Contamination

Did you know that your drinking water system is susceptible to contamination through water usage in your own residence? This can happen when the drinking water system is connected to uses that make the water no longer potable. This is commonly referred to as a cross connection. Common cross connections found in a home are: Fire Sprinkler Lines, Boilers, Automatic Soap Injectors, Hoses in Sinks, Hose Bibs, alternate water Supplies, hot tubs, and Display Fountains.

Under certain conditions the unintended reverse flow of fluids can pass through a cross connection and could potentially contaminate the drinking water distribution system presenting an immediate health risk to you and potentially to your neighbors. Cross connections within buildings cannot always be avoided but they can be controlled. Local jurisdictions require that private residences be protected from contamination from cross connections in accordance with the local plumbing code. The CDPH&E requires that public water systems control cross connections at all applicable service connections through various assemblies and methods. Cross connections are typically controlled via the use of air gaps, check valves and backflow prevention assemblies. Under certain circumstances, a private residence may have a cross connection that is not covered under the local plumbing code. The Colorado Primary Drinking Water Regulation 11 requires that your water provider ensure that an adequate backflow prevention assembly is installed at the service connection or at the point where the cross connection is created. The attached questionnaire is intended to provide you with the opportunity to evaluate your building for potential cross connections and ensure that your drinking water system is being protected adequately from potential contamination. It is also intended to allow the water purveyor to identify any cross connections that are not covered under the local plumbing code. Please note that the Colorado Revised Statutes 25-1-114 (1)(h) do not allow anyone to install, maintain or permit an uncontrolled cross connection that is connected to a drinking water system that supplies water to the public. Your building is connected to a water system that supplies water to the public.

