

Grizzly Flats CSD Newsletter October 2015



GFCSD's New Drafting Hydrant Equipment Purchase

In April 2015, our office participated in the Grizzly Flats Fire Safe Council's Wildfire Tabletop Exercise. During this exercise, the emergency scenario included fire hydrants on Blue Mountain Drive losing pressure, and the fire department not being able to use them to fight the fire. The incident commander sent a water tender truck through the South View Drive entrance to pump water directly out of the GFCSD reservoir, but it was discovered that the water tenders use metal strainers when drawing water, which could potentially tear the HDPE liner in our reservoir. Leo Rainwater (GFCSD Water System Manager) thought that a good solution would be to install a permanent drafting hydrant at GFCSD's reservoir, which would allow emergency agencies access to draw water without risking damage to the liner.

Upon further investigation, our Water System Manager discovered floating drafting siphons and floats that keep suction hoses on the surface of the reservoir, and off the liner material. This option will not only come at the lowest possible cost for a drafting hydrant, but will provide multiple benefits to the community as well.

The Grizzly Flats Fire Safe Council has generously offered to share costs for the drafting hydrant equipment purchase which will:

- Provide a safe location for emergency vehicles to draft water in a fire emergency;
- Protect the reservoir liner from damage; and
- Allow the use of lower cost, untreated water for emergency use.

Most of the equipment has already been purchased, and we look forward to installing this equipment at the back side of the District's reservoir to provide a safe water drafting location which will make our community better prepared during fire emergencies.

Conservation Numbers

Our community's ongoing conservation efforts are greatly appreciated! We saw an 18% conservation rate in August when compared to our usage in 2013, and although we didn't quite hit our goal of 20%, we were close! A big "THANK YOU" to all of you who are conserving!

DAILY AVERAGE WATER PRODUCTION (gallons per day)

	2013	2015	Conservation %
June	133,397	90,776	32%
July	171,597	104,623	39%
August	140,516	111,042	18%
September	135,527	99,357*	22%*

*as of September 28, 2015

OUTDOOR WATERING

Don't forget, GFCSD potable water may only be used for outdoor watering **TWO (2) days** per week. This includes but isn't limited to watering lawns, landscapes, gardens and fruit trees. This also includes drip systems and timed watering devices.

Homes with addresses ending in an **EVEN** number (0, 2, 4, 6, and 8) shall limit outdoor irrigation to **Wednesdays and Saturdays**.

Homes with addresses ending in an **ODD** number (1, 3, 5, 7 and 9) shall limit outdoor watering to **Thursdays and Sundays**.

GFCSD is issuing warning letters and fines to customers who are not following these requirements, so please be sure you are aware of your watering days!

E-BILL – A NEW WAY TO GET YOUR MONTHLY WATER STATEMENT!

We are excited to offer a new option to customers to get their monthly water statements! Through our billing software, we can now offer a “paperless” option for any customer who decides to opt in. You can receive emails with an attached PDF of your water statement, newsletters and late notices (if applicable). If you would like to go “paperless” contact our office!

E-BILL FOR RENTERS COMING SOON...

Do you own a rental property which receives water service from us? If so, would you like your tenant(s) to receive an electronic copy of the water statement so they can keep an eye on their usage and/or know the current account balance? With the new billing system E-Bill module, we have the option to send a paper copy of the water statement to the owner as required by District policy, and an electronic copy to their renters via e-mail. We are currently in the process of revising our policy to allow us to send electronic statements to the tenant(s) once we have a waiver form on file, confirming the property owner's understanding that they are ultimately responsible for all charges on their water account.

WATER LEAK ON GOLDEN ASPEN DRIVE

On September 20, 2015, we had a leak on a water main on Golden Aspen Drive. Neighbors reported the leak to our on-call Water System Operator. The leak required a shut-down of a small portion of the main, which affected two customers. The repair was made Monday morning! In our 50 year old system, breaks like this will happen, but hopefully not too often! Leaks like this cost the District about \$4,000 to repair. We wanted to thank the customers who were affected and the neighbors for their patience while the repair was made. Our crew was short staffed, but was still able to repair the main in a couple of hours.



Several leaks have surfaced during the past few weeks, and as temperatures begin to drop, we'd appreciate it if customers to be on the lookout for signs of water leaks. Call our office if you see any of the following around town: water flowing across the roads, unusual puddles of water, or water that appears to be “bubbling” up from the ground.

GRIZZLY POND

We've had some complaints about the public's use of Grizzly Pond and the lack of care by some who are using the property. Community volunteers and neighbors keep the property clean and maintained for all of us to enjoy. If you are using the area, always take your trash with you when you leave. Always have your dog on a leash and pick up after your dog! The piles are getting out of hand. Never let your dog chase the wildlife. Weapons, including BB guns and Airsoft guns, are not allowed at the pond. We all need to do our part to keep this area clean and safe for all residents to use.

UPDATE ON THE GFCSD ELECTION

2015 is an election year for our District, and although we had three seats up for election, we only had two interested candidates file with the County. In result, the contest will not appear on a ballot due to insufficient nominees. The El Dorado County Elections Department requested that the Board select a candidate to nominate for appointment to the remaining vacant seat, and the Board submitted their recommendation on September 11, 2015. Following are the election results and terms for the three seats:

- Andre' Legrand (2015 to 2019) *Incumbent*
- Don Sutton (2015 to 2017)
- Kent Malonson (2015 to 2019)**Nominee*

**Pending El Dorado County Board of Supervisors Approval*

Congratulations to the returning and new Board members! We would also like to thank **Director Ball** and **Director MacDonald** for their contributions while serving on our Board, as we wish them the best for their future endeavors!

