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# STRATMOOR NEWS

Stratmoor Hills Water, Sanitation & Fire Protection Districts

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Volume 26 Issue 1

January 2024

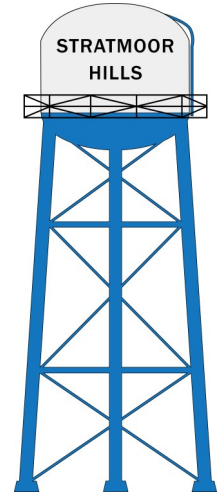
## GOALS FOR THE NEW YEAR

Now that the Holidays are over, the Stratmoor Hills Water and Sanitation Districts are preparing for an exciting new year.

An additional operator position has been approved that will provide us the resources to perform additional sewer maintenance “in-house” this year. This will allow us to clean and inspect much of our sewer collection system without having to rely on a contractor to do it. This will also provide enough staffing to create two separate crews, capable of responding to water and sewer emergencies in a more efficient manner.

The board is considering an agreement with Colorado Springs Utilities (CSU) to help ensure the water district has a backup water supply in case it is ever needed. This will include constructing a new interconnect facility that will adhere to current design and construction standards. This will be paid for using American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant funding that has already been awarded.

These are only a few of the changes that will help us improve in 2024, and we look forward to providing our customers with safe and reliable water and sewer services for years to come!



See us on the website at:  
[stratmoorhillswater.org](http://stratmoorhillswater.org)



Call 811 at least a few days before you start any digging.



**Know what's below.  
Call before you dig.**

### Cold Weather Reminder

Please make certain any exposed water pipe is well insulated or drained. Garden hoses should be disconnected from faucets and sprinkler lines should be drained. It is also helpful to know the location of the water shut off valve to your home in case a pipe does break. It is usually located in the basement or crawl space, on a wall facing the street. - **If you have a broken water pipe and you are unable to isolate it, please contact our office at; 719-576-0311 and a service representative will be happy to provide assistance at any time.**

### BILLING SCHEDULE (est.)

**Bills Mailed - January 4, 2024**

**Payments Due - January 12, 2024**

**Late Notices Mailed - January 16, 2024**

**Shut Off Payments Due - January 23, 2024**

**Shut Off Day - January 24, 2024**

**Meter Read Date - January 31, 2024**

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

STRATMOOR HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION - <http://www.stratmoorhills.org/contact.php>

### 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.



## Happy New Year from all of us at the Fire Station!!!

### 2023 was once again a busy year for us all here:

- Our calls for service continue to increase every year and this year was no exception – we responded to over 2154 calls.
- SOCO continues to be a valuable group and have helped the department many times when needed – these volunteers respond when we have a large Wildland Fire and help the on-duty crew with manpower, tools, vehicles etc. They also patrol the area on high fire danger days and help be a lookout for any fires.
- The Driver David W. Nelson Memorial Recruit class graduated eight (8) recruits on Saturday, October 14, 2023 at the Church for all Nations. We are very proud of all of their hard work and effort they put in to become certified Firefighter's – we will start another Fire Academy in February 2024. We are very Thankful to the church for letting us use their facility.
- This year we had our annual Department Christmas party, and we had a great time with food, a live band and great friends and family. At the annual dinner the department recognized several members with the following awards: Driver/Engineer John Ortiz was honored with the Distinguished Leadership award; Volunteer Brandon Anderson was honored with the Firefighter of the Year award and Recruit Samuel Allison was honored with the Recruit of the Year award. Chief Bittle also recognized Driver/Engineer Brad Aragon with Instructor of the Year award. We are very proud of all four (4) and wish them continued success in 2024.
- Our biggest news for 2023 was the addition of Engine 418 – this is a WUI (Wildland Urban Interface) Engine, and we are excited to roll it out for the community.

We want to wish everyone a safe and prosperous 2024 New Year and would like to assure the residents of our community, that the men and women of the Stratmoor Hills Fire Department will be there if you need us.

**Our business line is 719.576.1200**



**To all of those that contributed to our Annual Toy Drive for Christmas Unlimited; we want to say “Thank you” very much for all the donations! Christmas Unlimited always tells us we are one of the busiest Fire Stations when it comes to Toy Donations!**

*Stratmoor News* is published monthly by the Stratmoor Hills Water, Fire Protection and Sanitation Districts. For questions, comments, or suggestions, please contact Kirk Medina, 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 typically 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 Kirk Medina at the Water and Sanitation Districts at 576-0311 or by e-mail at [kirk@stratmoorhillswater.org](mailto:kirk@stratmoorhillswater.org) or Dottie Barrett for the Fire Protection District at 576-1200 or by e-mail at [mail@shvfd.com](mailto:mail@shvfd.com)