PureSource Water, Inc.

The Source

The Newsletter of PureSource Water, Inc.

Serving Redwood Drive, Pacific Heights Drive, and Forest Park Lane

Spring 2022 **Volume 9, Issue 1**

Quick Notes:

- Question about your bill? Email us: Accounts@psh2o.com
- Water Service Monthly Amount Monthly water service is $106.47
- Moving? Selling? Be sure to let us know!
- Is COVID affecting your ability to pay your bill? Contact Us!
- Payments are due by the 20th of each month and are subject to a late fee if not paid on time.
- You can always drop your payment in the green drop box, located next to the mailboxes beside 2255 Redwood Dr.

State Moratorium Ends

At the beginning of the pandemic, we notified you that the Governor had placed a moratorium on water shutoffs. This meant that customers who were behind on their bills could keep their service turned on. That moratorium ended Dec 31, 2021.

Therefore, PureSource has resumed normal shut-off procedures; however, we always work with our Customers to help them avoid shutoff.

We are here to help. Contact us as soon as possible to bring any past-due account current or to discuss a payment plan at (831) 688-8476.

VERIFYING - NO LEAD SERVICE LINES

Lead is a very important concern when it comes to drinking water. For a long time, particularly before the 1920's, lead was a common material in various portions of plumbing systems. Over time we, as a society, have learned about the health impacts of lead in our environment, and particularly in drinking water, and have reduced and attempted to eliminate it. We encourage you to learn more at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Website https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water. We will provide an overview here about lead as it relates to your water from PureSource.

First of all we need to provide a little background information. The "service line" (or service connection) is the pipeline that connects your home to the large PVC water "main" pipe beneath Redwood Drive. The portion of the service line from the water main to the meter is owned by PureSource Water. Where no meter is present, the service valve or "curb stop" is the end of the company owned line. Those valves and meters are typically located near the property line along Redwood Drive. Between that valve or meter and the house, the service line is owned by the property owner.

Lead piping was banned in 1986, but had fallen out of favor long before homes were built in our community. While older cities and water systems sometimes used lead as a service line material, rest assured that we have never seen any lead pipes anywhere in our system at PureSource. You can read more about the regulations and lead level restrictions at the CA Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) website here: https://dtsc.ca.gov/toxics-in-products/lead-in-plumbing-legislation/.

As we said, this is important stuff though. As such, the EPA and all States are expanding the requirements on community water systems, to inventory and document not only the portion of the service line owned by the water system, but also the portion between the meter and the home. By October 16, 2024 we are required to... (Continued on next page)

Interesting Drought/Weather Links:

Drought Monitor:
www.drought.gov/states/california/county/santa%20cruz

Day by Day Rainfall Data for Santa Cruz:
www.weathercat.net/wxraindetail.php

Water Riddles (see back page for answers): Riddle #1: What do the letter "T" and an island have in common?

Riddle #2: What always runs, yet doesn't walk, often murmurs but doesn't talk. Has a bed but doesn't sleep, has a mouth but doesn't eat?

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QUESTIONS? CONCERNS? PLEASE CONTACT US!

One of the benefits of being served by a small water company is that we are easy to get in touch with. There are just two of us here at PureSource Water. With a simple email to accounts@psh2o.com or phone call to (831) 688-8476 you can reach the owners, operators, plumbers, ditch diggers, meter readers, board members, bookkeepers, etc. The two of us serve all those different roles (and many more), with the occasional assistance of outside contractors and other professionals as needed. We don't get it all right, we don't have solutions to every challenge yet, we are overworked and underpaid, but we are **always** here for your questions. We are doing our best to provide you with safe, clean, reliable, drinking and fire protection water delivered to your community 24/7/365. Please reach out if you have any questions or concerns about the water system. We simply ask that you do so with courtesy and respect. We are just humans after all, doing our best, but **always** making time to answer your questions.

SERVICE LINES (continued from previoius page)

inventory both the PureSource **and** property owner portions of the service line. We got an excellent start on this already, because we went beyond the minimum requirements when the initial inventory regulations came out a few years ago. Recently we have been expanding our inventory work to include even more information about the service connections.

We have collected a tremendous amount of data, requiring many days of work in the field, on the computer, and researching our archives. While we are doing the required inventory of service lines, we are also gathering additional information that is helpful for meter installations, valve replacements, leak repairs, etc., and for potential future regulations. We will continue to inventory the service lines between the main and your house, as required by the State. We may reach out to some of you individually over the next year or so if we need to look at the water pipe just outside your house to see what material was used.

Plumbing within the home is still the homeowner's responsibility of course. That being said, we do periodically test for lead within pre-selected homes, as required by the Lead and Copper Rule. That testing will be happening again this summer. We also routinely test for lead at our wells. So far all of our testing has shown our system to be fully compliant with all state and federal requirements, with no lead detected.

If you're concerned that your home plumbing may contain lead, you may want to have the water at your kitchen sink tested by a state-certified laboratory. For more information on testing your water, you can contact a drinking water laboratory such as:
Soil Control Lab, Watsonville, (831) 724-5422
Monterey Bay Analytical Services, Monterey, (831) 375-6227
Feel free to contact us if you have any questions about lead, or anything to do with your water.

FUN CORNER—Springtime Gardening

Native Plants have evolved to thrive in our climate without a whole lot of extra work or water. Here is one native plant you may want to include in your landscaping so you can retire your watering can.

California lilac (Ceanothus): This pretty shrub flowers in late winter/ early spring, emits a lovely fragrance, and displays flowers that run from white to purple. The "Concha" variety is prized for its deep blue blossoms.

California lilacs grow best on dry, sloping land or in front of any structure that protects them from wind. They also prefer well-drained soil, and don't do well in clay.

Water Riddle Answers: Riddle #1: They are both in the middle of water. Riddle #2: A River. Happy Spring!