

2015  
SEPTEMBER



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## TURF TALK

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

➤ As we continue into our fourth year of drought, it's important that you condition your turf to better tolerate our typically dry conditions.

- **TIMING IS EVERYTHING:** As the days get shorter and cooler, your lawn requires less water. Dial your sprinkler times back by a minute or two, or eliminate one cycle completely.
- **LEAVE IT LONG:** Mowing less often promotes longer grass and a more drought-resistant lawn which reduces evaporation.
- **WHEN IT'S WINDY:** Don't water the lawn on windy days because much of it will be lost to evaporation or blown onto sidewalks and streets where it does no good.

Check here monthly for timely landscaping and watering tips.

# Keep up the good work **10%** and keep saving at least

As the drought continues, we encourage you to continue saving at least 10%—both indoors and outdoors. The 10% savings TMWA is asking for is compared to your 2013 water usage—our baseline year for measuring drought savings. You can find your past usage by logging into your online account at [www.tmwa.com](http://www.tmwa.com). Don't forget to visit [tmwa.com/save](http://tmwa.com/save) for ten easy ways to save 10%. There, you will find simple tips on saving water inside and outside your home or business.

If you are concerned about a recent high water bill, or think you have a leak, contact us for a free water audit at [conservation@tmwa.com](mailto:conservation@tmwa.com) or 834-8080. Our conservation staff will visit your home or business to survey your yard and premises and then make recommendations.

## HOW IS THE COMMUNITY DOING AT SAVING WATER?

Conservation is working in our community. As of press time for this newsletter, we had posted results for the month of July. Water production was 16% lower compared to July 2013, which is the baseline-use year. Combined with strong savings in May and June, that's over 3,853 acre-feet, or approximately 1.25 billion gallons saved so far. The cooperation and responsiveness of our customers during this time of drought has been tremendous. We are well on our way to achieving our 2015 goal of saving 5,000 acre feet. This is great news, because every gallon saved now is held in upstream reservoirs, should we need it next year. Keep up the good work!

To find out the most current results on how we all are saving water, visit [www.tmwa.com/save](http://www.tmwa.com/save). Scroll to the savings gauge on the last page where we post overall results.

## HOW DO YOU REPORT WATER WASTE?

We live in the high desert and need to work together to eliminate as much water waste as possible. If you see water being wasted within our community, please let us know by reporting it online at [www.tmwa.com/waste](http://www.tmwa.com/waste) or calling our conservation hotline at (775) 834-8005. We have personnel answering these inquiries seven days a week from early morning to late evening.

## WINTERIZE YOUR IRRIGATION SYSTEM

### WORKSHOPS IN OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER

It's not too early to plan for winter. TMWA has scheduled winterization workshops in October and November to help you prepare your home for the coming cold weather. Join TMWA's conservation staff for one of four workshops to learn how to turn off your sprinkler system and help protect pipes from breaking this winter. The workshops will take place on Wednesday, Oct. 14; Wednesday, Oct. 28; Tuesday, Nov. 10; and Tuesday, Nov. 17. All workshops start at 5:30 p.m. and will be led by TMWA's conservation staff at our main office, located at 1355 Capital Blvd. in Reno. To RSVP, please e-mail [conservation@tmwa.com](mailto:conservation@tmwa.com) or call 834-8005.

## PRESCRIPTION DRUG ROUND UP

Join Together Nevada's Prescription Drug Round Up offers safe disposal of expired or unwanted prescription drugs. The event will be held from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. on Saturday, September 26. Take your unwanted, prescription medications in their original bottles with names blacked out to any of the following sites:

- CVS, 680 N McCarran Blvd, Sparks,
- SaveMart - 9750 Pyramid Way, Sparks
- Raleys - 18144 Wedge Parkway, Reno
- Walgreens - 10370 N. McCarran Blvd., Reno
- SaveMart - 4995 Kietzke Ln, Reno
- Raleys - 930 Tahoe Blvd, Incline Village



## CONSERVATION CHAMPION:

### CHURCH TAKES ON LANDSCAPING PROJECT TO SAVE WATER

Summit Christian Church is embarking upon a big project to reduce their property's water use. At its entrance off the Pyramid Highway, a large turf area will be converted to xeriscape (water-efficient) landscaping. The project will not only lower water use, maintenance time and costs, but it saves valuable resources and helps our community during this time of drought.

The church prepared for the change by letting approximately 16,000 square feet of grass die off during these hot days of summer. The area in the entry will be converted to drought-resistant plants and hardscape in the fall. Summit's entry re-design will replace about one-third of the existing lawn with ground-cover mulch that requires no water. Water use of the remaining lawn area will also be reduced, resulting in a potential watering reduction of 60% to 70%. Summit is making these changes to demonstrate their commitment to being good stewards of our community's limited resources. Thanks to the members of Summit Church. They are truly conservation champions.

Do you know a conservation champion? If so, you can share ideas with others on our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/truckeemeadowswaterauthority](http://www.facebook.com/truckeemeadowswaterauthority).

## 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

- Prescription Round Up  
September 26 (see above for details)
- Standing Advisory Committee  
October 6 at 3 p.m.
- Workshop: Winterize Your Irrigation System  
October 14 and 28 (see details above)
- Board of Directors Strategic Planning Workshop  
October 21 at 10 a.m.
- Treatment Plant and Hydroelectric Plant Tours  
Throughout September—visit [tmwa.com/events](http://tmwa.com/events)

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

