

STRATMOOR NEWS

Stratmoor Hills Water, Sanitation & Fire Protection Districts

Volume 25 Issue 8

August 2023

Water District Suffers Lightning Damage

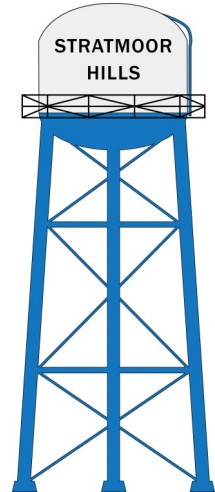
With all the wild weather in our area over the last few months, it seems it would only a matter of time before something bad was going to happen, especially when that “something” stands almost 100-feet in the air. And, so it was, on June 20th, the antenna for the District’s meter reading system, which was located on top of the elevated storage tank on Catalina Court, took a direct hit from lightning. In turn, the lightning traveled all the way down the communication cable until it ground out at the base of the tank. The damage was discovered shortly thereafter while billing staff was getting ready to read water meters for the July cycle.



Technician Chris Arden mounts an antenna to the District’s elevated storage tank

An inspection by the system’s Vendor confirmed these findings in late June and a plan was put into place to provide a temporary fix so that meter readings could be recorded by the District’s other locations on June 30th. Happy to say that, while early estimates were that staff would need to hand-read up to 350 meters, built-in redundancy in the system knocked that number down to just two meters.

On July 17th, with safety gear in tow, Technician Chris Arden took on the challenge of installing a temporary antenna at about 50-feet up on one of the tank’s legs in hopes of restoring adequate service, at least enough to be able to read meters on July 31st for the August billing cycle. A more permanent solution is being reviewed in conjunction with the District’s insurance provider, with some early estimates for a permanent repair coming in at around \$10,000.




Reminder: Autopay is always an option and available to all our customers.

Hot enough for you? Heat is considered the #1 weather-related killer, exacting a physical and mental toll, so please be safe because summer has a long way to go!

We’re Always Serving You 24/7

For important updates, outages, etc., please follow us on:

- Facebook at [Stratmoor Hills Water and Sanitation](#) 
- Next Door at www.nextdoor.com Stratmoor Hills Water and Sanitation District
- Important messages will also be posted on our website at www.stratmoorhillswater.org

BILLING SCHEDULE (est.)

Bills Mailed - August 3, 2023
Payments Due - August 15, 2023
Late Notices Mailed - August 16, 2023
Shut Off Payments Due - August 29, 2023
Shut Off Day - August 30, 2023
Meter Read Date - August 31, 2023

If you believe you may be late making your payment, please call us to make arrangements to avoid the \$30.00 delinquent fee.

SEWER PROBLEMS

If you have problems with your sewer line, please give us a call first so that we can determine if it is your service line or our main line. If it is in your line, we will notify you promptly. If it is our problem, we will take care of it immediately.



Getting to know YOUR . . . STRATMOOR HILLS Fire Department

- Firefighter / EMTs are on duty 24 hours/day;
- You are not charged if they are called to your home to assist you;
- SHVFD does not transport to hospital – you choose method of transport;
- Will check blood pressure or vitals anytime at the Fire Station located on B Street, unless you are unable to come down here, we can and will come to your house;
- We have most of our trainings on Thursday nights starting at 6:30 and some Saturdays; and
- Firefighters can come to your house to check your smoke and/or carbon monoxide alarm.

Security Fire Department Ambulance service-

- Dispatched at the same time as the Firefighters are and are often in the house at the Fire Station, so response times are quicker; and
- Always has a paramedic on board.

If you call 9-1-1

- Stay calm and answer the dispatcher's questions- he/she will tell you what to do until emergency personnel arrive;
- If possible, put pets away – this is for safety of pets as well as emergency personnel;
- Injuries most often result from slips, trips, and falls over “stuff” out of place or in the way in your own home – ensure you have a safe pathway and uncluttered home;
- Inform the 9-1-1 dispatcher if you have a “Knox Box” attached to your home – this allows the Fire Department to get into your home if you are unable to answer the door, not home for a structure fire / smoke detector sounding etc. If you are interested in knowing more about the Knox Box, please call the Fire Station Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 5:00 pm;
- Ensure that your address is clearly visible from the street and there is good lighting (at night) for the Firefighters and ambulance to find your home. This can be done for little cost but makes a big difference in the middle of the night when we cannot find your house; and
- It is common for people to wait too long to ask for help – delay in calling for help can make matters worse – a lady was injured but sat up all night in pain before calling for help at 6 am. She should have called much sooner and had a restful night.

ADVANCE DIRECTIVES:

- If you or a loved one has a **DNR (Do Not Resuscitate)** order you **MUST** hand a copy to the Paramedic and/or EMT's when they arrive, or they have no choice but to begin life-saving procedures (if necessary). Word of mouth is NOT good enough; it MUST be in writing.

INFORMATIONAL MAGNET AVAILABLE at Fire Station

- File of Life Magnet – These handy magnets have information about your medications, conditions, your Doctor's name and numbers, family names and numbers, etc.;
- You put it on your refrigerator where it is handy in the event of an emergency;
- Can be given to emergency personnel or used at the hospital; and
- Can be picked up at the Fire Station anytime and if you need more we can get more.

ACCESS TO YOUR HOUSE:

- If we cannot get in through the front or garage door, we WILL use invasive measures, such as breaking a window or forcing the door only if necessary; and
- If you have a coded entry / garage door that information is only given to the Sheriff dispatch who will relay that information to the Firefighters to be used only during an emergency.

- To Be Continued -

Stratmoor News is published monthly by the Stratmoor Hills Water, Fire Protection and Sanitation Districts. For questions, comments, or suggestions, please contact Steve Rabe, at 576-0311. The Stratmoor Hills Water, Fire Protection and Sanitation Districts are governed by an individual, elected Boards of Directors. Currently, the members for each of the three Boards are: Robert Colgrove—Chairperson/President, James Pesicka—Vice Chairperson/President, John Willcox—Secretary/Treasurer, Cindy Dent—Director, and Richard Dull—Director.

Board elections are held in May of odd-numbered years. Board meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month beginning at 3:00 p.m. at the Fire Station (2160 “B” Street). Meeting agendas are posted at the Water District office (1811 “B” Street), the Fire Station and at the Stratmoor Elementary School (200 Loomis Avenue). If you would like more information about the Districts, please contact Steve Rabe at the Water and Sanitation Districts at 576-0311 or by e-mail at steve@stratmoorhillswater.org or Dottie Barrett for the Fire Protection District at 576-1200 or by e-mail at mail@stratmoorhillsfire.com