

# **Pinewood Springs Newsletter - July 2020**

## **Water District – pswwd.com-303.823.5345**

Next Board meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, July 22nd 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**

Chief Plank would like to remind everyone that **fireworks that emit sparks or flames of any kind are PROHIBITED IN THE PINWOOD SPRINGS FIRE DISTRICT**. With our very dry conditions right now, please be extremely careful. Follow the link to the Fire District's Open Flame policy for more information:

[http://www.pinewoodspringsfire.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/General-Open-Flame-Policy-and-Restrictions\\_SOP-AD-005A-33-15.pdf](http://www.pinewoodspringsfire.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/General-Open-Flame-Policy-and-Restrictions_SOP-AD-005A-33-15.pdf)

Next Fire Board meeting is **Wednesday, July 8th at 7:00 pm**. Because of Covid-19 issues, this meeting might be held virtually. Please check the Bulletin Board at the Fire Station for more information.

## **Road District- cpease007@gmail.com**

Dealing with winter ice by spreading a sand/salt mixture on icy spots is being discussed. Due to the fact the sand/salt could have a deleterious effect on vegetation, we decided to alert the community of this discussion. Concerned community members have a chance to share their concerns before we make a decision. Please contact Joan at her email address, joan.paskewitz@gmail.com and use "roads" in the subject line.

Next Board meeting will be on **Tuesday, August 4<sup>th</sup>** method or place to be determined.

## **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](mailto:lswismom@gmail.com)).

## **Pinewood Springs Property Owners Association – pinewoodspringsPOA.com**

**Trespassing:** There have been several incidents of trespassing over the last few weeks especially in and around the TUBS area. We would like to ask everyone using the park to access the Tubs through the main entrance. And to better mark the Park (the tubs area) boundaries, the PSPOA is installing signs that mark the lot lines. Be aware that the lower area of the river between the park and the Kiowa bridge is on private property. Not all lot lines end at the river. Many properties cross the river and continue up the other embankment. Please respect your neighbor's property and wishes and don't cross it to take a short cut to the river unless you have permission from the property owner. Parents, please make sure you and your children are clear on the rules of trespassing and the areas that are private property surrounding the TUBS. For more information on property lines and trespassing, please contact the PSPOA or access the information on our website or at Larimer.org.

The Pinewood Springs area is a wonderful place to live. Let's continue to respect each other, our rules and live harmoniously in this beautiful place.

The next Board meeting is **Wednesday, July 15th, 7:00 pm via Zoom**.



## Tip of the Month: Russian Olives – a dangerous invader, by Tom Tuer

**Description:** A bush or tree up to forty feet tall, with alternate lance-shaped silver-green leaves, 1 to 3 inches long, 3/8 to 1-1/4 inches wide; yellowish-green flowers in spring; stems with stiff woody thorns 1-2" long; fruit resembles olives, seed is a small white or brown stone; can also spread by suckers from the extensive roots. Seeds are readily spread by birds, mammals and water flow from residential areas to river bottoms.<sup>1</sup> They are able to establish below the canopy of native trees, and are more tolerant of drought and large salt-content soils.<sup>1</sup> Colorado banned its sale in 2004; originally sold for wind breaks and as an ornamental.

**Hazards:** Competes with native trees producing dense thickets that consume water at a greater rate than native trees. Fire threat is heightened by increased vertical and horizontal canopy density, increased fuel continuity and volatile fuel ladders, nesting and roosting for birds is reduced, decreasing species richness. A study found nests of eleven bird species in Russian olive stands compared to twenty-nine in native river woodlands.

**Treatment:** Small trees can be uprooted using a weed wrench; or cut tree near base and apply herbicide (either a 50% solution of *Garlon-4* "triclopyr"<sup>1</sup> or *Roundup* "glyphosate" in a mix with a crop oil concentrate<sup>6</sup>) to the stump near its outer ring; repeated cutting and application of herbicide is necessary as sprouts form; there are no bio-control agents available. It is on the Colorado List B of invasive species, requiring local governments to develop plans to prevent spread. Larimer County encourages removal.

**Plea:** I urge everyone to help eliminate the species from Pinewood Springs in order to reduce our fire vulnerability; preserve our precious river (which is our primary source for water); and maintain our diversity of birds, mammals and botanical species. There are several large stands of mature Russian olive trees in the community which produce an immense number of seeds; a large portion will end up at the river. With a cursory investigation only near the bridges, around twenty saplings have been found already. I am starting a campaign to eradicate the invader from the riverbanks and hopefully from the entire community. The time for action is now when the spread to the riverbanks can be controlled, and small trees are much easier to treat. We owe it to our neighbors and future residents to prevent the destruction of our river environment. I hope I can have general support of the community in this effort (and a few dedicated helpers).

Thank you, Tom Tuer: (303) 823-5937 or [tuer@umich.edu](mailto:tuer@umich.edu)

**References:** 1Katz & Shafroth, "Biology, ecology and management of Russian Olive," 2003; 2Dorien, Anthony & Shelton, Noxious Weeds of Colorado, 2013; 3Zouhar et al. 2008; 4Knopf & Olson, 1984; 5Stoleson & Finch 2001; 6Larimer County publication. Complete references available upon request.

### Pinewood Springs Property Owners Association

(Renters & Estes Park Residents included but with non-voting rights)

#### Membership Drive for new year-June 1, 2020 until May 31, 2021

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 \_\_\_\_\_