

METRO NEWS



METRO BOARD MEETS THE 2ND TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH STARTING @ 1:30 PM, FOREST LAKES COMMUNITY

- SPRING/SUMMER 2002

A FOREST LAKES METRO DISTRICT PUBLICATION

SEWER TREATMENT PLANT IMPROVEMENTS -

The District contracted with RG Consulting Engineers in 2000 to evaluate the sewer treatment plant and recommend a course of action to continue to meet permit limits. This process identified a need to recover treatment capacity and start planning the next phase of expansion. Expansion is to be financed by sewer plant investment and services impact fees that have been collected for this purpose. In addition, the District pursued an energy impact grant through the Colorado Department of Local Affairs but was offered a low interest loan which Forest Lakes voters approved at the 5/7/02 election. During the delaying TABOR election process, the District installed an insulated floating cover on the aeration basin to recover treatment capacity lost to algae and winter inactivity. Evaluation of the cover and expansion planning continues.

FIREFURNED

Thanks to Federal, State, County and local fire fighters and governments, especially all Upper Pine Fire members and to several outstanding individuals including a well coordinated air attack by Mr. Russell Harris, Missouri firefighting team and others whom we do not know, the Missionary Ridge Fire was directed away from Forest Lakes. A special thank you to Tim Walter, Charlie Harrington, Ricky Ludwig & Selina Gallero. Thanks to all Forest Lakes residents for an orderly and safe evacuation and for numerous offers of help from property owners and District vendors during a very tense time. Thank you to all voters who removed the TABOR trap providing governmental entities the resources to acquire the manpower and equipment to save their homes. The fire danger is still **EXTREME** and the drought continues, please be careful.

METRO ELECTION—The Forest Lakes Metro District conducted a mail ballot election on May 7, 2002. Don Rader, Jackie Hicks, Ronnie Foster and Ed Schelhaas were elected to the Board. Neil Schmidt resigned from the Board at the May 14, 2002 meeting as he has relocated to the Houston, TX area. Thank you Neil for your time and hard work to make Forest Lakes a better place to live. The Board appointed Leonard C. Gurule to the Board of Directors at the June 12, 2002 meeting .

Forest Lakes voters also passed both referendums allowing the District to accept a low interest loan to continue sewer plant improvements and to collect and spend all revenues generated from the existing property tax mill levy.

WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS— The District contracted with DAK Drilling to develop another well for the subdivision in the fall of 2001. The well has been permitted, drilled and plumbed to the water distribution system bringing the total number of wells to three serving Forest Lakes. Once final water quality samples including bacteriological have been pulled and approved by the Colorado Department of Health, the well will be put into service. The 2002 Board approved water main extension on Antelope Dr. has been installed, chlorinated, flushed, tested and put into service adding two more fire hydrants and 1200 feet of water main to the water distribution system now over 18 miles long. Please continue to conserve water use.

WATER RATES CHANGE as operating cost including utilities, fuel, water quality testing, operator training and certifications continue to increase. To help reduce cost by promoting water conservation, the Metro Board passed resolution 2002-06 increasing Forest Lakes water rates effective July 1, 2002. The minimum in all classes were raised \$1.50/month for the same number of gallons. Full time user rates above the minimum start at \$2.50 per thousand gallons from 6,001 to 10,000 gallons/month and then increasing \$0.25/thousand gallons for every ten thousand gallon increment from 10,001 to 60,000 gallons/month. All user rate classes changed accordingly with water availability fees going to \$12.75/month. Out of District user fees are still double the in District user fees. Forest Lakes metered water rates have not changed since 1992. Please see water Income/Expense chart on page four.

Gallons per month	Vallecito Water Co. (Proposed)	Animas Water	Lake Durango (Current)	Lake Durango (Proposed)	Town of Bayfield	Forest Lakes (Old)	Forest Lakes (New)	Forest Lakes (Difference)
6,000	\$ 52.00	\$ 21.10	\$ 14.82	\$ 14.82	\$ 15.80	\$ 25.00	\$ 26.50	\$ 1.50
10,000	\$ 68.00	\$ 28.50	\$ 24.70	\$ 24.70	\$ 28.33	\$ 29.00	\$ 36.50	\$ 7.50
25,000	\$128.00	\$ 71.00	\$ 61.75	\$ 82.05	\$ 68.48	\$ 44.00	\$ 80.00	\$ 36.00
40,000	\$188.00	\$131.00	\$ 98.80	\$ 382.05	\$113.50	\$ 59.00	\$126.50	\$ 67.50
50,000	\$228.00	\$171.00	\$123.50	\$882.05	\$145.50	\$ 69.00	\$161.50	\$ 92.50
100,000	\$428.00	\$371.00	\$247.00	\$3,382.05	\$305.50	\$119.00	\$359.00	\$240.00

FOREST LAKES METROPOLITAN DISTRICT

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In This Issue of Metro News:

- Metro Election Results
- New Water Rates
- Water/Sewer Improvements
- Wild Fire Thank You
- 2001 Drinking Water Report

THANK YOU FOR CONSERVING WATER -

Voluntary odd/even yard watering is in effect based on the last digit of your address and the calendar date with no watering between 10 AM and 6 PM. If required, next step is watering twice a week with no weekends.

NOTICE ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Monitoring requirement not met by Forest Lakes Metropolitan District. The District is required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not the drinking water meets health standards. During February, 2002 we did not test for coliform bacteria which is used as an indicator organism that is destroyed by chlorine and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of the drinking water during that time. However, during this period the District did maintain a constant chlorine disinfectant level in your drinking water in accordance with State drinking water regulations. **Samples before and after were negative for coliforms. There is nothing you need to do at this time.** For more information please contact the Forest Lakes Metropolitan District at 970-884-2925 or P.O. Box 440, Bayfield, CO 81122.

LODGE/GREENBELT STATUS

The Board appointed building committee conducted the business survey and concluded that use by FLMD would be the best compatible use if the building could be brought up to code within reason. The District is currently having the building evaluated for code compliance and establishing costs to bring it up to code. The goal of acquiring the Lodge was to gain Forest Lakes control of the greenbelt property associated with it, any use of the building either by FLMD or income generated from rentals was not the determining factor in acquiring the property. The District's current capital projects are the water supply and controls, wastewater treatment plant and the lodge, in that order.

WHERE IS YOUR PROPANE TANK?

Please keep your propane tank out of the right of way and as far away from the road as possible. Remember there is a 25 foot front setback from your property line that is used for snow storage during winters with large amounts of snow to plow.

METRO ACCOUNTING—Metro's annual operating budget depending on proposed capital work usually runs about one million dollars per year. The District uses a fund accounting system consisting of a general (33%), water (39%) and sewer (28%) fund. This is similar to running three businesses within one business. Each fund is broken into operating and non-operating income and expenses. Within each fund, the operating expenditures are further broken down into departments. Each department has specific line items for expenditures ranging from auditing services to utilities. The District uses only two depositories, the Pine River Valley Bank and Colotrust which is a Governmental Investment Pool formed in accordance with Colorado Statutes Local Government Pooling Act and is only for Colorado governmental entities. The District statutorily is required to be independently audited annually.

BUSINESS SURVEY RESULTS (11/02)

(most responses first)
Needed: Store, restaurant, nothing.
Support More: Yes, two to one
Lodge Use: Restaurant, FLMD, Store
Budget: ~1 million with debt service
Roads (current): 22 miles
Lots (actual): 1667

**Forest Lakes Metropolitan District
Water Fund Operating Budgeted Income/Expense**

