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A QUASI-
MUNICIPAL
CORPORATION
AND POLITICAL
SUBDIVISION OF
THE STATE OF
COLORADO

Servicing Wildernest
property owners in the
unincorporated area of
Summit County, CO
with:

- Water & Sewer
- Road Maintenance
- Snow Plowing
- Storm Drainage
- Covenant Enforcement
- Pedestrian Path
- Architectural Review

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BMMD Metropolitan District "BMMD"

Summer 2017 Newsletter

Long Range Forecast Plan Infrastructure Updates

Long term utility planning combines financial forecasting with asset management. It is a process that evaluates existing system conditions, establishes asset management, maintenance demands, and infrastructure repair and replacement needs. It is a highly important process that considers future scenarios and helps utilities navigate aging infrastructure challenges.

BMMD's long range plan identifies priorities and time frames for implementing capital projects and provides a financing plan for those projects. BMMD has identified the need to update numerous aging infrastructure projects some of which are identified below, and is currently seeking sources of funding to finance costs associated with those required updates.

BMMD is committed to providing Wildernest customers with quality service and value, and these upgrades is just one of the many ways we plan to continue fulfilling that promise. It is important to BMMD to maintain the critical balance between financial stability, reliable operations, and delivering services to customers at the best value.

Water Tanks

Wildernest population fluctuates anywhere between 5,000 up to 10,000+ people depending on the season and the amount of short-term renters, vacationers, and full-time residents. BMMD is planning to build a new water tank to improve water infrastructure by helping increase water supply reliability during high usage events and provide additional water capacity for fire protection.

This multi-year, multi-phase project includes significant planning to locate an eligible site for a new underground water tank. Wildernest is 96% built-out and very little land is available to build a new tank. BMMD is currently looking at a suitable site that meets the required elevation requirements and proximity to existing District water pipelines.

BMMD is also planning to rehabilitate two existing steel water tanks. Re-coating water tanks is an extensive process. The tanks must be taken out of service while the rehabilitation takes place. In order to take the existing reservoirs off-line, BMMD must first construct the new water tank in order to supply uninterrupted water to Wildernest customers during the time the two existing steel tanks are out of service.

Pressure Reducing Valves (PRV) Project

The current water distribution system is equipped with manual butterfly valves in each of five pressure zones in the District. During a structure fire or wildfire event, if water must be conveyed between zones to supplement lost water, the District water operator must manually operate the butterfly valves. Water conveyance should not require manual operation. The addition of Pressure PRV's, in each of the five pressure zones will provide for automatic (not manual) operation of water conveyance and provide for more reliable fire protection in the District. BMMD is installing the first PRV this summer. This is also a multi-year, multi-phase project.

Replacing Old Fire Hydrants & Valves

To safeguard the public by ensuring fire hydrants are accessible and fully functioning, BMMD is conducting a fire hydrant and valve replacement program. This program replaces old fire hydrants and valves with new, long lasting equipment which offers enhanced flow rates to improve fire-fighting capability. This vital work is needed to ensure that emergency services personnel have easy access to hydrants with sufficient water pressure and flow rates to fight a fire.

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Long Range Plan Continued....

Wastewater Improvements

BMMD regularly monitors the sewage collection system by conducting bi-annual camera and cleaning of the sewer main system and repairs problems to wastewater infrastructure caused by water infiltration of spring run-off, freezing temperatures, and deteriorating pipes. We continue to ensure that our wastewater systems are operating safe and efficiently.

Portable Generator

Typically, a water tank is sized to hold approximately one day's worth of water for the community served by the tank. Should there be a power failure longer than one day, there will not be sufficient water capacity to meet customer demands without the ability to pump water which requires power. A portable generator will improve water supply reliability and enhance firefighting capabilities during emergencies by providing backup power in the event of a power outage.

GIS Mapping

Geographic information systems (GIS), mapping programs track infrastructure assets such as water, wastewater, valves, service lines, curb valves, manholes, and more. Without the IT resources to create maps of underground pipelines and other linear assets, utilities can have a tough time locating them. A GIS serves as a web map with layers corresponding to various systems that can be updated and shared in real-time with workers in the field, thereby reducing redundancy and saving valuable time locating infrastructure that may be buried under the snow, or not easily located. BMMD will begin locating infrastructure assets this summer and digitally mapping the entire system over the next three years.

