

# Newsletter



Summer 2026

## **PBHMD Board of Directors**

**David Lisle** – President  
[pbhmd@pbhmd.com](mailto:pbhmd@pbhmd.com)

**Melissa Raetz** – Vice President  
[pbhmd@pbhmd.com](mailto:pbhmd@pbhmd.com)

**Russel Lawrence** – Treasurer  
[pbhmd@pbhmd.com](mailto:pbhmd@pbhmd.com)

**Franklin Coleman** – Secretary  
[pbhmd@pbhmd.com](mailto:pbhmd@pbhmd.com)

**Nicole Noffsinger** – Asst. Secretary  
[pbhmd@pbhmd.com](mailto:pbhmd@pbhmd.com)

## **PBHMD District Staff**

**Robert Guevara** – District Manager  
[robert@pbhmd.com](mailto:robert@pbhmd.com)

**Steve Knepper** – O.R.C.  
[steve@pbhmd.com](mailto:steve@pbhmd.com)

**Emily Tamang** – Finance / Accounts Payable  
[emily@pbhmd.com](mailto:emily@pbhmd.com)

**Chris Sulewski** – Field Supervisor  
[csulewski@pbhmd.com](mailto:csulewski@pbhmd.com)

**Dawnica Smart** – Service Coordinator  
[dawnica@pbhmd.com](mailto:dawnica@pbhmd.com)

**Brittany Percival** – Assistant Water Operator / Office Supervisor  
[brittany@pbhmd.com](mailto:brittany@pbhmd.com)

Visit our website at [pbhmd.org](http://pbhmd.org)  
Office phone: (719)495-8188

## **Water Meters, Meter Pits and Curb Stops**

**Water Meter:** A meter that records all water that moves through the device and electronically sends the data to the servers located at the district office. Even though this is considered a smart device, the data cannot be changed or influenced. The signal is sent to the servers about every 4 hours.

**Meter Pits:** A small hole “pit” in the ground where your meter is installed. Scenic View and filings 13b, 13c, and 13d have meter pits. These are normally covered by a plastic black round cover in the front yard. Typically, around 15 feet from the curb.

**Curb Stop:** A valve located about 6 feet deep that “stops” the water supply from the “curb”. This valve is used in emergency situations to shut the water supply to the house.

Inadvertently blocking access to, preventing the meter from sending data or covering any of these is against the District’s Rules and Regulations. If it is required to manually read meters or uncover any of these the property could be charged for all labor and materials.

The most common restriction is landscaping. Even large amounts of grass clippings, especially when wet, will block the meter from communicating with the server.

Please keep the cover of your meter pit clean and free of debris. If your meter is in your home, normally by your water heater, ensure that nothing is stored near the meter itself. While landscaping, ensure you locate your curb stop and do not allow your landscapers to cover this.



## **Friendly Reminders!**

The upcoming Board Meetings will be held on July 16<sup>th</sup> and August 20<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm. Any changes will be announced on our **Facebook** and **website**.

## Watermelon Rice Krispies Treats

### You will need:

- 6 Tablespoons Unsalted Butter
- 16 oz Miniature Marshmallows
- 1 Teaspoon Vanilla Extract
- 6 Cups Rice Krispies Cereal
- Red Food Coloring
- Green Food Coloring
- ¼ Cup Chocolate Chips



### Instructions:

- Line 2 round cake pans with parchment paper OR spray with non-stick spray and set aside
- Melt butter over medium heat in a medium saucepan. Add miniature marshmallows, setting aside 1 cup for later. Stir until marshmallows are melted and stir in 1 tsp of vanilla extract
- In a large bowl, pour melted marshmallows over Rice Krispies and mix together. Stir in the last cup of miniature marshmallows to combine
- Divide mixture into 2 bowls, putting about 2/5 in one bowl and 3/5 in the other. Use food coloring to color the smaller amount green and the larger amount red
- Use the green Rice Krispies to form the rind of the watermelon by placing it around the outside edge of the cake pan. Then, fill in the center of the cake pan with the red Rice Krispies to complete the watermelon; gently press the Rice Krispies together so both colors combine
- Add “seeds” by gently pressing chocolate chips into the red Rice Krispies
- Allow to set for 1-2 hours before slicing into wedges and serving

Recipe From: <https://crayonsandcravings.com/watermelon-rice-krispies-treats>

## Conserve Water and Keep Your Lawn Green

As summer heats up, our sprinkler systems become essential tools for maintaining healthy lawns and gardens. But without proper management, they can also become major sources of water waste. Fortunately, conserving water while using your sprinkler system is easier than you might think. Here are some quick, effective tips to help you save water—and money—without sacrificing curb appeal.

