

Bear Creek Water and Sanitation District Newsletter – July 2024

Dear Bear Creek Water and Sanitation District (BCWSD) Customers:

Enclosed with this newsletter you will find your sanitary sewer bill for the second quarter of 2024. The annual bill, for sanitary sewer charges, has been divided into fourths - billed in April, July, October, and January.

As part of the annual budget process, BCWSD reviews the sewer rates and the water surcharge amount each year with consideration of the rising costs of operations, maintenance and replacement of the infrastructure in order to determine if a rate increase is necessary.

If you have questions about your sanitary sewer bill, please contact the office by phone at **303-986-3442** during normal business hours, Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. or by e-mail.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE YOUR SANITARY SEWER BILL BY EMAIL?

To request a paperless sanitary sewer bill (E-Bill):

Please send an email to: <https://www.bearcreekwater@bearcreekwater.org>

Please include the following information in your email:

Sewer Account Number, Name, Property Address, Email Address and Phone Number

Electronic payments can be made by using the Colorado Government payment portal. A link to the payment portal can be found on the District website at <https://www.bearcreekwater.org>.

Beware of Phishing Scams

The District has identified the potential for a phishing scam that could target our customers. You could receive an email that looks like it is from Bear Creek Water and Sanitation District asking you to click on a link that takes users to what appears to be from BCWSD, but the site could be a fake intended to collect payment or personal information. Please be aware Bear Creek Water and Sanitation District will never send an email asking you to provide any type of payment or personal information. Online payments should be made by going directly to the payment portal which is accessible from Bear Creek Water and Sanitation District's website.

Risk Mitigation Plan

BCWSD Engineers have prepared a risk analysis/wildfire preparation study of the District owned water distribution system's interplay between zones in case the primary water feeds would become disabled due to an emergency. This information will be used to develop an emergency plan which includes the consideration of assistance from or to neighboring water Districts, so that the BCWSD could assist West Metro Fire Department in case of a wildfire in the BCWSD area. The District has met with West Metro Fire to review and discuss BCWSD's plan. West Metro Fire representatives asked that the District communicate the following information to our customers in the case that a wild fire would ignite near your home.

Please sign up for Jefferson County's emergency Lookout Alert system at <https://www.jeffco.us/473/Emergency-Notifications>

Since 2005, more than 89,000 homes have been lost in fires in the wildland-urban interface (WUI) in the U.S. More than 3,200 homes were destroyed along the Front Range of Colorado between 2005-2021. Firefighters will make every effort to protect you and your property from a wildfire, but during a major incident, there simply will not be enough engines or firefighters to defend every home. It is YOUR responsibility to protect yourself, your family, and your property. Recent field experiments, lab experiments, and case studies have shown how and why homes ignite and are destroyed in wildfires. These fires are inevitable, but home destruction is not. This guide will help you navigate the process of reducing the vulnerability of your family and home to wildfire. **West Metro Fire calls this process, Ready, Set, Go! (RSG). The Ready, Set, Go!** program works in concert with other wildfire mitigation and preparedness efforts, such as Firewise Communities and the Colorado State Forest Service. Please be prepared and have a plan.

To download the Ready Set Go Brochure, please copy the link below into your browser or visit the West Metro Fire website at <https://www.westmetrofire.org/Ready Set Go Brochure 2022 Final for print.pub> ([specialdistrict.org](https://www.bearcreekwater.org))

SAVE THE DATE for the West Metro Fire Family Fire Muster Event on Saturday, September 24, 2024 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at West Metro Fire and Training Center and Fire Station #10, 3535 S. Kipling Street, Lakewood, CO. West Metro Fire Rescue's annual **Family Fire Muster** is a community-favorite event aimed at educating people of all ages about the importance of fire safety, injury prevention, and what to do in case of emergencies with FUN and interactive experiences. Event parking will be at D'Evelyn High School with a school bus shuttle to get you to the event! This is a FREE family event and is fun for all ages.

ABOUT BEAR CREEK WATER AND SANITATION DISTRICT

2023 Capital Improvement Projects

The District spent \$831,000 in 2023 for capital improvements for the District owned water and sanitary sewer systems including the following projects:

Garland Street Sewer Extension Project

This sewer extension connects at South Garland Court and West Cornell Place, then runs north into the City of Lakewood Park open space and connects to the Metro Water Recovery sewer line. This connection will alleviate high flows of sewage from West Cornell Place to South Kipling Street, near the Victoria Village townhomes subdivision. The District received approval from Metro Water Recovery to connect to their manhole and the City of Lakewood to cross the City's open space to make the connection. The work on this project has been completed.

Green Mountain Water and Sanitation District Cured-in-Place Pipe (CIPP) Sewer Lining Project

BCWSD participated in the cost of the sewer lining for BCWSD's share of the outfall line shared with Green Mountain Water and Sanitation District.

Investigation of 16/18" Water Transmission Mains within the Bear Creek Water and Sanitation District

District Engineers finished an exploratory analysis of the condition of some of the 16 and 18" transmission mains that run along the Hampden Frontage Road and W. Dartmouth Avenue. District Engineers identified five locations to visually assess the pipe and fittings. The complete analysis included soils and electrolysis investigations. The pipes were found to be in good condition and the BCWSD will continue to monitor the condition of the pipe.

Water Usage for Bear Creek Water and Sanitation District Customers is billed by Denver Water.

If you have a question or concern about your water bill, please contact the Denver Water Customer Care Team at 303-893-2444, Monday through Friday, from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Information about Denver Water rates can be found on the Denver Water website at <https://www.denverwater.org>

Bear Creek Water and Sanitation District Board Meetings

Monthly Board meetings are being held in person (with a remote option) on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the District Office located at 2517 South Flower Street. If you cannot attend a Board Meeting in person, you can make arrangements with the District Manager to attend meetings remotely, using the Zoom meeting application.

For additional information about the Bear Creek Water and Sanitation District, please visit the website at <https://www.bearcreekwater.org>. You can also contact the District office by phone at 303-986-3442 during normal business hours, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. or by email at <https://bearcreekwater@bearcreekwater.org>

Thank you for conserving water!

Sincerely, Jan C. Walker, District Manager, Bear Creek Water and Sanitation District
E-Mail: <https://janwalker@bearcreekwater.org>