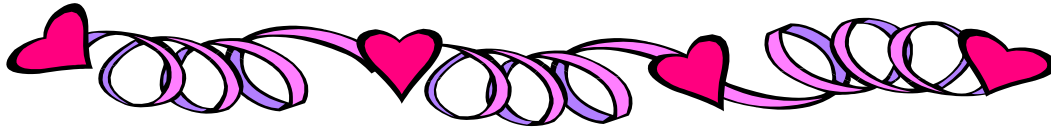


Grizzly Flats CSD Newsletter February 2011



New Basic Monthly Rate

This month your bill reflects the new basic monthly rate of **\$60.37** (for up to 300 gallons per day). If you are one of our many customers who use their bank's bill payment option, please be sure your payment reflects the new rate.

Water System Improvement Project Update

The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development (USDA-RD) has accepted our "Request to Obligate Funds" for the Water System Improvement Project (WSIP). We have locked in a 3% interest rate, which is the lowest rate ever seen by USDA employees. We expect to receive \$952,000 in loan funds and \$213,000 in grant funds. The District is very excited about this project and the improvements it will make to our community's water system!

A large part of this project is the installation of a liner in our reservoir. Limited flows in the District's surface water supply during the summer month have impacted GFCSD's ability to meet water demands. A significant amount of water loss through leakage out of the bottom of the reservoir (approximately 35 acre feet per year) further limits the ability for GFCSD to meet its demands during critical times of the year and during drought years. Multiple studies done for GFCSD over the past twenty years identified the issues related to water supply and the reservoir. The California Department of Public Health also noted the issue in GFCSD's Compliance Inspection Report in 2008:

"The CDPH recognizes that the source capacity problem is significant for GFCSD and may lead to water supply problems in the summer. Documentation on file with the CDPH indicates that drought related water shortages are recurring events that manifested themselves in the early 1980's, early 1990's and again during the summer of 2008. Persistent drought conditions will further limit the available water supply. It is imperative that GFCSD develop a permanent

solution to its source capacity problem and implement the solution within a reasonable timeframe."

The liner will stop the leakages and is the most cost efficient solution to this issue. In order to install the liner, the District will be draining the reservoir. This will be a very time sensitive job. The ideal time (weather permitting) is early spring so the liner can be installed and the reservoir can refill before flows from our diversions recede in late summer. If we miss our window of opportunity this year, we will proceed next spring. The District doesn't have a firm start date for this project at this time. We will update you as soon as we do. Many considerations come into play with this project and all are being evaluated.

The District will be sending water down the Eagle Ditch Drainage that runs near the Grizzly Flats Community Church, behind properties on Old Nail Road, Wooded Glen Drive and Evergreen Drive. We are asking property owners who live along that drainage ditch to expect an increase of water flow when the reservoir is draining. We are asking you not to grow plants or throw debris into the ditch. Blockages could cause flooding or other issues. We ask that you remove any items such as structures, debris, plants, or other items that could block the ditch. We expect the water flow to be for a very short period of time, until the reservoir is empty. If there are any issues with water escaping the ditch, please notify our office.

We expect to be in a Stage 3 while the reservoir is empty. Customers will be expected to conserve 30% to 50% of their average daily usage. Please don't plant gardens or install landscapes that will require a lot of water! If planting, we recommend installing a drip system and planting drought resistant plants.

The community will be dependent on water flowing in from the Eagle Ditch pipe. Therefore, we will ask our customers to conserve using the Water Shortage

Emergency Response Stages. The District has three Water Conservation stages explained on this page. We will mail updates with the bills each month and post changes at the Grizzly Flats Post Office.

We have been pursuing grant funding to help offset the costs of the WSIP. With the help of the El Dorado County Water Agency, we submitted a grant application to Cosumnes, American, Bear & Yuba (CABY) Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP). We hope to hear within the next few months if our projects have been approved for any additional grant funding.

Water Shortage Emergency Response Stages

STAGE 1 WATER EMERGENCY ALERT

- a. The watering of lawns, gardens, landscape, and pasture irrigation shall occur only between the hours of 7:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. Watering shall not exceed two hours per water period per customer.
- b. Drip irrigation systems are encouraged and are exempt from watering restriction during this stage. Drip systems shall observe the watering hours of 7:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.
- c. Washing of vehicles shall be done using a hose fitted with an automatic shutoff nozzle.
- d. Customers are expected to conserve at 10% to 20% per average daily use.
- e. Potable District water shall not be used for dust control, earthwork, or road construction.
- f. A water patrol shall be initiated by the District to ensure compliance of emergency measures. It shall operate under the jurisdiction and direction of the Board of Directors and/or General Manager.
- g. There shall be no washing of driveways, parking lots, decking, or other paved surfaces with GFCSD water unless for the purpose of renovation, construction or painting.

STAGE 2 WATER EMERGENCY

- a. All of the above, and
- b. Customers are expected to conserve at 20% to 30% per average daily use.
- c. New construction customers shall be allowed water only for operation of construction requirements. Watering for this use shall not exceed one hour of consecutive use in a twenty-four hour period (i.e., concrete work, etc.).
- d. There shall be no potable GFCSD water used for the planting of new gardens, lawns or landscaping.

- e. Ponds, lakes, fountains, and swimming pools, shall not be filled with potable GFCSD water.
- f. Lawns, gardens, landscaping, and pastures shall only be watered between the hours of 7:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. Watering shall not exceed one hour per watering period per customer. Drip systems shall also observe the watering hours.

STAGE 3 CRITICAL WATER EMERGENCY

- a. All of the above, and
- b. Customers are expected to conserve 30% to 50% per average daily use.
- c. Water meter applications and water service connections shall be suspended in accordance with governmental regulation.
- d. There shall be no outside watering. This includes lawns, gardens, landscaping, or irrigation of pastures and the washing of vehicles with potable water.
- e. Drip irrigation systems are not exempt from a Stage 3 Critical Water Emergency.

Citing and disconnect procedures for customers who fail to comply with water shortage response measures shall be as follows:

| | |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| First offense: | Written warning |
| Second offense: | \$50.00 fine |
| Third offense: | \$100.00 fine |
| Fourth offense: | Termination of Service |

We appreciate your patients and cooperation as we move through this process of upgrading our water system. These are projects that will benefit our water system for many years to come!

Water Emergency Pager - (530) 890-0102

The District is required to have an operator on-call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to respond to water emergencies. Our staff works 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM and can be reached by calling the District office at (530) 622-9626. Customers who have an emergency outside of these hours can call our on-call pager. You will hear a short message that asks you to enter your numeric page. This means to enter your phone number where you can be reached on the keypad of your touch tone phone, followed by the # key. The on-call operator will then be paged. **Please wait by your phone for someone to call back to assist you.** To keep costs down for all of us, please be sure it's an actual emergency!

