

In This Issue...

AM Park Opening!

Community Fire Planning Meeting

What is our current Fire and EMS Coverage?

Defensible Space

Chipper Program

Install an alarm system to protect your home.

Annual Billing

Consumer Confidence Report

Water Conservation Policy

The Dumpsters

Watch out for the bears!

Next Issue...Sept 2005

Board Meetings

Second Friday of the month at 8:30 a.m. at the District Office:

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

Website:

www.alpinesprings.org

Directors:

Barbara Danz, President

Tony Stefani, VP

Janet S. Grant

Jon Northrop

Virginia Quinan



ALPINE MEADOWS COMMUNITY PARK OPENING!

The tennis court nets are going up, the pond is filling, and the grass is getting greener (well most of it). Come see the gem of the valley, located just east of the District offices on Alpine Meadows Road. The park is a great place to hold reunions, graduation parties, weddings and other group activities; please call the District Office for more information on fees and reservations. The park also has 3 gas barbeques available for group rentals. Remember, your user fees help pay for the cost of operation and maintenance of the park. **Also, please do not: prop the gate open, bring your dog (or cat) or leave your trash out.**

COMMUNITY FIRE PLANNING MEETING – JUNE 20TH, 2005 – 6:30PM

ASCWD, in cooperation with NTFPD and Placer County, has contracted with C. G. Celio and Sons Co. to complete a Community Wildfire Protection Plan for Alpine Meadows. The planning effort is a collaborative process to develop prioritized mitigation measures to address wildfire hazards surrounding a community. Allied agency collaboration and Community involvement is essential to the plan. The 1st of a series of meetings is scheduled for June 20th at 6:30 PM located at the ASCWD Board room. At the June 20 meeting, Mr. Clint Celio will explain the Community Wildfire Protection Planning process. Specific items for discussion include:

- Discuss NTFPD previous planning effort and how the AM plan will be incorporated.
- Identify and clarify neighborhoods, ownerships, critical community features and other base data elements to include in the planning process.
- Answer any questions that public or agencies might have about plan development.
- Gain public input on issues or areas of wildfire hazard concern in the community.

WHAT IS OUR CURRENT FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES COVERAGE?

The Alpine Meadows Fire Department (AMFD) is currently managed by North Tahoe Fire Protection District (NTFPD). This arrangement is dictated by a contract which costs approximately \$60,000 annually. In addition to naming North Tahoe's Fire Chief the Alpine Meadows Fire Chief, the arrangement includes fire prevention in the areas of ordinance creation, plan checks, defensible space inspections and determination of fire cause and origin, purchasing, grant writing and apparatus repair and maintenance.

In 2004, NTFPD responded to about 150 calls in the valley. Of these, 27 calls were to the community and included responses to fire alarms, vehicle accidents, trash fires, emergency medical aid, gas odors and similar incidents. The remaining calls were from the AM Ski Area for medical aid and providing transport services. To date, in 2005, NTFPD has responded to 105 calls, 95 from the Ski Area and 10 from other AM addresses.

NTFPD currently has one resident in the AM Station who is required to respond to calls 48 hours per week, when not otherwise assigned, and may answer calls if he is at home and available. The number of volunteers has dropped from 18 to 2, who have transitioned to NTFPD; AMFD has disbanded. Those 2 volunteers may also answer calls when they are available; there is no dedicated staff in the AM Station. NTFPD is always recruiting part-time paid employees. If you are interested, please contact Chief Whitelaw at (530)583-6913.

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and the Commission on Fire Accreditation International both recommend a total response time (i.e., the time from the notification element to the on-scene time) of 6 minutes 90% of the time for all communities. The mean response time from Tahoe City to AM is 12 minutes and the average is 11 minutes. The AM Fire Committee, which is an advisory committee to the Board of Directors, has concentrated its efforts on addressing feasible methods to improve the level of service provided to the residents, property owners and visitors to the Valley.

In an effort to improve response times, the Board is looking at service options. It is vital to each and every one of you that you give us your feedback by attending the Fire Committee Meetings, Board Meetings or by sending an email to the General Manager, Cara Guynup at cara@alpinesprings.org. All meeting agendas, dates and times are posted on the website and at the District Office.

