

Water Currents

Highland Lakes Water District
Providing quality drinking water to residents of Highland Lakes

Volume 26 Issue 4

Winter, 2024

President's Message

Season's Greetings, Friends and Neighbors!

As this New Year begins, the District has several pieces of information to pass along to you. The most exciting piece is that we finally have the new District website ready and available to all residents. Shelly Dolbeer, our Director of Public Relations and website administrator has done a tremendous job with the design and implementation of this website along with input from the Board of Directors. The website address is highlandlakeswaterdistrict.colorado.gov. As I've mentioned before, the main method of contacting you will be as always through email so please be sure we have your current email address for our files. Now, you will have access to the website as well for all types of information. Please remember that Facebook is **not** an approved method of communication from Highland Lakes Water District.

Also included in this newsletter is the District's annual Transparency Notice. The District is required to distribute this notice to each customer every year. The regular election of board members will be May 6, 2025. There are three board positions up for election in May. Because we are a Special District of the State of Colorado, you must be an owner (or the spouse of an owner) of taxable property within Highland Lakes subdivision and you must be registered to vote in the State of Colorado and in Teller County. If you are interested in being a part of the Board of Directors, please file a Self-Nomination Form, available from the Designated Election Official Melinda Moyn, as soon as possible but **no later than February 28, 2025**.

The state required notice of "Failure to Provide Adequate Treatment" for this quarter is included within. Construction of the new GWUDI (Ground Water Under Direct Influence) treatment addition at our treatment and storage facility is coming along as scheduled and should be online by June of 2025.

At the time of writing this President's message, the District is in a cautionary mode. Our operations team is in the process of locating a large leak in a transmission line from the wells. As soon as this leak is located and repaired, all our wells will be in good working condition and will provide much needed water to our storage facility. There has been an increased demand for water from our customers and, currently, we are hauling water from an outside source to meet that demand. It is the District's hope to stop this expensive practice as soon as possible. An especially interesting area for you to check out on our new web page is the Monthly Water Usage graph which shows the amount of water being used by billing tiers each month. Please always practice water conservation methods in your home. This does not mean you cannot bathe when you need to. We are talking about leaking faucets, toilets, etc. It is amazing how much water can go through a very small leak.

And a final quick reminder: Elk Lake is the only lake that ice fishing is allowed on and is by permit only. Ice fishing is not allowed on the Beaver Ponds or Deer Lake and, as always, ice fishing is done at your own risk. Remember no motorized vehicles are allowed on Elk Lake. Highland Lakes Water District is not responsible for accidents on or in the lakes and ponds.

Thank you for your continued support!

Sue Morford
HLWD President

Introducing the Highland Lakes Water District Website!

highlandlakeswaterdistrict.colorado.gov

We're excited to announce the launch of the official Highland Lakes Water District website. This new website is your **one-stop-shop** for all things HLWD, providing accurate and timely information you can trust.

Stay up to date with alerts and announcements, access district documents like agendas and policies, and find important news and updates, all in one convenient location.

Visit highlandlakeswaterdistrict.colorado.gov today and bookmark it as your go-to source for staying informed about your water district!

Stay connected.
Stay informed.
Stay confident with HLWD.

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Highland Lakes Water District Transparency Notice

Pursuant to section 32-1-809, Colorado Revised Statutes for Transparency Notices may be filed with Special District Association of Colorado. This information must be provided annually to the eligible electors of the district no later than January 15 of each year.

*Note that some information provided herein may be subject to change after the notice is posted.

District's Principal Business Office

Company Highland Lakes Water District
Contact Mary Schnierle
Address 5721 Canyon Reserve Heights
Colorado Springs, CO 80919
Phone 719-687-7937
**District's
Physical Location** Teller County

Regular Board Meeting Information

Location Highland Lakes Community Building
Address 276 Deer Lake Circle
DIVIDE, Colorado 80814
Day(s) Third Tuesday of each month
Time 6:00PM

Posting Place for Meeting Notice

Location Three bulletin board locations
Address Intersection of County Rd 512 and Twin Lakes
Dr; Intersection of County Rd 512 and Blue
Mesa Dr; East end of Elk Lake

Notice of Proposed Action to Fix or Increase Fees, Rates, Tolls, Penalties or Charges for Domestic Water or Sanitary Sewer Services

Location
Address
Date
Notice

Current District Mill Levy

Mills 5.506

Ad Valorem Tax Revenue

Revenue reported may be incomplete or unaudited as of the date this Notice was posted.

Amount (\$) \$73,376.00

Date of Next Regular Election

Date 05/06/2025

Pursuant to 24-72-205 C.R.S.

The District's research and retrieval fee is \$25.00 per hour.

