

WINTER NEWSLETTER

Pine Cove Water District

December 2022



General Manager Jeremy Potter's First Year

Last winter we welcomed Jeremy Potter as our new General Manager. In that year, he has accomplished a lot for our water district. Here are some of the things he's done with our team of hard workers:

- * Helo-pod site was installed and main line extended to fill the dip tank in cases of emergency
- * 615 Bluebird houses were built
- * update and ensure all water quality testing are completed and up to date
- * "How Your Water Flows" station outside of the main office to show how the underground pipes work
- * phase 3 of the backyard/maintenance pit initiated
- * hand routed Pine Cove Water District sign to help people distinguish us between the fire department and Thousand Trails

Don't let your pipes freeze!

Don't forget to turn your water off and drain the pipes before leaving for an extended amount of time (even a long weekend).

Did you leave the mountain and forget to turn off your water?

For a nominal \$15 fee we can go over and turn it off for you during normal business hours. That's a small price to pay compared to busted pipes. In the unfortunate event that a pipe does break or leak, any and all water that is lost will be the responsibility of the homeowner. PCWD does not forgive any water usage even if it is from a burst pipe.



Are you a new resident? We can help you locate your customer valve. Call during normal working hours 951-659-2675.

Check out our blog

Our blog is active. We try to get new information out every Friday.

Recent topics have included:

Winterizing Tips, Local Services, Monarch Butterfly Conservation, Office news / Meetings / Closures, and more

Keep up to date at <https://www.pcwd.org/home/blog/>

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951-659-2675
Emergency 951-294-8282
www.pcwd.org
Mon – Fri 9am – 4pm

FROM THE OFFICE

Rain Collection Barrels

We still have a number of rain collection barrels for sale, \$76 each (cash or check only due upon pick up). Contact the office now before the next rain to get yours.

ACH / Automatic Bill Paying

Never be late on your bill! Sign up to have your bill automatically paid through your checking or savings account. Go online to <https://www.pcwd.org/billing/payment-options/> and click on ACH Automatic Payments to download the form or we can supply it for you.

BEST Festive Lights in Town!

Bundle up the family and drive by to see our festive lights. Starting November 28th, we will be decorating the outside of the office.

FREE Sandbags

Worried about run-off? Come get FREE sandbags. We have dirt in our backyard that you can fill up your bags for free as well.

Rebates - We are still offering rebates!

Per Resolution #574, we offer rebates for Low Flow Toilets (1/2 the purchase price up to \$100, limit 2), High Efficiency Washing Machines (\$50.00), Instant Hot Water Unit (1/2 the purchase price up to \$75), and Rain Water Collection System (1/2 the purchase price up to \$100). Must provide proof of original purchase price **and** install. Other restrictions may apply.

Bluebird Houses

We have bluebird houses available for each household. These are best place in a non-southern facing area, 10ft up. Come get yours!

February 1, 2023 – New Rate Increase

Per Resolution #534, effective 2/1/2023, the Bi-monthly minimum will be \$80.00 for two month billing period, excluding any water usage. Water usage will be billed as follows:

\$8.00 per thousand gallons from 0 to 7,500 gallons

\$10.00 per thousand gallons from 7,500 to 15,000 gallons

\$12.00 per thousand gallons over 15,000 gallons

WOOD CHIPS AVAILABLE

We have wood chips at our Dutch Flats location that you can help yourself to. Please bring your own materials to gather or shovel and haul the wood chips away. If you need a larger load, call the office and we can deliver a dump truck load for a delivery charge of \$125. Our deliveries are around 9 cubic yards and you just need to indicate where to leave the pile.

If you are planning on gathering a large amount of wood chips on your own, please check in with us at the office first, as we want to be sure there is enough for everyone.



EMERGENCY EVACUATION CHECKLIST

There is nothing you own worth your life! Please evacuate immediately when asked.

Sometimes evacuation is needed to make sure emergency personnel can concentrate on the emergency at hand.



