

Flooding In Kirkwood

If you were in Kirkwood at the end of January you may have experienced the rain on snow event which caused numerous flooding issues around the Kirkwood Valley and less than ideal skiing conditions. With a rain on snow event, surface drains can quickly become blocked by ice dams and also cause normal flowing creek water to be diverted and overflow.

During this event, an ice dam developed near the Base Camp Condominiums and unfortunately caused water to overflow from the creek into several of the lower level units, and then flow down Kirkwood Meadows Drive towards East Meadows and Cornice Court. According to witnesses at the time of the flood, there was almost a foot of standing water in the road which blocked vehicle access into the east side of the valley. Fortunately, with a cooperative effort by the District and Kirkwood Mountain Resort, all drains in the area were quickly cleared and the road was reopened.



Hwy 88 "Ice Box" 15-Car Accident

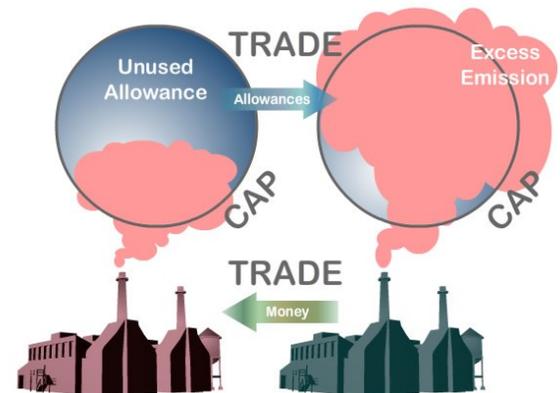


On Saturday, February 6, 2016 at 9:37am the Kirkwood Volunteer Fire Department responded to a 15-car accident on Highway 88 in the area known as "Ice Box" or "Pinball Alley" which is located just east of the Kirkwood Inn near the Caples Lake Spillway parking entrance.

The Lake Valley Fire Protection District, CALSTAR and Amador Fire Protection District also responded. Luckily, there were only minor injuries associated with this multiple car accident which closed the road for over three hours and was a major inconvenience to guests coming to Kirkwood and those traveling Highway 88. The District has started an effort to work with Caltrans to improve the signage in this very dangerous area. More on this to follow...

Climate Rebate

The Greenhouse Gas Cap-and-Trade Program helps to fight climate change by decreasing the amount of greenhouse gases that can be released into the atmosphere. The California Air Resources Board has set a statewide greenhouse gas emissions cap, and each year it will lower the cap until California reaches its emissions reduction goal. Industries in this program must either reduce their greenhouse gas emissions or buy a limited quantity of allowances.



As an eligible electrical distribution utility under California's Greenhouse Gas

Cap-and-Trade Program, the District receives allowances that are sold through California Air Resources Board auctions. Some of the auction money is used by the state to fight climate change, and some is returned to California electric customers as a rebate. The intent of these rebates is to protect customers from overall cost increases on their electricity bills and to give people additional opportunities to invest in energy and money-saving upgrades.

On your February bill you will see a credit for \$50.64 for each electric meter on your account. This credit is your share of the auction profits.

For more information on the climate credit, and energy efficient measures that you can take, please visit

www.energyupgradeca.org

COMMUNITY NEWS

Tri-County Technical Advisory Committee

The TC-TAC was formed in 1992, recognizing the need for cooperation and communication regarding the Counties' land-use planning in Kirkwood. The Committee is composed of technical advisory staff (land use planners, public works officials and others) from each County and includes representatives from the Eldorado National Forest and the District as ex-officio members of the Committee. At the District's request, the next TC-TAC meeting has been moved to Friday, March 11th starting at 10:00am in the District's Board Room to coincide with the next District Board Meeting to be held the following day, March 12th. TC-TAC will be reviewing comments related to the 10-Year review of the Kirkwood Specific Plan and the District's role with this Committee. We hope to see increased participation by homeowners. An agenda will be posted on the District website as soon as it becomes available. If you're in Kirkwood, please plan to attend!

