

JANUARY



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NOW IS THE BEST TIME TO DETECT A LEAK

Now is a great time to track down and eliminate water leaks in your home while your outdoor watering is shut down for the season. How would you know if you have a leak? A good place to start is your water bill. A typical family of four uses about 6,000 gallons indoors a month. If your indoor usage significantly exceeds this, you may have a leak. An average wintertime water bill should be no more than about thirty dollars. Common types of leaks found in the home are faucets and toilet flappers. Visit www.tmwa.com/conservation for tips and videos on how to detect and fix leaks and running toilets. You can also find a short video on testing for and fixing a leaky toilet at www.tmwa.com/howto. If you are unable to determine the cause of your high water use, give us a call at 775-834-8080 to schedule a water usage review.

REPORT AFTER ONE YEAR

WATER UTILITY CONSOLIDATION

Last January, TMWA welcomed our 23,000 new customers from Washoe County Department of Water Resources (WCDWR) and South Truckee Meadows General Improvement District (STMGID).

As directed by the 2007 Nevada State Legislature, the primary goal of the water utility consolidation was to achieve operational efficiencies and avoid duplication of facilities. One of the major benefits of consolidation was the ability to implement a conjunctive-use approach to the management of the water resources in the former WCDWR and STMGID service areas. Conjunctive-use management maximizes the use of surface water when available, thereby reducing groundwater pumping. This allows TMWA to meet demands with surface water, and to rest and recharge wells when surface water is available. To address this goal, the following projects are under way or were constructed in 2015:

- **North Valleys Integration Project**

Construction of 29,000 feet of pipe on Lemmon Drive will allow 100 percent of the Fish Springs groundwater supply (up to 8,000 acre-feet per year) to be available for use within the North Valleys. This groundwater supply can augment surface water from the Truckee River that is exported to the area. This will help TMWA conserve additional upstream reserves should the drought continue.

- **Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR)**

TMWA continues its ASR program into the new year. This happens in the late fall and winter months when water use in the community drops to one-fourth of peak summer usage. Currently, TMWA pumps approximately eight million gallons a day of treated surface water back in to the aquifer through its wells, which protects and enhances groundwater supplies. Over a dozen existing wells are being equipped for future recharge. The more water we recharge and store during the off-peak season, the more we will have available when river flows are low. It's like money in the bank.

CONTINUED ON BACK

THE VALUE OF YOUR WATER

A portion of our customers' water bills goes to investing in infrastructure and maintenance of the TMWA water system. This helps ensure the around-the-clock treatment, delivery and availability of high-quality drinking water for more than 385,000 residents of the Truckee Meadows.

• **Arrowcreek/Mt. Rose/Galena Fan Conjunctive-Use Facilities**

Projects are being constructed which will provide treated surface water from the Truckee River to this area. The Arrowcreek/Mt. Rose/Galena Fan Conjunctive-Use Facilities will deliver up to 1,500 gallons per minute of surface water during winter months. Eight existing wells in the area are being equipped to receive treated surface water as part of the expansion plans for ASR. Lastly, new facilities to deliver about 1,000 gallons per minute to the STMGID-area during winter months are also under development.

The cost of these improvements, which help to protect and restore groundwater supplies, are being paid from funds transferred from WCDWR and STMGID as part of consolidation and will not impact water rates.

YOUR TREES NEED WATER IN THE WINTER



Winter watering is important to our region’s community forest. When sprinklers are turned off, most plants and lawns hibernate, but your trees still need care. Remember that winter in the Truckee Meadows is often characterized by dry air, dry soil and significant temperature swings—all of which can stress your trees. The need for winter watering may not be obvious, but trees need water during dry spells. To help keep your trees healthy, follow these winter watering tips:

- Water your trees every two to four weeks if there is no significant rain or snow. A healthy, sufficiently watered tree can withstand strong winds and freezing temperatures far better than one that is dry and stressed.
- Apply water when temperatures are above 40 degrees and early enough in the day that the water will not freeze overnight.
- Avoid spraying water on the trunks, as it increases the risk of frost injuries.

Be sure to disconnect and drain your hoses once you’re done watering. For more information on helping your trees stay healthy throughout the year, visit www.communityforestry.org. This information is provided by Heidi Kratsch, PhD, CH, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension.

WHERE TO CALL

- General Inquiries: 834-8080
- Emergency Repair: 834-8090
- Water Conservation: 834-8005
- Water Quality: 834-8118
- Water Rights: 834-8029
- Ombudsman: 848-0813

HOLIDAYS & EVENTS

- New Year’s Day Holiday
January 1, offices closed
- Standing Advisory Committee
January 6 at 3 p.m.
- Martin Luther King Day Holiday
January 18, offices closed
- Board of Directors Meeting
January 20 at 10 a.m.



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.

Locations and details on all workshops and meetings are found here: tmwa.com/news/events-calendar