

# The Waterline



**Arrowbear Park County Water District**  
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## Clean & Disinfect, Just Don't Flush it When You're Done.

As Californians stockpile disinfecting wipes and paper towels to clean their homes more often to reduce the risk of coronavirus, California's state water regulators have urged them to keep one thing in mind: Don't flush them down the toilet.

Wipes and paper towels do not break down like toilet paper does in water. They are stronger, and many wipes include plastics and materials like nylon. That means bad news for the sewer systems, some of which already are experiencing problems during the coronavirus crisis.

"Flushing wipes, paper towels and similar products down toilets will clog sewers and cause backups and overflows at wastewater treatment facilities, creating an additional public health risk in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic," the California's State Water Resources Control Board said. "Even wipes labeled "flushable" will clog pipes and interfere with sewage collection and treatment throughout the state."

They should be thrown away in the trash after use, the agency said.



## Board Meeting Highlights

### Regular Board Meetings are the Third Thursday at 6:30 PM

**October** – Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent Governor's Orders, the October Board Meeting was held using remote meeting technology. Supervisor Miller was excused and General Manager Huff reported on the maintenance and repairs in the District. Chief Ozias reported on the Fire Department calls and his trip to Mexico to deliver donated surplus equipment to fire departments in La Paz and Laredo. General Manager Huff reported on the FY 19-20 audit in progress, master plan project progress, and the current recruitment for the Utility Worker position. The Board approved a change to Fire Department policy providing coverage compensation to firefighters working wildfire assignments.



**November** – Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent Governor's Orders, the November Board Meeting was held using remote meeting technology. Supervisor Miller was excused and General Manager Huff reported on the maintenance issues for the month. Chief Ozias reported on the Fire Department calls and their participation in Helping Hands. General Manager Huff reported on the successful recruitment and hiring process that led to the addition of a new Utility Worker, Matt O'Shea. Chief Ozias introduced newly-promoted Battalion Chief Paul Lindley and the Board approved a one-year Battalion Chief employment agreement for Mr. Lindley.

**December** – Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent Governor's Orders, the December Board Meeting was held using remote meeting technology. At the beginning of the meeting, newly re-elected Directors Bunyea, Bonito, and Wymer were sworn in for their new four-year terms. Supervisor Miller was excused and General Manager Huff reported on the maintenance and repairs in the District. Chief Ozias reported on Fire Department calls and responses for the month and the success of the holiday food drives. General Manager Huff reported on the increased turnover of properties and the addition of a new service on Deerlick Dr. The Board discussed and approved beginning balances for the new accounting system along with approving segregated petty cash funds.

**NOTE: THE MOST RECENT FULL MEETING AGENDAS, APPROVED MINUTES, AND INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO VIEW AND PARTICIPATE IN VIRTUAL MEETINGS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE DISTRICT WEBSITE, ARROWBEARWATER.ORG**



# ARROWBEAR LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

## Home Heating and Safety

There is something about the winter months and curling up with loved ones by the fireplace. But did you know that heating equipment is one of the leading causes of home fire deaths? The National Fire Protection Association provides us with a few simple safety tips and precautions you can prevent most heating fires from happening.

### Be warm and safe this winter!

- Keep anything that can burn at least three-feet away from heating equipment, like the furnace, fireplace, wood stove, or portable space heater.
- Have a three-foot “kid-free zone” around open fires and space heaters.
- Never use your oven to heat your home.
- Have a qualified professional install stationary space heating equipment, water heaters or central heating equipment according to the local codes and manufacturer’s instructions.
- Have heating equipment and chimneys cleaned and inspected every year by a qualified professional.
- Remember to turn portable heaters off when leaving the room or going to bed.
- Make sure the fireplace has a sturdy screen to stop sparks from flying into the room. Ashes should be cool before putting them in a metal container. Keep the container a safe distance away from your home.
- Test smoke alarms at least once a month.



## FACT

HALF OF HOME HEATING  
FIRES ARE REPORTED  
DURING THE MONTHS OF  
DECEMBER, JANUARY,  
AND FEBRUARY.

### Heating equipment tips:

- Install wood burning stoves following manufacturer’s instructions or have a professional do the installation.
- All fuel-burning equipment should be vented to the outside to avoid carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning.
- Install and maintain CO alarms to avoid the risk of CO poisoning. If you smell gas in your gas heater, do not light the appliance. Leave the home immediately and call the Fire Department or Gas Company.

Sincerely,  
*Jim Ozias*, Fire Chief

ARROWBEAR LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

909-867-3479

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