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### Board Meetings

At the District Office:  
Friday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, at  
8:30 am  
Friday, December 12<sup>th</sup>, at  
8:30 am  
Friday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, at 8:30  
am  
Friday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, at 8:30  
am  
Friday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, at 8:30  
am

### ASCWD

270 Alpine Meadows Road,  
Alpine Meadows, CA 96146  
Ph: (530) 583-2342  
(800) 244-2342 (CA/NV)  
Fax: (530) 583-0228  
Email:

[info@alpinesprings.org](mailto:info@alpinesprings.org)

Website:

[www.alpinesprings.org](http://www.alpinesprings.org)

### Directors

Janet S. Grant, President  
Jon Northrop, VP  
Evan Salke  
Christine York

### General Manager

John M. Collins



### WINTERIZE YOUR HOME

Alpine Meadows has already experienced freezing weather this year and as it seems every year, some customers find themselves without water due to frozen water pipes. Here are a few steps that you can take to avoid problems this winter:

(1) **Disconnect and drain outdoor hoses.** Disconnecting the hose allows water to drain from the supply line, which prevents an overnight freeze from bursting the faucet or the supply line.

(2) **Cover air vents.** Close or cover all air vents in the foundation wall of your home to protect pipes in the crawl space from exposure to freezing air.

(3) **Open cabinet doors.** Opening cabinet doors allows heat to get to uninsulated pipes near exterior walls.

(4) **Insulate pipes in unheated areas.** A little known fact is that hot water pipes generally freeze before cold water pipes. The water pipes that tend to be most susceptible to freezing are found in outer walls, crawl spaces, attics and garages. Exposed pipes should be insulated with items such as pipe wrap, heat tape or foam jackets. These insulating products are available at your local building supply or hardware store. Be sure to follow the manufacturer's instructions when installing these products. Call a plumber if you have any questions.

(5) **Winterize your vacant house.** If you leave your house for several days or months, help protect pipes from freezing by following these steps:

a. Turn off your water using the main shut-off valve installed on the house side of the water meter. The District encourages ALL property owners to have a main shut-off valve installed. **You may not turn off the water using the District's valve located in your meter box. Damage caused by doing so is the owner's responsibility.** Be aware that if you have a fire protection sprinkler system in your house, it will be deactivated when you shut off the water, if your shut off valve is located ahead of the fire service take off.

b. If you drain your water heater, be sure to turn off the electricity or gas source.

c. Open indoor and outdoor faucets to drain pipes.

d. Drain toilets by holding down the lever until the tank empties. Then turn off the water at the water supply located under the holding tank. Add RV anti freeze to the toilet bowl.

e. Leave your heat on at a minimum temperature of 55 degrees to help keep pipes from freezing in interior walls.

**If your pipes do freeze, don't take chances.** If your pipes do freeze and you turn on your faucets and nothing comes out, leave the faucet on and call a plumber. If you do determine that your pipes have frozen and burst, turn off the water at the main shut-off valve, not the District's valve, and leave the faucet on. Even the most cautious homeowner may eventually experience a frozen pipe. If this happens, don't panic. A freeze-up at an exposed pipe or under a sink can generally be melted by applying heat with a hair dryer, heat lamp or even a light bulb. Light bulbs should always be protected by a cage and not be placed near flammable materials. Start warming the pipe as close to the faucet as possible. **CAUTION: NEVER TRY TO THAW A PIPE WITH A TORCH OR OTHER OPEN FLAME.** This may seem like a reasonable approach, but it is very dangerous. Thawing a line too rapidly with extreme heat can result in an explosion and may cause injury. Water damage is preferable to burning down your house.

**Get to know your plumbing.** Learn how to shut the water off and know where your pipes are located. If your pipes do freeze, time is of the essence. The quicker you can shut off the water, or direct your plumber to the problem, the better chance you have to prevent pipes from bursting.

No Grease Down  
The Drain  
Remind Your  
Renters

## **NEW INTER-TIE WILL IMPROVE FIRE FLOWS AND WATER SYSTEM RELIABILITY**

The District is in the final steps of completing a new water system inter-tie between Zones 1 and 2. Zones 1 and 2 are the Districts most upper water service zones. Zone 1 includes the Alpine Meadows Ski Resort, Chalet Road (also known as Ginzton Road), and Scott Peak Place. Zone 2 includes John Scott Trail, Bear Creek Drive, Park Drive, Big John Road and Cub Lane. The second inter-tie between these two water service zones will provide for redundancy of water supply. This will allow the District to shut down one service line and perform maintenance on the line while still providing continuous water service to the rest of the valley. The second inter-tie will provide for greater fire flow to service zone 2.

## **REPLACEMENT OF AME WELL AND WELL HOUSE PLANNED FOR 2015**

The District has completed the re-drilling of the existing AME well located at the end of Beaver Dam Trail. The re-drilling was completed in December 2013. The re-drilled well will replace the old AME well which had lost its production capacity. The new well will have a production capacity of 225 gallons per minute. The existing building will be replaced with a 16 foot by 11 foot building. The lower three foot of the building will have a country cottage stone veneer face. The upper portion of the building will have a fiber cement vertical siding resembling cedar. The facility will be completely automated and controllable from the District office. The replacement well will provide Zone 3 with a reliable and redundant water supply.

## **CARBON MONOXIDE: THE INVISIBLE KILLER**

The North Tahoe Fire Department strongly recommends that every home be protected by at least one CO detector, which can alert you to dangerous levels of CO in your home in time to prevent poisoning. Early warning of hazardous CO levels is very important, but prevention comes first. Know what you need to do to ensure your home is safe from CO. Cooking and heating equipment and motor vehicles in attached garages make up a large percentage of the home CO problem, but portable electric generators, camp stoves and lanterns can also be culprits when not used properly.

Please check [NTFIRE.NET](http://NTFIRE.NET) to see a list of recalled carbon monoxide and fire alarms.

Carbon monoxide: you can't see it or smell it, but with the right actions you can stay safe from it. For non-emergency questions regarding carbon monoxide, contact the North Tahoe Fire District, Division of Fire & Life Safety at 583-6913.

**REMINDER - LATCH THE DUMPSTERS AFTER DISPOSING OF YOUR GARBAGE**

**Happy Holidays!**

ASCWD  
270 Alpine Meadows Road  
Alpine Meadows, CA 96146