Warm Winters Coat Drive

Warm Winters has partnered with 30 ski resorts across the US delivering warm clothing to local homeless shelters near each ski resort. A collection bin is located in the District's Administrative Offices through March 31st where warm clothing, blankets & sleeping bags can be dropped off Mon-Fri 7:00am-4:30pm. Collection bins are also located throughout the Resort, KCA and Real Estate.

Kirkwood Ski Team

The annual Head2Head Ski Challenge and fundraising Race and Dinner Auction will be held Saturday, March 19th. For more information please contact Jim Reilly at jim4jrc@aol.com or call 831-662-2975 or 408-497-6622.

Alpine County Economic Development Advisory Committee

Alpine County is conducting a Public Opinion Survey through March 31st. The objective of this Committee is to identify programs to help diversify the economy, to help reverse the trend of failing or stagnating businesses, recruit new businesses, and improve services to support economic growth. The Committee is working to draw businesses and the community together through communication. The survey can be completed by going to Alpine County's homepage at www.alpinecountyca.gov.

Volcano Communications Fiber Update

Attached is an update on the Volcano Communications Kirkwood Fiber to the Home project. If you have questions about your services, please contact Volcano Communications for additional information at 209-258-3887.

Free Community Yoga

Feeling a little tight after a long day on the mountain? There is nothing like "downward dog" to loosen you up! Alpine County has teamed up with the District to bring free yoga classes to the Kirkwood Community. Classes are being held upstairs in the Community Services Building every Tuesday from 6-7:30pm and every Wednesday from 5-6:30pm, taught by Emily Winters. Mats and props are provided by Alpine County, but you can always bring your own. Whether you are new to yoga or already a seasoned yogi, everyone is welcome regardless of fitness level or experience. The practice of yoga is a very personal and individual journey. *It helps create longevity as well as help us to calm our constantly busy lives.* No matter what you come to yoga for, it is an uplifting practice that promotes good health and can enhance our lives. Come with an open mind and the will to learn! Namaste (nah-ma-stay)



Propane Public Awareness Message

Did you know that approximately 1,100 home fires in the United States result from propane leaks annually? Even though propane is a safe, reliable energy source there are safety risks associated with its use because it is a flammable substance. Please see the attached Public Awareness Message for important propane safety information for you and your family.

* Source: *Natural Gas and LP-Gas Home Structure Fires*, Jennifer Flynn, NFPA Fire Analysis and Research, Quincy, MA, January 2010

KMPUD Board of Directors:

Bob Epstein - President; Eric Richert - Vice President; Standish O'Grady -Treasurer;

Peter Dornbrook - Secretary; Geoff Smith - Assistant Secretary

Website: www.kmpud.com Call: (209) 258-4444 Email: Info@kmpud.com



Public Awareness Message

Propane Gas Systems

1. PURPOSE AND RELIABILITY OF THE PROPANE PIPELINE

The propane pipeline system in Kirkwood is owned, operated and maintained by the Kirkwood Meadows Public Utility District (District). The pipeline system is designed to distribute propane to the customers, which is commonly used for heating and cooking. Propane is also used by common facilities such as pools, laundry and other businesses on the properties that utilize the propane pipeline system.

2. OVERVIEW OF THE HAZARDS OF THE PIPELINE AND PREVENTION MEASURES USED

Propane can leak from pipeline facilities damaged due to corrosion, outside force, natural events, or equipment failure, etc. Because propane is a flammable commodity, propane leaks, under certain circumstances, have the potential to cause harm.

The propane system is leak-surveyed every five years. All hazardous leaks are repaired. All main valves are inspected annually to insure that they are operable. The propane system is patrolled on a routine basis to ensure that hazardous conditions such as atmospheric corrosion, improper care of discontinued services and customer lines, inadequate support of meters and pipeline components, etc. are noted and corrected. There is a cathodic protection system that protects the steel pipe in the system from corroding, and this system is also monitored regularly to ensure its effectiveness. Steel pipe is limited to the liquid lines at the bulk distribution plant on Loop Road.

