

Direct from the District

Alpine Springs County Water District Community Newsletter

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ASCWD General Information

Alpine Springs County Water District (ASCWD)

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Alpine Meadows, CA 96146

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(866) 696-9608



General Manager's Message

Hello Alpine Springs County Water District community and customers. Happy spring! Your Board and team at ASCWD have a lot of updates to share with you about upcoming events and happenings at the District. We hope you find this edition of the District newsletter helpful and informative:

TTSD Negotiations:

Tahoe Truckee Sierra Disposal (TTSD) has the franchise agreement with Placer County to provide trash service throughout the County. ASCWD is one of three utility districts under that agreement allowed to negotiate directly with TTSD as a group for trash services. As a District working directly with

General Manager's Message, Cont.



TTSD Negotiations Continued:

TTSD we are working to update our 30 plus year old contract with the goals of controlling escalating cost increases, providing consistency among our customer base and the other utility districts, improving or expanding green waste collections and bringing the contract terms in alignment with ASCWD policies. Once finalized, a new contract will be brought forward to the Board for approval.

ASCWD Staffing and Workforce Housing:

The COVID-19 pandemic created many unexpected consequences, including placing additional stress on an already challenging housing market. As people began making lifestyle choices that included remote work locations and alternative work schedules, we saw a rapid increase to the cost of housing nationwide. The Tahoe region and ASCWD service area particularly are among the areas most challenged with the lack of affordable workforce housing. Consequently, this is very troublesome for utility districts charged with the responsibility of safeguarding the water resources of the area. Operation staff must live locally, within a reasonable response time, to be able to respond to calls 24-hours per day to ensure the safety and reliability of the system. Today's housing market has made attracting and retaining operations staff extremely challenging. We are seeing seasoned staff leaving the area altogether for more affordable locations. Working in partnership with the surrounding public services agencies, we continue to seek out and explore new ideas to retain our workforce and are always interested in hearing from the community on any ideas you may have.

Community Park Changes:

Have you heard the buzz? There are changes coming this season to the District's community park. Park season passes will be limited to residents, property owners and those outside our community that held a season pass the previous year - day and week pass will no longer be available. Why is the District doing this you ask? The Board and District wanted to acknowledge and recognize the financial commitment that Alpine Meadows property owners pay via current taxes to support and maintain the District park. The park open space and its amenities should be managed and protected to provide this area as a peaceful, community treasure for residents to enjoy.



General Manager's Message, Cont.

Master Plan Update:

Carollo Engineers has been hired to prepare the district's Master Plan update. The Master Plan update will identify the District's critical infrastructure needs and provide a roadmap and pathway to ensure we are adequately preparing for funding those critical needs. For more information on the master plan update please watch future board agenda's.

Rate Study:

To ensure we are adequately preparing for our funding needs, the District will be undergoing a rate study, upon completion of the Master Plan update. We recognize that the timing of this study will be important, as will community engagement, and that increases in rates are difficult during these times of skyrocketing costs! Please watch upcoming Board agenda's for discussions related to the future rate study.

Save the Date - Coffee and Conversation with the GM on May 27th:

The pandemic appears to be settling down and things are slowly returning back to normal. Facemasks, while recommended, are no longer required in buildings and our Board is back to meeting in person. Having started as your General Manager a year ago, during a peak period with the pandemic, I have not had an opportunity to meet with many community members. District offices are now fully open and I would like to invite you to join me for morning Coffee and snacks, at the District office on Friday, May 27th from 8 am - 10 am. This is an opportunity for me to get to know some of our residents but also for you to ask questions or just get to know your District staff better. We do hope you will stop by, say hi and introduce yourself. I hope you will join me on May 27th and please feel free to contact me anytime at joe@alpinesprings.org or on my cell at 916-826-3912.



Community Communications and Outreach

As we work towards enhancing our community communication efforts, we would like to announce District e-notifications. If you are interested in receiving e-mail blast notifications about everything that is happening within the community, including meeting dates and agendas and upcoming events such as the opening of our community park and fire mitigation chipping program, please e-mail us at info@alpinesprings.org simply asking to be added to our email notification system. We look forward to sharing District news with you throughout the year! Continue to watch the District's website as we continuously expand content with new information.



