

October 2020

YOUR WATER NEWS RESOURCE



Cottonwood
Water & Sanitation District

The next meeting date
is Tuesday,
October 20, 2020
beginning at 6:30pm at
the District Office and
via Zoom.com

Governed by a board of five elected property owners of the Cottonwood community, the District was established to provide the residents of the community with water and wastewater services. The District is a quasi-governmental, non-profit, entity that collects property taxes and fees for water and wastewater services to ensure that quality water is delivered to homes and businesses and that wastewater is removed, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days of every year from the community.



Cottonwood
Water & Sanitation District

188 Inverness Drive West #150
Englewood, CO 80112

During normal business hours call:
303-792-9509

After Hours Water Emergencies call:
303-426-3167

Visit our website to stay informed:
CottonwoodWater.org

Notice of Board Vacancy for the Cottonwood Water and Sanitation District

The Cottonwood Water and Sanitation District has a recent vacancy on their Board of Directors and desires to fill this position. To be eligible to serve, the candidate must be a resident of the District or an owner (or the spouse or civil union partner of the owner) of taxable real or personal property situated in the District. The candidate must also be registered to vote in the State of Colorado. This position will be filled by appointment of the Board and the person so appointed will serve until the next regular election. The Board meets the third Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. Meetings are held at either the District Meeting House at 8334 Sandreed Circle, Parker or the District Office at 188 Inverness Drive West, Suite 150, Englewood as well as via Zoom Meetings.

If you are interested in serving on the Board, please contact the District office c/o Kelly Conover at Mulhern MRE, 188 Inverness Drive West, Suite 150, Englewood, CO 80112 or via email at kelly@mulhernmre.com. You will be forwarded a Board of Directors Application form to be submitted along with a short letter of interest and a resume or summary of qualifications. Applications for this board position are due at the District offices no later than November 6, 2020.

2021 Proposed Budget and Rate Changes

The Cottonwood Water & Sanitation District Board of Directors and the District's management company routinely reviews the District's financial performance and condition. The District prepares annual budgets and as a part of that process, the Board will hold a public hearing to discuss the District's 2021 Budget at the November 17, 2020, public meeting.

Water and wastewater rates

In addition to the addressing the budget, the District Board will hold a public hearing at the November 17, 2020, public meeting to consider water and wastewater fee modifications to be effective January 1, 2021. The District's rates include a fixed base fee for water and wastewater services, a use fee calculated on customers' monthly metered water consumption, and tap or development fees related to new construction.

Over the past several years, the District has experienced rising water supply and waste water treatment costs. Additionally, the District is experiencing inflationary increases in utilities and labor costs as well as increases in infrastructure supplies, repairs, and maintenance expenses. The District Board seeks to keep rates as low as practical while covering operating costs, ensuring high quality and reliable water delivery, and efficient collection and treatment of wastewater.

The District Board anticipates no changes to water and sewer base rates and 2-3% increases in water use rates and wastewater treatment rates for 2021 corresponding to increased water costs and wastewater treatment costs.

Property taxes

A portion of every customer's property tax bill goes to the District to repay District debt. As part of the budget process, the Board of Directors will certify the District debt service mill levy at the November 17th public meeting. The District does not yet have final assessed value numbers from Douglas County, however, the Board anticipates that its mill levy will be slightly lower for the coming year.

Additional information

District financial and rate information is accessible on the District's website – www.CottonwoodWater.org. Please contact the District offices if you have additional questions.

Happy Halloween!

 Follow us on Facebook

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Don't Invite the Grease Monster to Your House this Holiday Season

Did you know cooking grease being poured down drains is a major cause of residential sewer clogs resulting in unsightly, smelly and unhealthy sewer spills? In fact, fats, oils and grease account for nearly 70 percent of our sewer blockages and overflows, creating a potential public health hazard. Whether it's an 8-inch residential line or a 3-foot sewer main, grease can accumulate and block them all. Fats, oils and grease (FOG) will clog residential sewer lines (the same way bad cholesterol can clog human heart arteries). This causes sewage back-ups and flooding. Sewage back-ups can damage your personal and public property. Don't pour grease down your drains!

Winter Water Management Tips:

When the weather turns cold – it's time to winterize. Be sure all of your irrigation systems are off and the irrigation lines have been blown out with air. Disconnect hoses and store them. Taking these steps will ensure a safe transition into the colder temperatures. Below are some tips on how to manage water during the winter months.

Winterize Pipes

When temperatures fall below freezing, exposed pipes on the exterior of your home are vulnerable. Protect exposed pipe by wrapping them with insulation.

Frozen Pipes

What if it's too late? During an extended cold spell, your pipes can freeze, even if you take all the proper precautions. If you think you know where the freeze occurred and want to try thawing it yourself, the easiest tool to use is a hair dryer with a low heat setting. DO NOT under any circumstances use an open flame. Using a hair dryer, wave the warm air back and forth along the pipe. DO NOT heat only one spot on the pipe, as this can cause it to burst. If you don't have a hair dryer, you can wrap the frozen section with rags or towels and pour hot water over them. It's messy, but it works.

Have a Plan

When you're away, have a plan to keep your thermostat at 55 degrees or higher. If you plan on not being home for an extended period of time, have a plan so you don't return to a broken water pipe! Have a neighbor check on your house or install a battery-operated freeze alarm. The alarms are available for less than \$100 and dial a user-selected phone number if the inside temperature drops below 45 degrees.



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