

# BCPUD PIPELINE



Spring 2020

270 Elm Road, P.O. Box 390, Bolinas, CA 94924 (415) 868-1224

## **Update on Rainfall in Bolinas for the 2019-20 Rain Year: WELL BELOW NORMAL**

It has been a VERY DRY rain year in Bolinas thus far, relatively speaking. As of the end of March 2020, Bolinas had received only 19.9 inches of rainfall for the 2019-20 rain year (which is measured from July 1, 2019-June 30, 2020). In contrast, last year at the end of March Bolinas had received 35.8 inches of rain. On average, Bolinas receives about 32.5 inches a year, so we are well behind the average annual rainfall amount.

Although Bolinas from time to time receives a considerable amount of rain in April, that has not been the case this year (at least as this newsletter goes to print during the second half of the month) and rainfall historically is quite sparse during the months of May and/or June.

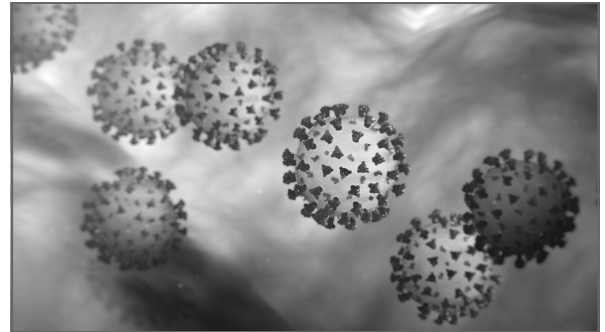
**We therefore urge all BCPUD customers to do their best to conserve water beginning NOW — please see the accompanying article in the main section of this newsletter.**

**Water or Sewer emergency? Please contact our office at 415-868-1224**

## **COVID-19 Impacts on BCPUD Governance and General Operations**

In light of the Shelter-in-Place requirements imposed in Marin and elsewhere due to the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) the BCPUD has implemented the following protocols:

### **BCPUD Board and Board Committee Meetings To Be Held Via Teleconference beginning in April 2020**



The BCPUD Board and its standing Board committees continue to meet to conduct essential district business in accordance with the Brown Act as currently in effect under the State Emergency Services Act, the Governor's Emergency Declaration related to COVID-19, and the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20 issued on March 17, 2020, that allows attendance by members of the Board, district staff and the public to participate and conduct such meetings by teleconference. The first regularly scheduled meeting of the BCPUD Board to be held via teleconference occurred on April 15, 2020 and the next two regularly scheduled meetings (tentatively planned to occur via teleconference, as well) are May 20, 2020 and June 17, 2020. Upcoming notices of BCPUD Board meetings (and/or Board Committee meetings) will include specific information about how the public can participate in these meetings via teleconference, assuming remote meeting arrangements remain in place per state and/or local public health orders.

### **BCPUD Offices Are Closed to the Public But We Continue to Provide Safe Utility Service to our Community 24/7**

For the safety of our employees and our community members, the BCPUD office at 270 Elm Road is closed to the public until such time as public health authorities deem that it is safe for us to reopen. That said, our staff continue to work as usual to provide you with "essential services" including drinking water, sewer, solid waste disposal and related utility functions.



The public may contact office staff via the telephone at (415) 868-1224 on weekdays during regular business hours and via email at [bcpud@bcpud.org](mailto:bcpud@bcpud.org), and also may pay water bills or submit written communications to the district at any time via U.S. Mail or the office "drop box" in the front of the BCPUD office building at 270 Elm Road.



### **Water Safety Information and a Request for Conservation**

We are living through unsettling times with the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. **We want you to know that the novel coronavirus has no impact on the supply or safety of your drinking water.**

Our water supply is locally sourced, with nearly all of it coming from the Arroyo Hondo Creek in the protected Point Reyes National Seashore. Your water is treated, disinfected and routinely monitored to ensure there are no viruses or pathogens. We have implemented plans to ensure that we will continue to provide you with safe, high-quality drinking water throughout the current public health emergency, and beyond.

**Please Conserve Water!!!** Many of us are sheltering at our homes in Bolinas for the foreseeable future as a result of the “shelter in place” order issued for Marin County, so the BCPUD would like to remind everyone that we are experiencing an extremely dry rain year with much less than our usual rainfall received to-date. As this newsletter goes to print near the end of April, we are starting to see water consumption in the district trend upward. ***Please, we urgently request that you do whatever you can to reduce your water consumption as soon as possible.*** For example, please hand-water your garden (or forego outdoor watering entirely) and do not turn on any automatic irrigation systems — these systems are prone to failure (resulting in enormous leaks) and tend to result in over-watering. Please only run your washing machine and/or dishwasher when completely full. Please limit showers to 5 minutes or less. If you have friends or family staying with you, or if you are a homeowner renting out your house on a temporary basis, please remind visitors of the need to conserve. Please feel free to call our office (415-868-1224) between 10 am and 3 pm (weekdays) for conservation advice, and thank you for doing what you can to reduce your water use.

### **REMINDER: WIPES ARE NOT FLUSHABLE!**



Please remember that notwithstanding anything to the contrary (i.e., misleading) on the packaging, disinfecting and other wipes are **NOT FLUSHABLE**. Please do **not** flush *any* wipes down your toilets – whether you are on the sewer system or not as septic systems cannot handle these products either. As for the sewer system: **Wipes will damage our pumps! Wipes do not break down during the sewage treatment process. Please do not flush wipes down your toilets!** Sewer districts throughout California already have experienced damage to their systems as a result of people flushing wipes down their toilets, including but not limited to blocked sewer mains and sewage spills. Please do your part and do not flush wipes, thank you!

**Thank you!!!** Finally, all of us at the BCPUD are very fortunate to serve such a wonderful community, a community focused on ensuring that we get through these unsettling times together with our generosity of spirit intact. Thank you for everything you are doing to help your friends and neighbors. Stay safe and healthy!