ASCWD Committees - Are You Interested In Volunteering and Serving Your Community?

Did you know that ASCWD has four Board established committees that are comprised of Board members and/or community volunteers -- all working on your behalf. We would like to thank all of our committee members and volunteers for their participation and service to the community - if you are interested in learning more about volunteering on one of our committees please reach out to our General Manager Joe Mueller to discuss opportunities!



Want to know more -- Please see below for information about each of our committees.

What Are ASCWD Committees All About?



Budget & Finance Committee

The Budget and Finance Committee works in close liaison with the District CPA and Board Treasurer to maintain prudent and efficient financial controls relating to district operations and long-range capital planning. The committee works to maintain adequate operational and long-range liquidity. The Committee also evaluates drafts of the annual budget and the annual audit, to help make sensible recommendations to the Board of Directors. Committee members consist of: Janet Grant, District President and Committee Chair and Evan Salke, District Director.



Administration & Personnel Committee

The Administration and Personnel Committee is responsible for recommending policy to the District Board in the areas of administration (contracts, rules, procedures, responsibilities, etc.) and personnel (wages and salaries, employee relations, etc.). The Committee is comprised of two Board members and the General Manager and meets to discuss, evaluate, draft, edit or revise policy within the responsibility areas. Committee members consist of: Janice Ganong, District Director and Committee Chair and Evan Salke, District Director.



Long Range Planning Committee

The Long Range Planning Committee is responsible for recommending policy to the Board regarding the development of the Strategic Long Range Plan and its maintenance in the areas of water resources, sewer systems and watershed maintenance as it pertains to the District's infrastructure and assets. Committee members consist of: David Smelser, District Director and Committee Chair, Christine York, District Director, Vince Baldrige, Robert Spencer, Doug Boling, Melissa Siig, and Michael Lightbody.



Park, Recreation and Greenbelt Committee

This Committee is responsible for recommending policy to the Board regarding Park and Recreation, including state of the park, use and fee policy, annual fee schedule, park amenities policy and operational policy, including level of maintenance. In addition, the Committee recommends greenbelt policy to continue conservation of the undeveloped lands, and provide the appropriate monitoring of greenbelt lands by providing defensible fire safe space. Committee members consist of: Christine York, District Director and Committee Chair, Janice Ganong, District Director, Ingrid Bourke, Michael Cadra, Felicia Cole, Don Fulda, Ursula Hirsbrunner and Lisa Peck.

Alpine Springs Community Park Update - What's The Buzz All About?



Our community park is opening soon - watch for an opening announcement from the District. We are enjoying the spring and looking forward to summer where you can enjoy our beautiful community space.

Updated rates and policies for 2022 have been posted to the District's website.

Be Bear Aware



Remember, bear boxes are required for rental units.

The most important way to minimize human-bear conflicts is to keep garbage away from bears. Unsecured residential garbage bins attract bears and once a bear gets a taste of human garbage – it will routinely return to the area in search of food.

This is why the Board passed Ordinance No. 4-2019 (available on the District's webpage at www.alpinesprings.org) which requires all long-term and vacation homes to install bear boxes. In addition, the District strongly encourages all homeowners to install individual bear boxes at their



residences to help reduce the chance of a bear encounter - this helps to keep our bears and our community safe!

If you have any questions regarding bear boxes, you may contact TTSD at 530-583-0148 or visit www.waste101.com



Alpine Meadows - Let's Team Up to Clean Up!

Alpine Meadows CleanUp Day -- Save the Date

Date June 25, 2022 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The Fire Safe Council is hosting the annual Alpine Meadows Cleanup Day and we invite you to join us in cleaning up our community!

Location is currently being finalized but last year's event was wonderfully successful - we look forward to another productive day.

