JULY 2019–3RD QUARTER SUMMERTIME NEWSLETTER



SUMMERTIME IS HERE!

PLEASE REMEMBER NO OUTSIDE WATERING

FIRE MITIGATION:

It's nice to see trucks and trailer loads of slash being hauled out of our neighborhoods. Bags of raked stuff line our driveways waiting for pick-up. Clearly our district customers have taken protecting their properties to heart.

A healthy ponderosa forest averages 12-15 trees per acre. Consider removing all of the waist high and lower growth and especially the leafy scrub brush that tends to grow around the base of mature ponderosa. These small ground level trees and brush form the "candles" that allow flames to creep up a tree and ignite into the crowns.

Also consider asking tree removal and fire mitigation services to walk your property to obtain a plan and an estimate to bring your land into a safer condition. It will give you an idea of how an expert views your property and provide you with a plan to tackle all at once or in small steps over time. A journey begins with the first step.

House address numbers are still needed on many of the home in the District. Mainly for EMS services rushing to your home, but also for the fire protection services. Black numbers tacked to a tree offer little help to responding emergency teams. A better solution is high contrast between numbers and background, like black numbers on white tiles at the end of your driveway. The time saved finding you could mean the difference between life and death someday.

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.

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<u>50 Amazing Facts About Water – Sometimes Interesting – Sometimes Disturbing:</u>

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 – (1-35 can be found in prior Newsletters):

- 36. Pure water (solely hydrogen and oxygen atoms) has a neutral pH of 7, which is neither acidic nor basic.
- 37. Four liters (1gallon) of gasoline can contaminate approximately 2.8 million liters (750,000 gallons) of water.
- 38. If all new sources of contamination could be eliminated, in 10 years, 98% of all available groundwater would then be free of pollution.
- 39. There are 12,000 different toxic chemical compounds in industrial use today, and more than 500 new chemicals are developed each year.
- 40. Water dissolves more substances than any other liquid. Wherever it travels, water carries chemicals, minerals, and nutrients with it.

Property Transfer Fee Approved:

At the August 14, 2018 Board meeting, the Board of Directors approved the addition of a property transfer fee of \$150 to the District's Rules and Regulations. The fee is now included in the District's Rules and Regulations, Appendix A, which can be found on the District's website.

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.



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 <u>District Website – Come check us out:</u>

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.

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 Bruce Nicklow, Treasurer Ilse Ramsey, Director Alice Sears, Director