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Board Meetings

At the District Office:

Friday, Nov 9th, at 9:00 am

Friday, Dec 14th, at 9:00am

Friday, Jan 11th, at 9:00 am

Friday, Feb 8th, at 9:00 am

ASCWD

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Dave Smelser

Christine York

General Manager

John M. Collins



WATER STORAGE TANKS 4 AND 4A REPLACEMENT

The District awarded the construction bid to Farr Construction California dba Resource Development Company (RDC) on July 13, 2018 and issued the Notice to Proceed on September 4, 2018. RDC has notified the District that steel for the new tank will not be available until early to mid-November 2018. RDC has verbally indicated that they will be asking for a delayed start next spring. The District's 500,000-gallon redwood water storage tank, known as tank 4A, was damaged during the heavy snows of the 2016/17 season. Temporary repairs were made to the roof structure. The tank roof structure has developed sags and needs to be completely replaced. The redwood tank had also developed extensive leaking over the years due to differential settlement of the foundation. Previous analysis of the adjacent 100,000-gallon welded steel tank and the redwood tank had also indicated that both tanks were subject to earthquake issues. The proposal is to replace both tanks with a single welded steel water storage tank. Following avalanche and biological surveys, the U S Forest Service issued their notice that the project may now proceed.

WINTERIZE YOUR HOME

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 turning off the water at the water supply located under the holding tank. Then hold down the lever until the tank empties. 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. Heater can fail or run out of fuel, so always turn off your home water supply.

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 of preventing pipes from bursting.

THE INVISIBLE KILLER-CARBON MONOXIDE

North Tahoe Fire Protection District 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 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.

MAKE SURE YOUR BILLING AND EMAIL ADDRESS IS UP TO DATE

Make sure the District has your correct billing address. 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 9am to 3pm prior to the end of June. Also, please keep your email address up to date.

WATER LEAK NOTICES

Pay attention to any notice from the District regarding a possible water leak. You should check all your water fixtures and or have a plumber check for leaks on the customer side of the water service. Several customers have experienced "high" water bills due to leaks that have been allowed to exist for extended periods of time.

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