Please remember to bring or wear the following:

- ✓ Sunscreen
- ✓ Water Bottle
- ✓ Work Gloves



Reminder: Let Your Home Owners Insurance Carrier Know That Alpine Meadows Is A Firewise Community - It Could Reduce Your Premium!

Green waste dumpsters will again be made available for community use over the Memorial Day Weekend. Please remember, these dumpsters are for residential green waste clean up only. Non green waste material is not allowed to be placed in the dumpster.

Look for the red sign hanging near the bottom of the hill as your reminder to join us.

Questions? Please contact: tahoedrg@mac.com

A logo with a yellow sun icon. The text "TEAM UP" is in purple, "to" is in white inside a black circle, and "CLEAN UP" is in green. There is a decorative orange and yellow border on the left side.

TEAM UP to CLEAN UP



2022 Annual Chipping Project

Chipping services will follow the same procedure as it has for the past several years. You can contact either North Tahoe Fire Protection District (NTFPD) at 530-583-6913 extension 622 or visit www.ntfire.net or www.alpinesprings.org to sign up for free chipping service. North Tahoe Fire Protection District needs to receive requests for this FREE chipping service - a request form can be completed at www.netfire.net.

Once the request is received, NTFPD will add your property to our list and provide the chipping service in accordance with the chipping schedule.

Please note the following:

- The Chipping Crew is also a Fire Crew and can be deployed by District Fire Chiefs to fires in the area, or sent on assignments to out of area fires. This may delay the rotation.
- Please submit all chipping requests prior to the dates that the crew is scheduled to be in your area. Requests received the same week that the crew is scheduled to be in your neighborhood may not be chipped that week.
- This is a curbside chipping program - all piles need to be placed at the edge of the street with the cut end of the vegetation facing towards the street.
 - Vegetation cannot exceed 6 inches in diameter
 - Pile should not exceed 30 feet in length, 6 feet in height, and 6 feet in width
 - Pile cannot contain pine cones, stumps, lumber or residential waste
- Chips will be left onsite to be spread around the property for landscaping or erosion control.
- Chips cannot be located within 5 feet of any structure or combustible attachment.
- Spread the chips to a maximum depth of 3" to create mulch areas.
- Use noncombustible areas (dirt/rock/irrigated lawns) to break up large areas of chips.
- In order to make sure your pile will be chipped in accordance with the 2022 chipping schedule, please submit your request one week in advance of the chipping schedule.

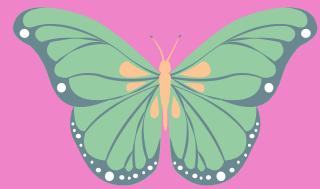


The 2022 chipping will be posted on the District's website in the near future!

Billing Information - Please Update!

Bills are coming out July 1st - make sure the District has your correct billing address. The District will not be responsible for any mail that comes back as undeliverable or not received and you will incur a 10% penalty if payment is not received by the due date of July 31st. There is a grace period until August 14th before penalties go out. ASCWD also has a payment plan, but you need to set up a payment plan with the District no later than August 14, 2022 with your first payment. If you would like the District to add you to the list of homeowners who receive their bill by email in addition to USPS, contact Pam Zinn at (530) 583-2342 x3 between the hours of 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. prior to the end of June or send an email to info@alpinesprings.org. Also, please keep your email address up to date. Thank you!

ASCWD General Information:



Board Meetings

Board meetings are now offered in a hybrid format - both in person and available virtually via zoom. Upcoming Board Meetings are:

Friday, May 13th, at 9:00 a.m.

Friday, June 10th, at 9:00 a.m.

Friday, July 8th, at 9:00 a.m.

Friday, August 12th, at 9:00 a.m.

Friday, September 9th, at 9:00 a.m.



Board Of Directors

Janet S. Grant, President

Janice Ganong, Vice-President

Evan Salke

Dave Smelser

Christine York

District Staff

Joe Mueller, General Manager

Pam Zinn, Office Manager

Miguel Ramirez, Operations & Maintenance
Supervisor

Scheid Limbird, Operations Specialist

