

MAY 2015



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TURF TALK

In cooperation with University of Nevada Cooperative Extension and Nevada Landscape Association

➤ As we continue into our fourth year of drought, it's even more important to prepare your turf for the summer ahead.

- **Short and more frequent watering times promote and create a deep, healthy root system.**
- **If you water your lawn and runoff occurs, cut the time by two-minute increments until runoff stops. This will help you establish how many minutes you should be watering for every interval. If your lawn is dry, add two minutes. Most lawns can thrive on 6-minute increments.**
- **The best times to water your lawn are late at night or early in the morning when the ground and air temperatures are cool and when there is less wind.**

Reduce your water use by **10%** It's the least you can do.

During this spring and summer, we are asking for at least a 10% reduction in water use from all of our customers – homes, businesses, homeowner's associations, apartments, etc. We are all in this together. And, with a small reduction in everyone's water use, we'll have sufficient drought reserves should we need them if next year is dry as well. For the Top Ten Tips on saving at least 10% year-round, visit tmwa.com/save.

Remember, Assigned Day Watering is in effect. A home or business has three outside watering days each week. If the last number of the home or business address is even (0, 2, 4, 6, 8), please water on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. If the last number of the home or business address is odd (1, 3, 5, 7, 9), water on Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays. There is no watering on Mondays, as it is a day of rest for the water system, giving it a chance to recharge.

We are serious about encouraging responsible water use and preventing waste for all customers. If you see water being wasted, please let us know by calling our conservation department at **834-8005**.



RENO GAZETTE JOURNAL REQUESTS AND RECEIVES TMWA CUSTOMER INFORMATION

TMWA is committed to customer service and transparent operations. Accordingly, we wanted to make you aware of a recent request from the Reno Gazette Journal. The newspaper submitted a public records request last month asking for customer data for the top 1,000 water users for the years 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014 including names, addresses and annual water usage.

They requested this data for the following customer groups: Residential Metered, Residential Flat-Rate and Commercial. As TMWA is required under Nevada law to respond to public records requests, this information was provided to the paper.

TMWA'S FREE WORKSHOP SERIES

TMWA offers a series of free workshops to help residents prepare their yards for the season—and save water. For June, the following workshops are scheduled: Easy Sprinkler Maintenance on **June 3 at 5:30 p.m.** and Easy Drip System Maintenance on **June 10 at 5:30 p.m.** These workshops are held at TMWA's offices. Please call **834-8005** to reserve your spot.

CHALK BLUFF WATER TREATMENT PLANT ACHIEVES HIGHEST LEVEL OF PERFORMANCE ONLY 18 UTILITIES IN THE U.S. HAVE RECEIVED AWARD

TMWA has recently received the “Presidents Award” from the *Partnership for Safe Water (PSW)*. With this award, TMWA’s Chalk Bluff Water Treatment Plant ranks among the highest performing water treatment plants in the country for individual filter performance. Only 18 utilities across the country have achieved this award.

“Reaching the Presidents Award status is a very significant achievement in our ongoing work to meet water quality performance goals,” said Paul Miller, manager of water quality and operations. “Improving the quality of our water remains a goal TMWA will continually strive to achieve.”

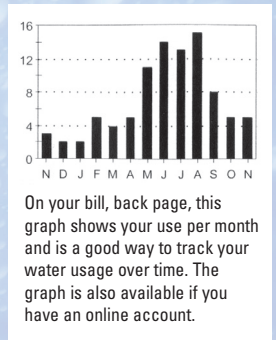


According to PSW, the Chalk Bluff Water Treatment Facility is among an elite group of water treatment plants to achieve this award. The optimization of individual filter performance is a key water quality performance goal of the Partnership for Safe Water Treatment Plant Optimization program. This award truly recognizes that not only does TMWA have an excellent treatment facility at Chalk Bluff that is well designed and capable of meeting enhanced treatment goals, but is operated and maintained by a team of people who are highly capable and dedicated to consistently achieving these high standards. It is a testament to the commitment of TMWA’s staff to consistently achieve this level of performance.

CONSERVATION CHAMPION ONE FAMILY’S WAY OF TAKING THE CONSERVATION CHALLENGE

Jerry Wager’s goal this summer is to keep his water use below 6,000 gallons per month. That’s a monthly bill of about \$30. And, yes, he has a big yard and garden. Jerry shared his water-savings journey to help other TMWA customers generate their own conservation ideas.

The Wagers moved to Reno and bought their house in Reno’s southwest area in 2012. The house was built in 1965 and is on a large, 11,000 square foot lot. Originally from Ohio, Jerry immediately signed up for the University of Nevada’s Master Gardener class. He wanted to learn more about western gardening methods. From that knowledge, he “went to town” on his yard. In 2013, he went from 14,000 gallons per month to 4,000 gallons. He used the information on his water bill (usage chart) to gauge his usage.



On your bill, back page, this graph shows your use per month and is a good way to track your water usage over time. The graph is also available if you have an online account.

Some of the things he has done to save water include: removing large bushes, built raised beds, and put his whole yard on a drip system. In place of more water-guzzling plants, he planted drought-tolerant varieties.

Thanks, Jerry, for sharing. You are truly a conservation champion!

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

- Standing Advisory Committee
June 2 at 3 p.m.
- Easy Sprinkler Maintenance Workshop
June 3 at 5:30 p.m.
- Easy Drip System Maintenance Workshop
June 10 at 5:30 p.m.
- Board of Directors Meeting
June 17 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