

# 2016 JUNE



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## TURF TALK

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

- Tips on smart-watering practices for your lawn: save water, save money.
- Leave your grass long: Longer grass promotes a more drought-resistant lawn, reduced evaporation and fewer weeds.
- Step on it: Step on your lawn. If the grass springs back, it doesn't need water.
- Take a sprinkler break: Grass really doesn't need to be bright green to survive in the summer.
- Timing is everything: Plan to water in the early morning or late at night when the ground and air temperatures are cool, to beat the daytime evaporation.
- Check here monthly for timely landscaping and watering tips.

## SUMMER CONSERVATION

### Why Additional Conservation is Not Necessary This Summer

As summer approaches, many people are wondering about the status of our water supply. The snowpack measured in at 100 percent of normal on April 1, thanks to the numerous storms. Truckee River flows are forecasted to be at 106 percent of normal. All this means we had a moderate recovery year. The good news is that we do not anticipate using our upstream reserves this year, and TMWA will not be asking our customers for any additional conservation. Please continue to use water responsibly. Rest assured, we are saving all the water that we are legally permitted to store in our upstream reservoirs.

### What conservation measures will TMWA ask of its customers this summer?

As always, we are asking our customers to use water responsibly. There is never a good reason to waste water. This is particularly true since the region is still experiencing drought conditions. Please continue to water on your assigned days listed in the adjacent box.

### Why isn't TMWA calling for additional conservation, like last summer, when a 10% reduction was requested?

In accordance with the 2016-2035 Water Resource Plan, when there are normal (natural) flows in the Truckee River past Labor Day, additional conservation measures are not required.

To put it another way, our drought reserves are in great shape. TMWA only asks our customers for additional conservation when we have to

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### REMEMBER:

- **ODD ADDRESSES:** If the last number in your address is 1, 3, 5, 7 or 9, water on Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays.
- **EVEN ADDRESSES:** If the last number in your address is 0, 2, 4, 6 or 8, water on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.
- **ON MONDAYS,** please don't water as it is a day for the water system to recover.
- **PLEASE DO NOT WATER** from noon to 6 p.m. and never when it's windy.

## 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.

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use our reserves from upstream reservoirs. That's when the water our customers save can be stored for later use. We do not anticipate using any of these reserves this summer.

### Why is the situation so different from last summer? Aren't we still in a drought?

There is a difference between drought conditions and water supply conditions. Even though the drought persists, the implementation of the Truckee River Operating Agreement (TROA) makes this year different. Currently, and throughout the summer, we will store significantly more drought reserves upstream in Independence, Donner, Boca, and Stampede reservoirs under the new TROA river management guidelines. This means we will have 65 percent more upstream reserves than we had last year. That's 44,000 acre feet, or approximately 14 billion gallons, held for later use should we need it.

Even though the drought may continue, our water supply is secure this year and for the foreseeable future. If you would like to check out the current status of our upstream reserves, please visit our new **Upstream Reserves Tracker** at [tmwa.com/reserves](http://tmwa.com/reserves).



## TRUCKEE RIVER FUND

The Truckee River Fund (TRF) is working year round to protect our water quality and watershed. It was established by TMWA in 2005 to protect and enhance the water quality of the Truckee River, our main water source. The Fund researches and finances projects that protect the water quality or water resources of the Truckee River and its watershed, which benefits the community's primary water source and TMWA customers. Every project is required to provide matching grants, thus maximizing the impact of TMWA's contribution. Since its inception, more than \$9 million has been approved for distribution from TRF to 132 qualifying projects, with over \$16 million matched.

Recently funded projects (since the last update in September) include Watershed Education Initiative, Mt. Rose Noxious Weed Monitoring and Treatment, Johnson Canyon Westside Restoration, Take Care Tahoe - Truckee River Outreach, Truckee River Cleanup, and Trout Creek Pocket Park & Restoration. View current and completed TRF projects with our project map, at [www.truckeeriverfund.org](http://www.truckeeriverfund.org).

If your passion is protecting our water quality and the Truckee River watershed, please consider making a donation to TRF. Contact Tracy Turner, PhD, at the Community Foundation of Western Nevada (CFWNV), TRF's administrator, at 333-5499.

## 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



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.

## HOLIDAYS & EVENTS

- Independence Day Holiday—(TMWA Offices Closed)  
July 4
- Standing Advisory Committee  
July 5 at 3 p.m.
- Walking Tour of Valley Wood Park  
July 9 at 9 a.m.
- Board of Directors Meeting  
July 20 at 9 a.m.

Locations and details on all workshops and meetings are found here: [tmwa.com/news/events-calendar](http://tmwa.com/news/events-calendar)