District Policy

Requests for copies of records or research will be made to the Office Manager by calling 719-687-7937. The Office Manager will notify the President of the Board of Directors of the specifics of the request. The President will either perform the research or copy requested documents or appoint a member of the Board to perform the task. Once the requested information is gathered it will be transferred to the Office Manager for mailing to the requesting party. There will be a cost recovery fee of \$25.00 per hour or portion thereof for records research, copying, printing and refiling and a \$.25 per page fee for printing. Payment must be received by the Office Manager prior to release of the requested documents.

District contact information for open records request:
Mary Schnierle

Names of District Board Members

Board President

Name Sue Morford, President
Contact Info smorford1453@gmail.com
Election Yes, this office will be on the next regular election ballot.

Board Member 2

Name Ken Morford, Director of Operations
Contact Info kmorford54@yahoo.com
Election No, this office will not be on the next regular election ballot.

Board Member 3

Name Melinda Moyn, Secretary
Contact Info melindamoyn@gmail.com
Election Yes, this office will be on the next regular election ballot.

Board Member 4

Name Brian Dillon, Treasurer
Contact Info brian.andrew.dillon@gmail.com
Election No, this office will not be on the next regular election ballot.

Board Member 5

Name Shelly Dolbeer, Director of Public Relations
Contact Info shellyhlwd@gmail.com
Election Yes, this office will be on the next regular election ballot.

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Board Candidate Self-Nomination Forms

Any eligible elector of the special district who desires to be a candidate for this office of special district director must file a self-nomination and acceptance form or letter with the designated election official.

Deadline for Self-Nomination Forms

Self-nomination and acceptance forms or letters must be filed not less than 67 days before the date of the regular election.

District Election Results

The district's current election results will be posted on the website of the Colorado Secretary of State (www.sos.state.co.us) and the website indicated below, if any.

Website highlandlakeswaterdistrict.colorado.gov

Permanent Mail-In Voter Status

Absentee voting and Permanent absentee voter status (formerly Permanent Mail-In voter status): Where to obtain and return forms.

Melinda Moyn 1747 Blue Mesa Drive, Divide, CO 80814

Applications for absentee voting or for permanent absentee voter status are available from and must be returned to the Designated Election Official.

Melinda Moyn, Designated Election Official

Notice Completed By

Name	Mary Schnierle
Company/District	Highland Lakes Water District
Title	Office Manager
Email	highlandwater@msn.com
Dated	11/1/2024

HLWD Public Notice

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Highland Lakes Water District

Failed to Provide Adequate Treatment

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Our water system recently violated a drinking water requirement. As our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

The State Drinking Water Program requires us to filter the water in addition to disinfecting by 3/15/2023. We are required to install this filtration because our source water contains surface water (lake or stream). Alternatively, we can choose to use another water source that does not contain surface water. We have not yet met this requirement. We do not know of any cases of contamination. However, until improvements are made, there is an increased chance that disease-causing organisms could contaminate the water supply. Filtration with disinfection is the best method for removing these organisms.

What does this mean? What should I do?

- **You do not need to boil your water or take other actions. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.** A home filter will not necessarily solve the problem, because not all home filters protect against parasites. Call NSF International at 1(800) NSF-8010 or the Water Quality Association at 1(800) 749-0234 for information on appropriate filters.
- Inadequately treated water may contain disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches. These symptoms are not only caused only by organisms in drinking water, but also by other factors. If you experience any of these symptoms and they persist, you may want to consult your doctor.
- If you have an infant, severely compromised immune system, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your doctor about drinking this water. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by bacteria and other disease-causing organisms are available from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

What is being done?

- This situation is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately.
- The District has begun construction of the required GWUDI Filtration System but this did not occur by the deadline set by the CDPHE due to a delay with state engineering and funding procurement therefore we are required to distribute this Tier 2 Violation Notice to our customers quarterly. You will receive a public notice each quarter until completion of the project which will update you on the progress.

The District anticipates resolving this problem by June of 2025. For more information, please contact **Sue Morford** at smorford1453@gmail.com or Highland Lakes Water District at 719-687-7937.

This notice is being sent to you by: Highland Lakes Water District - C00160200 Date distributed: **12/30/2024**

Stay in the Know with HLWD!

Discover how our new website makes it easy to find alerts, updates, and essential information. Learn more on page 1.

Water Currents

The Highland Lakes Water District
Volume 26, Issue 4 Winter 2024

Newsletter Editor:

Shelly Dolbeer
Divide, CO 80814
E-Mail: shellyhlwd@gmail.com

Meetings

The HLWD Board of Directors meets at 6:00 p.m.
on the third Tuesday of every month in the HLPOA
Community Building. Highland Lakes owners and
residents are welcome.

Website

highlandlakeswaterdistrict.colorado.gov

Important Phone Numbers

Board Members

Sue Morford	President
Melinda Moyn	Secretary
Brian Dillon	Treasurer
Ken Morford	Operations Director
Shelly Dolbeer	Public Relations

HLWD District Office

Mary Schnierle	Office Manager	719-687-7937
Neal Yowell	System Operator	

Emergency Number 719-247-1191