

**JANUARY 2018
1ST QUARTER NEWSLETTER**

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Waterline Replacement Project

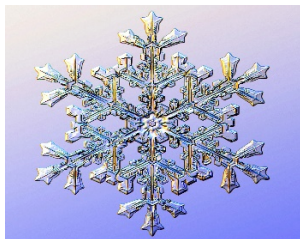
The District was approved for State funding and will be awarding a bid to a contractor in mid-February and begin construction on the project in Spring 2018 depending on the weather and the frost depth

The project encompasses replacing approximately 4,000 LF of existing 4" ductile iron and appurtenances with new 6" ductile iron water line, bends, and valves, reconnecting services, testing, and disinfection at two separate locations. The project alignments are 1. Along Forest Estates Road between St. Moritz Drive and Matterhorn Rd. (Approx. 1600 linear feet). 2. Matterhorn Rd to Tank # 4 on Forest Estates Rd. (Approx. 2100 linear feet).

As the project approaches residents affected by the work will be notified as it may affect travel time in the area as well as periodic water interruptions. We will post project updates on our web site as well as our Facebook page.

Snow Is Here:

As we get closer to the snowy season here in Colorado, please be sure to clear your stop box from any snow over the next few months as it needs to be accessible to our System Operator in case it needs to be shut off or repaired.



Online Bill Payment Option:

There has been a lot of interest by our customers for the District to offer an online bill payment option. With the increase in late payment fees that began July 1, 2015, we began to offer online bill payment through our website approximately August 1, 2015. There will be a \$2.50 convenience fee that the customer will have to incur if you wish to pay online rather than to pay by check. The \$2.50 fee seems a lot less than getting assessed \$20 for late payment of your quarterly invoice.

Please note, you can now set up an account through the online billing service and set your payment to recur on a quarterly/monthly basis and not have to keep logging in every time you want to make a payment.



We now have a closed group on **Facebook**, please come and join the group so you can stay in the loop with various updates, especially water outages. Our Group:

Brook Forest Water District – Evergreen, CO District Website – Come check us out:

Come checkout our District website at www.brookforestwater.org. We post lots of publications that you will find helpful. Our Board minutes, Operator's reports, financial statement audits are just a few documents you will find. In addition, on the home page you will find our meeting agenda's, the current rates and any water shut off announcements. You will find the link to our online bill payment link on our homepage as well.

Fire Mitigation and Brook Forest Water District

Fire awareness is likely on the top of everyone’s mind in light of the fires in California. But fire mitigation is not part of the Brook Forest Water District Service Plan filed with the State of Colorado. However, the Board recognizes the role it might play to bring additional awareness to you, our customers. We have all witnessed the terrible consequences of the fires raging in California. Our hearts go out to those who’ve lost everything, and recognize that within our District we live in a Wildland Urban Interface that is considered by Evergreen Fire Protection District to be of the most extreme conditions ripe for disaster.

The Board further recognizes it has a responsibility to protect its property as well. This means that in the coming months we will be evaluating the conditions around our tanks, wells and other structures. Likewise, it is very important for us as a Board, to reach out to our residents to stress the importance of protecting your property. Starting with the simplest recommendation of having large, easily visible house numbers at the end of your driveway. Let’s eliminate any potential for delay in getting fire fighters to your property through such a simple effort.

While you may have seen fire hydrants in your neighborhood, they are not suitable for use by the local fire department. Our infrastructure is not able to handle the demand modern firefighting equipment places on it. We do have an agreement with the EVFD for access to the Districts water in case of an emergency.

Evergreen Fire Protection District has a good rating of ISO 5, if our homes are within 5 miles of any station and the District had suitable fire hydrants, that would be our rating. The article referenced below specifically calls out the Brook Forest hydrants as not qualifying and therefore our subdivisions have ratings of ISO 6. ISO ratings scale runs from 1 to 10.

<http://evergreenfirerescue.com/about/iso-ratings/>

Look for continued ideas to protect your property in future BFWD newsletters. If you have any questions regarding fire mitigation or prevention, it is best to contact Evergreen Fire Protection District at 303-674-3145.

50 Amazing Facts About Water – Sometimes Interesting – Sometimes Disturbing:

Brought to you by the ESP Water Products website www.espwaterproducts.com, we are going to share with you 50 amazing facts about water over the course of the next few issues of our newsletter – (1-10 can be found in our prior Newsletter):

11. Of all the water on earth, only 2.50% is fresh water. Fresh water is either groundwater (0.50%), or readily accessible water in lakes, streams, rivers, etc. (0.01%).
12. As oceans are very wide and there are multiple to be found on earth, oceans store most of the earth’s water. This is apparently 97% of the total amount of water on earth, 2% of which is frozen.
13. Human bones are 25% water.
14. Most of the world’s people must walk at least 3 hours to fetch water.
15. Today, at least 400 million people live in regions with severe water shortages.

Late Fee and Rate Reminder:

Please be advised, at the June 2015 Board meeting the Board of Directors approved an increase in certain rates (see attached “Appendix A” of the District Rules and Regulations). The quarterly Water Service Charges (\$120) and Readiness-to-Serve fees (\$60) will remain the same, however please note the main change to the rates is how the **Late Fees** will be charged. Currently the cost of paying your quarterly invoice after the first 30 days of it being mailed to you is only a 1% monthly fee; however, beginning **JULY 1, 2015**, if a payment is made after the first month a \$20 late fee will be assessed and invoiced. If a quarterly invoice is not paid after an additional 30 days, a \$30 additional fee will be assessed and invoiced. If a payment is 90 days delinquent your water will be shut off and additional fees will be assessed. Please review “Appendix A” and if you have any billing questions please call our offices anytime.

The new rate structure has been put into place because of the number of outstanding customer account balances and late payment on customer accounts that the District has been experiencing.

Please pay your invoices on time to avoid late fees or a possible water shut off.

District Board Meetings:

Board meetings are always open to the public. They are held the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7pm and are held at the library of Buffalo Park Church of the Hills, 28628 Buffalo Park Rd., Evergreen, CO 80439.

Thank you,

The Board of Directors,

Bill Weisenborn, President

Tony Langowski, Vice President

Ilse Ramsey, Treasurer

Bruce Nicklow

Dave Pellegrini