Telemetry Communications Upgrade

Utilities use telemetry monitoring to keep track of unmanned assets such as pumping stations, water tank levels, and water treatment activities which is mandatory to manage the water distribution network. BMMD is upgrading 20 year old radios and dated hardware/software to make the system more efficient.

3% Rate Increase Planned For 2018

Having adequate financial resources is a must if BMMD is going to maintain an adequate and sustainable supply of safe drinking water and a reliable wastewater system for Wilderrest community members. BMMD's long-term strategic, operational and financial planning confirms the need for an annual utility service rate increase of 3% starting in 2018 and beyond. BMMD plans to budget for infrastructure improvements every year for at least the next 10 years.

BMMD will most likely incur bond financing to fund needed capital infrastructure projects mentioned above. Water & sewer utilities typically fund major repairs and other infrastructure work by issuing bonds that are repaid over time. The annual cost of paying off debt servicing those bonds is passed on to consumers as higher service rates.

Water & sewer utility rate increases are also necessary to cover rising operating costs for electricity, chemicals, materials, maintenance and equipment. Utility rate increases also cover the rising construction costs associated with replacing or upgrading aging infrastructure. New state and federal regulatory requirements for treatment processes also increase utility costs. The 2018 proposed increase is outlined as follows:

	Current Quarterly Water/Sewer Rate	3% Increase Quarterly	New 2018 Quarterly Water/Sewer Rate
Wilderrest	\$144	\$4.32	\$148.32
Cortina Ridge	\$216	\$6.48	\$222.48

Rather than large rate increases being applied periodically, BMMD is planning small annual increases to keep pace with inflation and needed infrastructure updates. Rate increases are considered by the BMMD Board of Directors in October of each year as part of the district wide budget process. Customers will be notified on an annual basis of all rate increases.

BMMD is planning a public meeting to discuss the proposed 2018 increase on Tuesday, September 19, 2017, 6:00 p.m., at the District office located at 106 Adams Ave., in Silverthorne. All District property owners are invited to attend. Parking is limited so you may be subject to off-site parking. Customers are also welcome to call the District Manager, Shellie Duplan, to discuss the proposed increase or ask questions. She can be reached at 970-513-1300.

New BMMD Website

www.colorado.gov/bmmd

In partnership with the Statewide Internet Portal Authority (SIPA), BMMD created a new website that is easier to navigate with an updated professional look. SIPA provides free website hosting for CO Governmental entities and Special Districts. BMMD is taking advantage of this free service and encourages Wildernest customers to visit the site for information relating to water, sewer, roads, protective covenants, architectural review, emergency services, fees/billing, or to make payments on-line 24 hours a day.

Dead and Diseased Tree Notices

This summer BMMD will be conducting onsite inspections throughout the community for dead and diseased trees. Wildernest is a high-density sub-division and considered a RED ZONE, where dead and diseased trees pose extreme fire hazards. Property owners must maintain defensible fire space and remove dead and diseased trees to insure the safety of our community. Please do not wait to receive a notice to remove from BMMD. You can contact Alpine Tree Service at 970-389-4964 or Beatle Kill Tree Guys at 970-485-3632 to help remove dead or diseased trees. You could be eligible for the Summit County Wildfire Mitigation Grant that could help offset the costs of dead tree removal. For more information on the grant programs, call Summit County at 970-668-4140.

Summit County Chipping Program 2017

Summit County government is providing FREE chipping and the disposal of branches, logs and small trees. If you clear woody vegetation from around your home and stack it in a slash pile, the County will chip it and haul it away at no cost! Clearing this debris helps our residents create a defensible space. Be sure to stack it in accordance to Summit County's pile guidelines! **There are two pick-up sessions in Wildernest: July 10th –14th and August 28th – Sept. 1st .** To take advantage of this FREE service and directions on how to stack: visit www.summitcountyco.gov/Chipping or call 970-668-4140.

