

About this series:

Water Topics in Our Community is a series of papers designed to provide the citizens of the Truckee Meadows information about key water topics in this region.

To access all of the papers, go to www.tmh2o.com.

About TMWA's Board of Directors:

The TMWA Board welcomes you to attend and comment at any board meeting. Meeting schedules are posted at www.tmh2o.com.

To send a question to the Board, log on to www.tmh2o.com. Look for the "About TMWA" section, Board of Directors. Click on "Tell the Board." We will forward all comments and questions to the Board.

Questions or feedback?

We'd like to hear from you. Please call our new Community Communications line with any remaining questions you have on this topic or other water topics. The number is **(775) 834-8290**.

Actions in the drought plan include (continued):

- An agreement called "The Interim Storage Agreement" allows up to 14,000 acre-feet of storage in federally-operated reservoirs for use during extended droughts.
- Changing water system operations so that well use is maximized during months of June through October, thereby delaying the use of surface water held in upstream reservoirs.
- Pumping as much as one billion gallons of water during the winter months into the aquifer for drought storage.
- Operating our water treatment plants to use as much Truckee River water as possible in the winter, thus saving drought reserves for the summer.

How much of the Truckee River water does the community use?

TMWA customers use a small percentage of the water in the Truckee River. In a non-drought year, they only use three percent of all the water flowing in the Truckee River. During a drought year, TMWA customers still only use eight percent of the water in the Truckee. The remainder flows to other downstream users including the Truckee-Carson Irrigation District, other irrigation users, and Pyramid Lake.

Is the water homeowners conserve every day used for growth - to build more houses or businesses?

No. Some people mistakenly believe that when our customers use less water through conservation, the water saved is then used for growth. That is not the case. The unused water is retained for drought reserves, flows downstream to other users, or released to benefit river system health. In the future, as required by the Negotiated Settlement, TMWA will be able to store additional conserved water in upstream reservoirs in the event of a drought.

Is TMWA considering other conservation methods, such as paying for grass removal?

TMWA is always investigating new water-saving technologies and conservation programs. Any technology or program requires funding. Some communities may have developers pay for programs, and others may increase customer rates to cover program costs. Thus, a funding mechanism would be needed to pay for any program, including grass removal.

For additional information on the Water Recharge Program, Conservation and more, see other Topic Papers at www.tmh2o.com, under the section "Your Water."

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