

## In this issue

- Teachers Tour the Watershed, Hear from Experts
- Shorten Sprinkler Times in Fall
- Check Our Water Supply Online
- Neighbor Network Offers Help for Seniors
- Standing Advisory Committee Represents All Customers
- Prescription Drug Take Back Day



## Smart About Water Quick Fact:

Are you wondering how our water supply is looking after this hot, dry summer? See [smartaboutwater.com](https://smartaboutwater.com) for real-time data on our water supply and water system. As the region's primary water provider, we understand that many of our customers are interested in our water system and the status of upstream water storage. The dashboard at [smartaboutwater.com](https://smartaboutwater.com) provides real-time water data in each of the Truckee River's six upstream reservoirs including Lake Tahoe's current water level, Truckee River flow rate, water treatment plant output, plus much more. Save this link and check the water dashboard frequently at [smartaboutwater.com](https://smartaboutwater.com).

## Teachers Learn About Watershed Science-in-Action

Last month, teachers from several area high schools in the Washoe County School District invested their time to learn more about local watershed programs that help protect Truckee River water quality. The full day was organized by TMWA with support from the Desert Research Institute's STEM Education Program.



The day started out classroom style, then transitioned into a multi-location field trip. Regional watershed experts from The Nature Conservancy, the US Forest Service and the National Forest Foundation provided a local perspective on how principles of earth and environmental science are being applied in our region.

Teachers from Hug, McQueen, Wooster, Reed and Sparks High Schools also earned professional development credits for their participation. With their feedback, TMWA and DRI will develop a standards-based curriculum that will focus on the Truckee River Watershed, with finalized lesson plans available for teachers to use in the 2025-2026 school year.

## Shorten Sprinkler Times in Late Summer

When cooler temperatures set in, your landscape will start recovering from the summer's long days and hot temperatures. One important adjustment to make this month is to begin shortening your sprinkler run times. Your lawn and plants will soon begin needing much less water, and you'll be lowering what it costs to irrigate your landscape at the same time.

How do you know if you're watering enough? Step on your lawn; if the grass springs back, it doesn't need water. Applying less water means you will need to mow less, and who doesn't want to mow less? Fall is also a good time to check your system for leaks before shutting it down for the winter. Examine the points where sprinkler heads connect to pipes or hoses. If you see water pooling, or if you have large wet areas, you could have a leak in your system. A leak as small as the tip of a pen (1/32 of an inch) can waste about 6,000 gallons of water per month, according to EPA's WaterSense.

## Neighborhood Network Offers Help for Seniors

If you or someone you're caring for is living with memory loss, bill-paying may be one area you struggle with. Setting up automatic payments is a good way to take some pressure off.

Getting qualified outside help may be another.

Neighbor Network of Northern Nevada (N4) offers support for people with dementia and their caregivers through a free respite care program. An initial meeting will match the person needing assistance and caregiver with a trained Community Care Partner who will spend five hours a week with them. This allows the primary caregiver time to handle their responsibilities (like paying bills), visit with a friend or just enjoy a cup of coffee. For more information, visit [NeighborNV.org](http://NeighborNV.org), email [People@NeighborNV.org](mailto:People@NeighborNV.org) or call 775-453-4774. A member of the N4 team will get back to you to find out how they can best help.

### Reminder: Dispose of Your Prescriptions Safely

Do you have unused or unwanted prescription medication that you need to dispose of safely? Proper disposal of unused medicines is a public health issue since the environment can become polluted by medicines that are thrown away or flushed down toilets.

Join Together Northern Nevada and partners will dispose of medications, no questions asked, and provide free biodegradable prescription drug deactivation kits. The next Prescription Drug Take Back Day is scheduled for Oct. 19, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. at locations in Reno, Sparks, Spanish Springs and Cold Springs. Visit [jtnn.org](http://jtnn.org) for additional information. Let's keep our kids, the river and our environment safe!

For more information about future prescription-drug disposal efforts, visit [jtnn.org](http://jtnn.org).



## Standing Advisory Committee: You Have a Voice at TMWA

TMWA's Standing Advisory Committee (SAC) is your direct link to TMWA's staff and Board of Directors. The committee is composed of representatives of every customer class at TMWA— from homeowners to big businesses. They review rate proposals, budgets and other items related to your water service and report their findings and recommendations to the TMWA Board. The SAC meets quarterly. Applications to serve on the SAC are accepted on a rolling basis. If interested in becoming a SAC member, contact [sfolsom@tmwa.com](mailto:sfolsom@tmwa.com) for more information. The next meeting is Oct. 1. All customers are welcome to attend. Visit [tmwa.com/meeting](http://tmwa.com/meeting) for more information.

### Where to Call

General Inquiries	775-834-8080
Emergency Repair	775-834-8090
Water Conservation	775-834-8005
Water Quality	775-834-8118
Water Rights	775-834-8029
Ombudsman	775-848-0813



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.

TMWA employs a highly skilled team who ensure the treatment, delivery and availability of high-quality drinking water around the clock for more than 450,000 residents of the Truckee Meadows.

### Events and Public Meetings

#### Standing Advisory Committee

October 1, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

#### Workshop: Winterize Your Sprinkler System

October 8 & 15, 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

#### Board of Directors Meeting

October 16, 10:00 a.m. – noon.

New location: TMWA Offices at 1355 Capital Blvd., Reno

#### Holiday: Nevada Day

Oct. 25, TMWA Offices Closed

Find details for all workshops and meetings at [tmwa.com/meeting](http://tmwa.com/meeting).

