

## RECOA Friday Update: September 3<sup>rd</sup>

### **SPORT CENTER UPDATE:**

Happy Friday, we hope everyone has a fun and relaxing holiday weekend ahead of them. The following is a couple of pool updates that we received from the Sports Center operator:

We reached out to the operator of the Sports Centers to obtain an update regarding pool access for the upcoming holiday weekend. They reported to us that all pools and spas will be open this weekend with the exception of the splash pad at the Lakeside sports center which requires a mechanical repair that will require concrete to be removed. Seasonally, the splash pad closes shortly after Labor Day so they are delaying repairs so that they do not interrupt the remaining pool season.

They also shared that earlier this week, the Lakeside Sports Center pool access was shut down because the pool readings had not been logged correctly. The pool chemical automation uses electronic logs that run continuously, but the county requires the readings to be manually verified and written on the proper form. This has been resolved and the pool is open again.

The operator also shared the Resort Sports Center was briefly shut down with a COVID exposure but will be re-open on Friday with pool services only and limited hours. The full facility will re-open on Saturday from 10am – 6pm.

### **UTILITY COMMITTEE:**

#### **Backflow Devices: Keeping Your Community Safe**

Oregon Water Utilities (OWU) is proud to be the water provider to the Ridge at Eagle Crest community. We produce and deliver high quality and great tasting groundwater to your house. Once it passes through the meter the ownership of water transfers to the customer. Further, the customer is responsible for the home plumbing system downstream of the meter.

OWU performs regular water quality testing and system maintenance to ensure that the water is safe.

Customers can maintain the quality of the water in their system by regularly flushing faucets that are rarely used. This is an important activity if your house is not always occupied.

Sometimes, due to a drop in system pressure, water can actually flow backwards from the customers plumbing into the OWU water system. This could happen when there's a break in the water main or when a fire hydrant is used for an emergency. This back flowing water could carry contaminants such as fertilizers, pesticides, human waste, chlorine from pools & spas, soap from sinks, dishwashers, and showers, etc.)

To prevent water with undesirable quality from a customer's plumbing returning to the public water system, OWU requires that all customers install backflow prevention devices. Think of it as a one-way gate that allows water from the OWU's water supply line to flow into your home's piping but stops water if it ever tries to flow backwards into the main water supply.

The backflow device is a mechanical device with moving parts that requires maintenance. Each year the State of Oregon requires customer with backflow devices submit to OWU results from a State Certified Backflow Device tester that show that the device is functioning correctly.

**"Our customers keep each other safe by properly maintaining their backflow devices," said Brett Limbeck, OWU Field Superintendent.**

Your plumbing system also has a backflow device installed on the branch that supplies your irrigation system. This device protects your home plumbing from undesirable water quality that might be found in your irrigation system. Oregon also requires that this device be tested.

OWU automatically offers hassle-free backflow testing for customers for a small fee. Customers do not have to make appointments; OWU handles the required testing and will let you know if repair work is required.

The cost for work performed by OWU will be included on your regular water bill. Customers who choose to "opt-out" can do so in March when "opt-out" letters are sent to customers; however, customers who "opt-out" must submit passing test results prepared by a State Certified Backflow tester for their backflow devices.

All in all, backflow devices are a critical step in making sure your water is safe and reliable, and the best way to protect our community's water system.

### **From the RECOA President:**

Hope you are enjoying the Labor Day weekend. Looks like our weather is going to be great!

We had 576 responses to the survey regarding the Sports Centers. This is higher than other surveys we've had. Thank you! Over half of respondents took the time to write down specific comments. This plus the response rate surely represents the importance of this topic to our owners. It's also great that the survey has strong representation from full and part time owners. At our September board meeting we will review the results as part of our negotiation process for the new agreement. We will share some of those results following the board meeting in a future eblast.

With our active fire season, a number of owners have reached out to me with concerns about our preparedness. Although there is always room for improvement, I believe our Community Wildfire Protection (CWP) program has done an excellent job over the years in preparing our community. At the January RECOA board meeting, we supported an action creating a committee to work with the Deschutes County Emergency Manager, Eagle Crest Resort, and the other Homeowners Association on the Resort side to coordinate our efforts in the event of an evacuation. The Deschutes County Emergency Manager has agreed to come on-site for an information session. Look for details in future eblasts. There are still openings in this important committee. If you are interested, contact [ownersservices@eagle-crest.com](mailto:ownersservices@eagle-crest.com).

On a final note, we've started posting all of these eblasts on the website so you will have them for future reference. If you go to our website ([www.ridgeowners.com](http://www.ridgeowners.com)) and click on "RECOA Information" you'll see a link to "RECOA Newsletter/Eblasts." You'll find them there.

Thanks again for your support. As always, your feedback is welcome.

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