

BCPUD PIPELINE



SUMMER 2016

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In Brief...

A Reminder about Your Water Meter Connection to the BCPUD's Drinking Water System

Within the last month, the BCPUD has had the opportunity to explain to two different customers that it is a violation of BCPUD rules and regulations to extend a water line from a property with a water meter to another property, even if the same person owns both properties. Thus, for example, it is not permissible to run a water line across a public right-of-way from "Property A" (served by the BCPUD's water system) in order to furnish water to "Property B" (not served by the BCPUD's water system).

As stated in BCPUD Resolution 173 (the "water moratorium resolution"): "In no case shall a customer extend water lines across a street or property line in order to furnish water service for an adjacent property through one meter."

This seems like a good opportunity to send out this reminder and to encourage any one with questions to call the office or stop by for more information.

Thanks!

If you have any questions, please contact our office at 415-868-1224.

Water Supply Status – Summer 2016

The numbers are in! Bolinas received a total of 32.25 inches of rain during the most recent rain year (July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016). Specifically, Bolinas received the following amounts of rain (as measured at the Woodrat Water Treatment Plant):

July 2015: 0 inches	January 2016: 10.4 inches
August 2015: 0 inches	February 2016: 1.3 inches
September 2015: 0.7 inches	March 2016: 8 inches
October 2015: 0 inches	April 2016: 1.5 inches
November 2015: 2 inches	May 2016: 0.5 inches
December 2015: 7.85 inches	June 2016: 0 inches

Total: 32.25 inches

Last rain year (July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015), Bolinas received a total of 35.05 inches of rain. It may be surprising for some of you to learn that we received less rain this year than the year prior, perhaps because that vast majority of rain received during that prior year occurred during one month, December 2014, when we received 22.2 inches of rain, whereas this year the rains continued over an extended period of months, albeit less heavily. Notably, this year we received a good amount of "late" rains – 10 inches between March and May, 2016 – which has been very helpful to reduce outdoor watering. However, the fact remains that we must continue to do our best to keep water consumption as low as possible to ensure a sufficient supply during the Summer and early Fall months. Most importantly, please keep those automated irrigation systems turned **off!**

On a statewide basis, California's water supplies rebounded from record low levels during 2012-2015, prompting the State Water Resources Control Board ("SWRCB") on May 18, 2016 to issue a new emergency regulation replacing the percentage reduction-based water conservation standard with a localized "stress test" approach that mandates urban water suppliers act now to ensure at least a three-year supply of water to their customers under drought conditions. Although this regulation does not apply to the BCPUD (urban water suppliers are those with more than 3,000 connections), the SWRCB's specific prohibitions against certain water uses, such as watering down a sidewalk with a hose instead of using a broom or brush to clean them, or overwatering a landscape, remain in effect across the state. The BCPUD will continue to closely monitor its water supply and, consistent with its Water Conservation and Dry Year Water Use Reduction Program (available on our website at www.bcpud.org), will take all steps possible to minimize the effect on the district's customers of an extreme shortage of water caused by drought conditions.



Upcoming BCPUD Projects

Survey of the Big Mesa

As reported in the Fall 2015 Pipeline, the staffs of the BCPUD and the Bolinas Fire Protection District (“BFPD”) have been directed to conduct a survey of the Big Mesa to identify and prioritize for removal obstructions and encroachments in the public rights-of-way that pose health and safety risks to the community (e.g., lack of access to critical infrastructure, lack of access for emergency vehicles). The field work for the survey began in early July and is expected to require several months to complete; as such, if you see BCPUD and/or BFPD staff with clipboards and measuring tape out on the Mesa rights-of-way, you will know what they likely are doing! Reports on the survey results will be made by staff to the BCPUD and BFPD Boards of Directors at public meetings and the community is encouraged to attend, ask questions and provide input.

Fire Hydrant and Water Meter Replacement

BCPUD staff has compiled a prioritized list of fire hydrants on the water distribution system that are in need of rehabilitation or replacement and will replace several hydrants this summer. Recently, a hydrant was replaced at the corner of Evergreen and Larch; bollards will be installed around many of the new hydrants, as well, to protect them from inadvertent contact with garbage trucks or other vehicles. BCPUD staff similarly has prepared a prioritized list of water meters in need of replacement; to date, 83 water meters have been replaced.



Chlorine Disinfection Byproduct Reduction Project

BCPUD staff, along with consultant Jonathan Van Bourg and civil engineers from Brelje & Race, are finalizing the district’s formal application to the SWRCB to amend its water supply permit to install coagulation prior to membrane filtration to reduce chlorine disinfection byproduct precursors in the district’s drinking water. The formal permit amendment application will be submitted in late July and installation of the coagulation infrastructure is anticipated this Fall. The SWRCB will inspect the installation and BCPUD staff will be formally trained prior to start-up. After that, BCPUD will monitor the new treatment process carefully and report on a monthly basis to the SWRCB for the a full year before the SWRCB will formally permit the new treatment process.

Wharf Road Lift Station Pump Replacement Project

After a lengthy delay to the unavailability of key parts needs for the installation of the new pumps the district obtained in January, this project is anticipated to commence in early August.

Rehabilitation of the East Tank

This Fall, BCPUD staff will undertake the planning process necessary to rehabilitate its “East Tank”, which is one of the two large water storage tanks located on Mesa Road to the east of the Woodrat Water Treatment Plant. The rehabilitation work was recommended following an inspection of both of the district’s tanks, which were last rehabilitated in the early 1990’s. The district has scheduled the “West Tank” for rehabilitation in 2018.