GO BAG ESSENTIALS (~5min evacuation):

- Wallet / Purse
- Keys (Car, House, RV, etc.)
- Important documents (driver's license, passport, social security card, birth and marriage certificates, medical records, bank info, proof of residency, insurance, wills, deed, etc.)
- ATM, credit & debit cards, CASH
- Meds, glasses, medical devices, etc.
- Computer, back up files
- Address / phone book
- Cell phone and charger
- Personal toiletries
- Enough shoes and clothing for 3-5 days
- Jacket / Sweater
- Pet Supplies

FULL EVACUATION (~1hr evacuation):

- Extended Emergency Kit
- Comfort Items (Books, Games, Toys)
- Family heirlooms, photo albums, videos
- Collectables, artwork
- Extra water for washing / cooking
- Soap, hand sanitizer, wipes, etc.
- Fire Extinguisher

PRE-PREPARE VEHICLE:

- Park vehicle pointing out
- Disconnect any electric garage door opener
- Roll up car windows
- Keep garage door closed but unlocked
- Place essential items in vehicle
- Have half a tank of gas

PREPARE THE OUTSIDE:

- Move flammable patio furniture to the garage / shed / house
- Shut off propane / gas at the tank or meter
- Close all exterior vents, doors, and windows
- Prop a metal ladder against the house to provide firefighters easy access
- Connect garden hoses
- Leave exterior doors and gates unlocked
- Turn on outside lights
- Cover windows, openings, and vents with plywood or plastic
- Fill trash cans and buckets with water and place where firefighters can find them

EMERGENCY KIT (~15-30min evacuation):

- First Aid Kit
- Battery Radio / Flashlight / Batteries
- Camping Equipment / Toilet Paper
- Food / Water
- Extra Clothing
- Blanket / Pillow
- Gloves / Handkerchief / Dust Mask / Hat

PREPARE YOUR HOME:

- Close all interior doors
- Leave a light on in each room
- Remove flammable material from around windows
- Close shutters and blinds
- Turn off all pilot lights
- Close fireplace damper
- Close or block doggie-doors

Talk to your family, friends, neighbors and make a plan! Review your items and plans every 6 months to a year. Store Go-Bags in your home, work, and car. You never know where you'll be when an emergency occurs.

Animal Evacuation

Pets

- Plan ahead. Know where you will take or leave your pets. In case you are not home when disaster strikes, arrange in advance for a neighbor to check on or transport your pets. Make sure your neighbors have your contact numbers (cell phone, work, home, etc.). In the event of evacuation pets may not be allowed inside human emergency shelters - have an alternate prearranged location to take your animals.
- Make sure your pets are always wearing properly fitted collars with personal identification, rabies and license tags.
- Each animal should have its own pet carrier. Birds, rodents and reptiles should be transported in cages. Cover cages with a light sheet or cloth to minimize their fear.
- Store vaccination/medical records, veterinary contact information, proof of ownership, a current photo, and a Disaster Preparedness Kit in one location.



Pet Disaster Preparedness Kit

- Pet carrier for each pet
- Two week supply of food and water
- Non-spill food and water bowls
- Pet first-aid kit
- Medications and dosing instructions
- Cat litter box and litter
- Plastic bags for waste disposal
- Paper towels
- Disinfectants
- Leashes/collars/harnesses
- Blankets
- Toys and treats
- Newspaper



If You Must Leave Your Pet

- If you must leave your pets, bring them indoors.
Never leave pets chained outdoors!
- Use a room with no windows and adequate ventilation, such as a utility room, garage, bathroom, or other area that can be easily cleaned.
Do not tie pets up!
- Leave only dry foods and fresh water in non-spill containers. If possible open a faucet to let water drip into a large container or partially fill a bathtub with water.



PREPARE FOR WILDFIRE HARDEN YOUR HOME



MCFSC is pleased to announce that we are now accepting applications from property owners for home hardening to be funded by the following grant program award:

**FEMA-4569-DR-CA, September 2020 California Wildfires, Cal OES PJ0507,
Mountain Communities Fire Safe Council Home Hardening and Defensible Space Project**

The grant provides in excess of \$2,000,000 worth of funds to be used to reimburse local home owners for home hardening and defensible space projects to help to mitigate the hazards posed by increased fire frequency and the ember cast created by fire. A list of retrofit activities eligible for up to 75% reimbursement are found below.

