

# 2014

## APRIL



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### WATER SUPPLY UPDATE

As of the printing of this insert, it is looking like our snow pack will be well below average again. Despite this third consecutive dry year, TMWA will continue to meet the water needs of our customers throughout the year. We are fortunate to have a robust supply system of upstream reservoirs, drought storage and underground reserves in more than 30 wells. TMWA's staff continually monitors conditions and plans for a nine-year dry weather cycle, which is one year longer than the longest drought on record. Please look for a detailed water supply report in your next bill.

### KNOW YOUR WATERING DAYS!



**EASY AS 1-2-3 (DAYS):** It's time to set your sprinkler clocks again. As a reminder, each home or business has three assigned days each week to water. **If the last number of your address is even (0, 2, 4, 6, 8), please water on Tuesdays, Thursdays and/or Saturdays.**

**If the last number of your address is odd, (1, 3, 5, 7, 9), water on Sundays, Wednesdays and/or Fridays.** PLEASE DON'T WATER ON MONDAYS, as it is a day of rest for the water system, giving it a chance to recharge. Adjusting your irrigation clocks so that the sprinklers don't start on the hour or on the half-hour will help you avoid watering when everybody else does, and could improve your sprinkler performance.

Whether it's snowing in May or blowing in September, we always value responsible water use. We encourage you to water your lawn when it is not windy or raining.

Our community has always valued our precious water resources and conserved for our future. So, please keep doing what you always have:

**USE WATER RESPONSIBLY**

### DRINKING WATER WEEK

#### TAHOE TO TAP WORKSHOP: MEET TMWA'S TEAM

"From Tahoe to Tap: Understanding Your Drinking Water" will be held Wednesday, May 7th at 5:30 p.m. at the Chalk Bluff Water Treatment Plant. Join TMWA's Water Quality experts who will present the regulations, treatment and testing procedures that your water goes through prior to reaching your tap. The workshop will include a tour of the treatment plant and a question-and-answer session. Some walking and stair climbing are involved in the tour. Please RSVP to [conservation@tmwa.com](mailto:conservation@tmwa.com) or by calling **834-8005** for this free workshop.

This workshop coincides with National Drinking Water Week, May 4-10. Drinking Water Week is designed to help create opportunities for both water professionals and the communities they serve to join together in recognizing the vital role water plays in our daily lives. Visit [www.drinktap.org](http://www.drinktap.org) for more information.

### THE VALUE OF YOUR WATER

Roughly 20 percent of the world's population lack access to safe drinking water. Our nation's advanced water systems assure we can drink from virtually any public tap with a high assurance of safety.

## THE SPRING TREE CARE WORKSHOP IS COMING

On Wednesday, May 14th at 5:30 p.m. learn from a trained arborist how to properly care for your trees. TMWA's Tree Care Workshop will provide participants with an opportunity to both learn and ask questions about their specific tree care needs. This session will be held at TMWA's offices located at 1355 Capital Blvd. in Reno. Space is limited and RSVPs are required. RSVP to [conservation@tmwa.com](mailto:conservation@tmwa.com) or call **834-8005**.

TMWA's Conservation staff conducts a series of free workshops throughout the summer to help you understand your landscape's watering needs and other water topics. See [www.tmwa.com/newsandevents](http://www.tmwa.com/newsandevents) for the entire calendar.

## REHABILITATION OF OUR WATER SYSTEM KEEPS OUR WATER FLOWING AND COSTS DOWN

Planning and construction happens year round when it comes to your water distribution system. In 2013, Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA) invested approximately \$8.5 million in water system rehabilitation projects in Reno and Sparks.

TMWA engineers operate with the knowledge that it is easier and more cost effective to plan and upgrade aging infrastructure than it is to wait for it to break. This is especially true when road projects provide the access to water mains below our streets. Summer and fall road construction presents the ideal opportunity to inspect and replace aging water mains with newer materials, greatly reducing the likelihood that a new road will have to be cut to make repairs. Many of the efforts in 2013 were conjunctive road projects with the City of Reno, City of Sparks and Regional Transportation Commission, reducing both the inconvenience to the public and construction cost. Expenditures on main replacements totaled \$4 million in 2013.

### Also competed last year were:

- Improvements to the Highland Canal, the principal intake for the Chalk Bluff Water Treatment Plant, is expected to save TMWA over 3,400,000 kilowatt hours of electricity annually, reducing TMWA's electric bill by up to \$290,000 per year.
- Rehabilitation of pump stations, water tanks, wells, pressure regulator stations and other service replacements totaled another \$3 million.

Aging pipes and facilities in the water system are continually being assessed for rehabilitation, and planning for these projects is under way for the 2014 construction season. Parts of the distribution system, including underground water mains, are now reaching their useful life of over 70 years old. There are over 1,300 miles of water mains underneath the Truckee Meadows serving more than 93,000 homes and businesses. For more information on TMWA's 10-Year Capital Improvement Plan and a list of all of the pending projects, go to [www.tmwa.com](http://www.tmwa.com).

## WHERE TO CALL

General Inquiries: . . . 834-8080 (option 2)  
Emergency Repair: . . . . . 834-8090  
Water Conservation: . . . . . 834-8005  
Water Quality: . . . . . 834-8118  
Water Rights: . . . . . 834-8029  
Ombudsman: . . . . . 848-0813

## HOLIDAYS & EVENTS

Wednesday, April 16 TMWA Board of Directors Meeting	Wednesday, May 7 Tahoe to Tap Workshop at Chalk Bluff Water Treatment Plant
Friday, April 25 Arbor Day—Plant a Tree!	Wednesday, May 14 Tree Care Workshop
Sunday, April 27 Earth Day Celebration at Idlewild Park	Thursday, May 15 TMWA Board of Directors Meeting
May 4-10 National Drinking Water Week	



Truckee Meadows Water Authority is a not-for-profit, community-owned water utility, overseen by elected officials and citizen appointees from Reno, Sparks and Washoe County.