1. **Water Times:** Water during the cooler parts of the day—early morning or late evening—to reduce evaporation. Avoid watering during midday when the sun is strongest. The District’s water conservation policy states **no irrigation watering is allowed between 10:00 am - 6:00 pm (GREEN FLAG)**
2. **Seasonal Adjustment:** Update your sprinkler schedule monthly based on the weather and season. Lawns need less water in spring and fall than in the peak of summer. Your lawn only needs 1 to 1.5 inches of water per week. Place a tuna fish can while water, it normally measures a 1” deep.
3. **Fix Leaks and Overspray:** Check for leaking sprinkler heads, broken lines, or areas where water sprays onto sidewalks and driveways. All water on the cement or roads is 100% wasted. Fixing these small issues can save thousands of gallons over a season.
4. **Install Smart Controllers:** Smart sprinkler controllers adjust watering based on weather forecasts, soil moisture, and plant needs. These systems can reduce water use by up to 30%.
5. **Use the “Cycle and Soak” Method:** Instead of watering all at once, run sprinklers in shorter cycles with breaks in between. This allows water to soak into the soil rather than running off. Instead of water for 30 minutes, water for 8 minutes three times for that day. Only water to soak. Once water starts to run off of your lawn the ground is saturated and needs time to be absorb. Suggest setting irrigation to three times a week in accordance with the District’s water conversation (**BLUE FLAG**) is **Even address’ M-W-F. Odd T-Th-Sat.**
6. **Choose Water-Efficient Heads:** Switch to rotary or low-flow nozzles that deliver water more slowly and evenly, increasing absorption and reducing waste.
7. **Fertilize:** Fertilizing your lawn is the process of adding essential nutrients to the soil to promote healthy grass growth. The three primary nutrients that lawns need are nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium. Nitrogen is responsible for promoting leaf and stem growth, phosphorus is essential for root development, and potassium helps improve the grass’s overall health.
8. **Other water savings ideas:** Mowing your lawn to the proper height: Cutting your grass too short can stress the plant and require more water. Keep grass at a height of 2-3 inches, longer grass needs less water. Aerate your lawn: Aeration helps improve water absorption by breaking up compacted soil and allowing water and nutrients to penetrate deeper. Keep the clippings on your grass! The cut grass will break down and provide about 25% of the nutrients your lawn needs.

By making just a few changes, your sprinkler system can work more efficiently saving water, lowering your utility bills, and keeping your landscape thriving. Every drop counts!

# Project Updates

## 1. Rehabilitation of wells:

- a. Two wells are scheduled yearly for Rehabilitation. This includes:
  - i. Pump, motor and pipe. (Completed every other rehab)
  - ii. "Scrubbing" the well shaft, chlorinate the shaft and replacing needed equipment.
- b. For 2026, Wells 4 and 7 are scheduled for rehab

## 2. Curb Stop Project

- a. Using a GPS device that will help find your curb stops, sewer clean outs and be able to locate your buried pipes
- b. All we need to do is stand over the curb stop and enter the GPS location. This takes just a few seconds.
- c. Your Curb stop is required to always be accessible per district rules.
  - i. We have found several buried under driveway extensions
  - ii. We may also be documenting the measurements

## 3. Other Long Term Future Projects (estimated time to break ground)

- a. Well 13: Dawson Aquifer (2 Years)
  - i. Will increase water production
  - ii. Pending replacement plan that is required for all shallow aquifers
- b. Re-piping Pump house 1 and 2 to the filter station. (2 – 3 Years)
  - i. The older wells have odors, and the filter station will help remove most of this.
- c. Lift Station Expansion (3 – 5 years)
  - i. This will allow more time to react, allowing better protection of the environment in a catastrophic failure.
- d. Extra Storage Tank (2 – 5 Years)
  - i. Required as we continue to build. Having more water on hand is always a good thing.
- e. We will be completing the engineering for each of these projects in 2026. This will allow us to know estimated cost, timelines to build and address any legal issues that there may be.

**We would love to see increased participation at the board meetings.** Please come to observe, add your input and ask questions!

Meetings are normally on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month at 5 pm. If you feel a better time would draw more attendance, we are very open to this. Come talk to the board!

## CCR REPORT INFORMATION

Every year Paint Brush Hills publishes its **Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)**, also known as an Annual Water Quality Report, which provides consumers with information about the quality of their drinking water, including any detected contaminants, their levels, and potential health effects. The CCR also lists all PBHMD's water sources, general information about those sources as well as any violations that may have occurred in the last year. This is a legally required disclosure under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) established in 1996 under the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and is to be made available to customers prior to June 30<sup>th</sup> each year. You should have received a link on both the May and June water bill where you can find it electronically on the Districts website. This years CCR and the last several as well can be found at **PBHMD.org** under the **Community Tab**.

Our District office is located at:  
**9985 Towner Avenue**  
**Falcon, CO 80831**

This space could be used for a local ad! Interested in advertising for our newsletter?  
Email Brittany at [brittany@pbhmd.com](mailto:brittany@pbhmd.com)