

## January 19, 2024 – FHMD Update

**Riva Chase Entry Signs:** As most of you are aware, the FHMD Board and Riva Chase HOA Board/ACC worked together to update our community colors and contract for new Riva Chase neighborhood signs to be installed at our entrance on Forest Hills Drive. At this stage, the signs are complete, and our vendor is targeting the new sign installation at the end of January, weather permitting.

**Change To Neighborhood Operator:** Over the past 4 to 6 months, a series of events in the neighborhood has brought to the attention of the Board that ORC Water Professionals, the company contracted to manage our Water Treatment and Sewer/Wastewater infrastructure, has not been operating in alignment with the Board's expectations and requests. Some in the community have also noticed poor support from ORC Water Professionals and brought their frustrations to the Board's attention as well. As a result, the Board has sought to transition from ORC Water Professionals as our Operator In Responsible Charge to a new certified vendor. After an intensive evaluation process with multiple potential companies, including an onsite visit and interviews with their management, we have selected and contracted with Direct Discharge Consulting ([www.directdischarge.com](http://www.directdischarge.com))



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Water, Wastewater and Industrial Wastewater Treatment Consulting Services

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to replace ORC Water Professionals. We have notified ORC Water Professionals of their contact's termination; and their services will be ending on the 1<sup>st</sup> of February, the same day that Direct Discharge Consulting will take over as our neighborhood's formal Operator In Responsible Charge.

Unfortunately, during the onsite visit with potential vendors that included a detailed walk-through of our wastewater treatment plant, it was brought to our attention by those participating that the facility has a number of potential issues about which ORC Water Professionals had not notified the Board previously. To address the situation with due urgency, the Direct Discharge Consulting team will be onsite 3 days a week for the coming months to best address and manage our water treatment and wastewater infrastructure. Throughout that period, they have promised to present to the Board all items needing attention, along with an order of priority, and will help establish a plan of action. Once a complete picture of the situation is understood, the Board will review and discuss whatever actions are required to ensure our infrastructure is brought back to a robust operating condition.

**PFAS:** As previously communicated in early 2021, the FHMD Board was notified of PFAS being present in our neighborhood water. Though our levels were found to be elevated, they were still below the safe drinking limits set by the EPA. Since that time, the Board has taken advantage of two grants from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) aimed at addressing treatment of PFAS in the water supplies of communities such as ours. The first grant facilitated extensive testing of our wells to obtain reliable samples and best document the levels in our water, and this activity has been completed. The second grant was for the research, design, and project plan for a water treatment solution that can be implemented to remove the PFAS from our water. Please know the second grant's actions are still ongoing; and we look for them to be completed in the coming months. As noted previously, if anyone is concerned about PFAS in their water, potential solutions include installing a point-of-use reverse osmosis filtration system, a carbon filter system or purchasing bottled drinking water.

**Park Improvement Project:** The next larger improvement project the FHMD Board is looking to undertake for the community is an update to our main park area. Again, the FHMD Board has reached out to the Riva Chase HOA Board/ACC to participate in the project. The HOA Board/ACC have recently put together a group to oversee the project and help move it forward. If you would like to know more about the project status, project plan, or be part of the discussions, please contact the Riva Chase HOA Board for more details. Assuming the project comes together as anticipated, we are all hoping to get some of the work accomplished in the 2024 calendar year.

If anyone would like to know more about these topics, or others under discussion by the FHMD Board, please know your attendance at the FHMD monthly board meetings is welcome. They are held via Zoom every third Wednesday at 5:30 P.M.