DEFENSIBLE SPACE PROGRAM

Summer with its threat of wildland fires is here. Fire prevention can keep fires from starting and can be a determining factor in protecting your property should a wildland fire occur in your area. On behalf of ASCWD, representatives from NTFPD will be conducting defensible space inspections this year. This year, the ground defensible space clearance requirement has increased from 30 feet to 100 feet, that is, a homeowner is responsible for maintaining a clearance from any structure to 100 feet or to the property line, whichever is closest. "Clearance" means a break in the continuity of vegetation to slow the spread of fire. The vertical clearance requirement (tree limbs) has increased from 6 feet to 12 feet. Do your part to make a fire safe community and come by the District office to pick up your Defensible Space Checklist.

CHIPPER PROGRAM

The **Chipper Program** is once again available. If you are interested in having your debris (tree limbs, sage brush, etc...) chipped, please call the NTFPD chipper hotline (530)546-4347.

INSTALL AN ALARM SYSTEM TO PROTECT YOUR HOME

Security Lock & Alarm, Inc., a local Tahoe City business, is offering Alpine Meadows homeowners a monitored alarm system with an installation cost of \$750.00 for one control panel, one keypad, and three smoke detectors with one siren in each home. This can be upgraded with other safety features. Monitoring costs would be \$25.00 per unit per month. In the event a homeowner is not at the residence, the fire alarm would still activate with the appropriate life safety organization notified and dispatched. The sooner the safety organization is notified of the problem, the faster their time to respond will be. For additional information contact Security Lock & Alarm at (530)583-6901.

ANNUAL BILLING – COMING TO A POST OFFICE BOX NEAR YOU!!!

It's that time of the year again. You soon will be seeing the District staff walking your neighborhood locating and reading your water meter. We have a new meter reader this year. His name is Miguel Ramirez. Miguel is a resident of the valley and we are glad to have him on staff. However, this means that shortly after Miguel's visit, you will receive a bill from the District via the US Postal Service. The bill will include the increase in rates for garbage, water and sewer services. Please do not hesitate to contact the District office if you have any questions about your billing statement.

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

You will soon be receiving in the mail, a Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) from the District. This report will detail the water quality of each of the water sources that the district currently utilizes for potable water. Because of the rather technical nature of this Federal law requirement, it can sometimes be confusing. If, after you receive the CCR, you have any questions regarding the content, please feel free to contact the District.

DISTRICT WATER CONSERVATION POLICY

The Board of Directors of ASCWD has adopted a Water Conservation Policy which includes a tiered conservation (voluntary and mandatory) program. We encourage our water customers to conserve water by landscaping their property in a way that will reduce the required amount of irrigation water. Come by the District office to pick up educational materials including your copy of the Home Landscape Guide for Lake Tahoe and Vicinity. Due to space limitations, we could not reproduce the policy here, however it is available at the District or on the District web site at the following URL:

<http://www.alpinesprings.org/tahoe/graphics/clients/478/pdf/WaterConservation.pdf>

THE DUMPSTERS

The dumpsters at the District office are among the last in the Tahoe area. Unfortunately, some persons are aware of this fact and use the dump site to get rid of their construction debris, unwanted home furnishings and hazardous wastes at no expense to themselves. Should you, in your visits to the dump site, observe anyone unloading prohibited materials (there is a sign at the dumpsters listing those material that are not acceptable), please take note of a license plate, time, date and description of the person(s) and materials being deposited and either call the Sheriff's office or the District office to let us know. As a reminder, the dumpsters are for household garbage only. No dumping of liquids of any sort, hazardous waste, appliances, furniture, horticultural debris, construction debris, dirt, rocks, etc., is allowed. If in doubt, don't dump it.

REMEMBER THE BEARS!!! LATCH THE DUMPSTERS!!! Otherwise, our friendly, hungry, inquisitive, resident bears (who are starting to come out of hibernation) make a mess of things and get habituated to human garbage as a food source.

The Alpine Springs County Water District wants your input,
comments and suggestions.

ASCWD
270 Alpine Meadows Road
Alpine Meadows, CA 96146

Please contact the District via:

E-mail: info@alpinesprings.org

Fax: (530) 583-0228

Phone: (530) 583-2342 or (800) 244-2342 (CA/NV only)

Please write your comments, suggestions, etc., below, or by reply e-mail. We want to hear from you.