For more information, please call 951-659-6208, or apply at www.mcfsc.org/FEMA

- Wood shingle roof replacement with fire-resistant Class A roof material
- Install non-combustible corrosion resistant metal gutter covers
- Cover chimney and stovepipe outlets with noncombustible corrosion-resistant metal mesh screen (spark arrestor), with 3/8-inch to 1/2-inch openings
- Cover all vent openings with 1/16-inch to 1/8-inch noncombustible corrosion resistant metal mesh screens
- Inspect exterior siding for dry rot, gaps, cracks and warping. Caulk or plug gaps greater than 1/16-inch in siding and replace any damaged boards, including those with dry rot
- Replace windows with multi-paned windows with at least one pane of tempered glass
- Replace siding or deck, with compliant noncombustible, ignition-resistant, or other materials approved by the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM)



FEMA



Cal OES
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE
OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

The goal of the MCFSC organization is to promote forest health and fire prevention efforts in our Wildland Urban Interface, surrounded by the San Bernardino National Forest. The MCFSC has currently over \$5 million worth of local, state, and federal grant funding to assist local homeowners with forest health and fire prevention projects in our communities.

CalFIRE FP 5GG20164 – Mountain Communities Defensible Space and DDD Tree Removal

This program allocates \$750,000 through March 15, 2025 to assist local homeowners with their Defensible Space and Abatement needs in accordance with PRC4291, as well as the removal of Dead, Dying, or Diseased Trees which have not been affected by the Gold Spotted Oak Borer beetle. Following a site visit by MCFSC Field Staff, an Invitation to Bid is sent to a number of local contractors and once pricing is received, the MCFSC presents the homeowner with the lowest bid. The cost share to the homeowner under this grant is 25%. Homeowners seeking abatement assistance under this program must meet eligibility criteria based on

- age (65+)
- income (household income qualified as “low income” by Riverside County Housing Authority), or
- ability (homeowner has disability as determined by the State of California)

Homeowners seeking assistance with the removal of dead, dying, or diseased trees have no income, age, or ability criteria to meet; however, funding is limited to projects at primary residences, and homeowners may only avail themselves of defensible space grant funding once every three years.

CalFIRE FH 8GG20620 USD/NFF Partnership, Large Landscape GSOB Program

This program allocates nearly \$800,000 through March 15, 2025 to assist local homeowners with the removal of oak trees affected by the Gold Spotted Oak Borer beetle. Following a site visit by MCFSC Field Staff, an Invitation to Bid is sent to a number of local contractors and once pricing is received, the MCFSC presents the homeowner with the lowest bid. The cost share to the homeowner under this grant is 25%. There is no income, age, or ability criteria to meet, and participation in either the other grant programs does not preclude participation in this program. Schools, camps, community centers and parks are also welcome to apply.

CalFIRE FH 8GG18659 Riverside County GSOB Project Management

The MCFSC is managing a county program with \$650,000 allocated through March 15, 2025 to assist local homeowners with the treatment or removal of oak trees affected by the Gold Spotted Oak Borer beetle. Following a site visit by MCFSC Field Staff, information is sent to the county, with whom the homeowner will contract directly. Riverside County, through its own procurement process, has selected a spray treatment contractor, and a licensed timber operator for removals. The cost share to the homeowner under this grant is zero. There is no income, age, or ability criteria to meet; however, funding is limited to the removal of maximum 113 trees.

FEMA Hazard Grant Mitigation Program – Home Hardening

This program allocates over \$2 million through early 2025 to assist local homeowners with renovations or retrofits to make their homes more fire resilient. This may include, but is not limited to, replacing roofs, decking or siding with a more fire-resistant material, replacing old windows with double-paned glass, covering soffits and eaves to prevent debris build-up and ember intrusion, installing spark arrestors and bird stops. Following a site visit by MCFSC Field Staff, homeowners will be given a list of approved contractors, and will seek bids (minimum 3), select, and engage in any service contract with the contractor directly, upon approval of the project by MCFSC. The homeowner is required to pay the contractor in full, in accordance with the terms of their agreement, and submit itemized receipts for reimbursement at the completion of the job. The homeowner is entitled to a 65% reimbursement following the close of their project, and an additional 10% at the close of the grant program in 2025. The MCFSC will act as a project manager throughout the process. There is no income, age, or ability criteria to meet.



For more information, visit www.mcfsc.org
call 951-659-6208 email info@mcfsc.org