Noxious Weeds

Do You Know What's in Your Yard?

Noxious Weeds are non-native plants that disrupt native vegetation in Colorado. These invasive Noxious Weeds have no natural controls and adapt to varied conditions. Summit County's Weed-Control website (www.summitcountyco.gov) can provide you with many options to fight back such as:

- List of Colorado's Noxious Weeds and images so you can identify them in your yard.
- The Backpack Loaner Program for those do it yourselves – Summit County provides backpack sprayers with the appropriate herbicide already inside. All you do is add water.
- List of Licensed Noxious Weed Control Contractors
- For bigger properties a Weed Control Cost Share Program, which could help offset the costs of noxious weed management.

The Wildernest Community has a very high concentration of a noxious weed called "False Chamomile". If your yard contains False Chamomile you may receive notice from BMMD to remove. A picture of False Chamomile is found below.



Noxious Weed False Chamomile

False Chamomile, an escaped ornamental, is a bushy annual plant 1/2 to 2 feet tall with showy, twelve-petaled white flowers. It is nearly identical in appearance to the strong scented species, but can be easily distinguished by its lack of odor. This member of the sunflower family flowers from May to October. Imported from Europe as an ornamental, False Chamomile now grows worldwide. The plant has become established in Wildernest and throughout mountainous regions in Colorado.

Noxious Weeds are rapidly displacing our native vegetation, causing a loss of the native ecosystems stability and diversity, while negatively affecting recreational resources. Summit County Noxious Weed Department can be reached at 970-668-4218. Open Monday -Thursday.

Water Quality Report

Each year BMMD complies with State and Federal regulatory requirements to provide safe clean drinking water to the Wildernest property owners. To help promote protection of public health and environment, BMMD routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water. BMMD is proud to report that no drinking water violations or deficiencies was identified for calendar year 2016. To download a copy of the Water Quality Report visit the District website at www.colorado.gov/bmmd, and click on "Water Quality Report" on the home page under "What's New" heading.

Source Water Protection Plan

There is a growing effort in Colorado to protect community drinking water sources from potential contamination. Many communities are taking a proactive approach to preventing the pollution of their drinking water sources by developing a Source Water Protection Plan (SWPP).

BMMD recently completed a SWPP to protect BMMD's valuable water resource by reducing risk of contamination at the source.

The SWPP can be found on the BMMD website at www.coloradogov/bmmd, on the homepage under the tab "Services" and "Water".

Wildernest Protective Covenants

BMMD provides for the administration and operation of all water, sewer, road maintenance, architectural guidelines and covenant enforcement services within the Wildernest subdivision. All such properties within the Wildernest subdivision are subject to the BMMD Rules & Regulations and Wildernest Protective Covenants.

Established and recorded in 1969 and 1971, the Protective Covenants declares certain limitations, restrictions and uses upon all properties located within the Wildernest subdivision. Certain limitations include trailers, parking, trash, fences, signs, dead tree removal, and more.

Each property owner within Wildernest is responsible for the compliance with the Covenants, regardless of whether the property in question is rented to others or vacant for any length of time. Should a property owner be in violation of the Covenants, BMMD will send written notification of such violation to the property owner, and may impose penalties if not corrected within a specific time period.

These Covenants were made to keep the subdivision desirable, attractive, suitable in architectural design, materials and appearance, all for the mutual benefit and protection of property values in Wildernest. You can download a copy of the Covenants on the BMMD website at www.bmmd.org.

Mailing Address

PO Box 2430
Silverthorne, CO 80498

Physical Address

106 Adams Ave.
Silverthorne, CO 80498
Phone: 970-513-1300
Fax: 970-513-1301

District Manager:

Shellie Duplan
shellie@bmmd.org

Assistant Manager:

Jasmine Hupcey
jasmine@bmmd.org

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www.colorado.gov/bmmd

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After Hours Water and Sewer Emergency Services

For immediate assistance with BMMD water or sewer emergencies please contact Metro Services at (970) 468-7688 or call (970) 409-0270.

Buffalo Mountain Metropolitan District

Providing Water/Sewer/Road & Covenant services to the Wildernest Community for over 45 years