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Board Meetings

At the District Office:
Friday, January 11th at 8:30
a.m.
Friday, February 8th at 8:30
a.m.
Friday, March 14th at 8:30
a.m.

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
Charles Nungester, VP
Virginia Quinan
Janet S. Grant
Jon Northrop

General Manager

John M. Collins



SANTA WILL NOT BE MAKING HIS VISITS THIS YEAR

As a result of the District contracting out its fire services to the North Tahoe Fire Protection District and the retirement of the Volunteer Fire Program, the District will no longer be providing the annual Santa visit to Alpine Meadows on Christmas Eve. The Board of Directors realizes that there will be some disappointed children; however the District can no longer provide this service.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLANNED FOR SPRING

The District completed work on its Long Range Water and Sewer Master Plan approximately one year ago. The Long Range Water and Sewer Master Plan identified needed capital improvements so that the District can continue to meet its goal of providing safe, reliable water and sewer service to its existing and future customers. The District updated its water and sewer capital facility charges and connection fees. To finance the needed improvements, the District adopted a revised schedule of fees for connection to the District's infrastructure. The District will track the new fees by way of a Capital Facility Fund.

The District has developed and adopted a 20-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) based upon the needed capital improvements identified in the Long Range Water and Sewer Master Plan. The CIP identified modifications to the District's Well R-1 needed to connect the well to the water supply in Zone 5. These improvements are being designed and are planned for construction during the spring of 2008.

CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING PROGRAM

Christmas trees to be recycled will be collected without charge on your regular service day during the week of January 14th to 18th. Trees must be exposed to view, free of foreign matter (i.e., tinsel, garland, lights, stands, nails, flocking), and cut into three (3) foot segments to facilitate removal.

GARBAGE COLLECTION SCHEDULE

The normal garbage collection schedule will be in effect during the holidays.

WINTER IS COMING! STEPS TO PREPARE YOUR HOME

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.
- 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.

Happy Holidays!

ASCWD
270 Alpine Meadows Road
Alpine Meadows, CA 96146