3. INFORMATION ABOUT DAMAGE PREVENTION

The propane pipeline system is susceptible to damage due to outside forces such as those caused by excavation, vehicular traffic, or excessive loads placed on meter assemblies. The main source of excessive loads on meters in the Kirkwood Community is snow and ice. Please take measures to protect your meter and keep it clear of snow and ice at all times.

The greatest risk to underground propane pipelines is damage caused during excavation. Even a minor impact with the pipeline could cause a dent or damage to its coating, resulting in a leak. **Notify the District and other utilities before you dig by calling USA NORTH at 811/1-800-227-2600.**

In addition, restricted access to main valves and meter set assemblies could result in severe consequences in the event of an emergency. Do not park vehicles near propane meters or pipelines that are not protected by barriers. Do not remove meter supports or place heavy items on top of meter set assemblies. Please notify the District of propane meters that are vulnerable to vehicular damage or in need of supports. Residents should also notify the District of any other potential hazards they notice.

4. HOW TO RECOGNIZE AND RESPOND TO A LEAK

Odor: Propane is colorless, odorless, tasteless and non-toxic. An additive (Mercaptan) in the propane gives it a distinctive odor (similar to rotting eggs or sulfur).

Vegetation: Propane leaking from an underground pipeline can destroy vegetation by starving the roots of air and water. An unusual dry patch of vegetation, within an otherwise green area, could indicate a below ground propane leak.

Sound: A blowing or hissing sound could indicate the presence of a propane leak.

Fungus-like growth: Propane leaks in valve boxes, manholes, etc. may develop a fungus-like growth that is white in color.

Do not light items such as matches or cigarettes, or use any device that may generate a spark such as electrical switches, telephones (cell and land line phones), doorbells, automobiles or other engines, etc. Extinguish all flames, evacuate the building to a safe distance, and turn off propane if feasible. To report a propane leak, **call 209-258-4433** and inform appropriate qualified personnel of the situation and the location of the leak. Do not make the phone call from the area where the propane leak is present.

5. HOW TO GET ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For additional information, contact the District at 209-258-4444. Also, visit the websites of the U.S. Department of Transportation, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (<http://www.phmsa.dot.gov>) or the California Public Utilities Commission (<http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/puc/>).



Kirkwood Fiber to the Home ***Building a state of the art network***

March 1st, 2016

Kirkwood Meadows PUD

Board of Directors

Kirkwood, CA

Re: Volcano Communications Group – Fiber to the Home network upgrade status report

Status of the fiber upgrade project

In September 2015, Volcano Communications Group (VCG) began construction of its announced Kirkwood fiber to the home (ftth) network upgrade. Due to unanticipated delays caused by the Butte Fire, followed then by a severe fall electrical storm that damaged many of the company's facilities, and the subsequent repair work these 2 events necessitated, progress on the project fell behind schedule. Finally, much needed precipitation came early last year and caused a halt to further construction. The following is a status report of the work that was accomplished and a brief description of plans for completing the project this year.

Construction Status:

- 85% of the fiber backbone facilities have been installed.
- 50% of drops (connections from the street to the home) have been installed.
- 85% of the fiber splicing and testing to the installed drops has been completed.
- 8 homes have been completed and are operational.

What to expect

A detailed plan will be forthcoming as a reassessment is completed; however these are some of the things you can expect to see from VCG in the very near future – weather permitting.

March 1st, 2016 (approx.):

- A small initial crew of VCG personnel will be in the valley to assess conditions, continue design considerations and planning for the Multi-Dwelling Unit locations.

Late May through June, 2016:

- A full complement of VCG construction crew personnel will resume work on drops, with fiber splicing and testing as required.
- In-building installations will resume for single family units in the Fremont Road area and MDU's in late June.

We anticipate completion of the project in time for the winter 2016 ski season. Again, additional details will be forthcoming as the retooled plan takes shape.

Questions?

We appreciate your patience and understanding as we continue efforts to bring fiber to Kirkwood. If you have questions about your services, please contact us for additional information:

209-258-3887.

We look forward to bringing you the most reliable phone, TV and broadband Internet available!

Sincerely,

Engineering and Outside Plant Department

Volcano Communications Group