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*Happy  
Holidays*

from all of us  
at Truckee Meadows  
Water Authority

## Be Prepared for the Cold Weather

During hard freezes or when you're away from your home for an extended period, remember to set your thermostat to a temperature that will prevent your pipes from freezing—no lower than 55°F. No one wants the unwelcome surprise of broken pipes. For more tips and a how-to video on winterizing your home, please visit TMWA's winterization webpage at: [www.tmwa.com/winterize](http://www.tmwa.com/winterize).

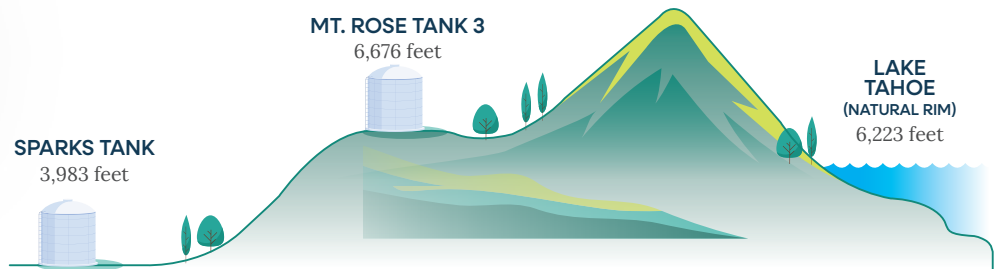
## Water Pressure and Your Water System: Keeping the Water Flowing to Your Home

TMWA delivers water to approximately 450,000 customers across extremely hilly terrain. From the foothills to the valley floor, the variation of high and low elevations makes managing water pressure a complex task.

In fact, there are 279 distinct pressure zones within TMWA's service territory and each receive water at a certain pressure gradient. To deliver water at reliable pressures across this landscape, TMWA has a network of pipes, storage facilities, pumps, valves and pressure regulation devices—among other equipment.

“While the pressures in our system can fluctuate between 25 and 125 pounds per square inch (psi), a typical household will have a safe pressure range between 40 and 100 psi,” said Eric Mothershead, TMWA's operations maintenance supervisor. “What can make this difficult to regulate is the difference in elevation between a water storage source and the ultimate customer location.”

For example, the highest elevation point in TMWA's system is the Mt. Rose 3 tank at 6,676 feet, which is higher than the rim of Lake Tahoe at 6,225 feet). The lowest elevation point in the system is 3,983 feet, representing 2,600 feet between the high and low points in our system.



To be clear, there is no single water source in TMWA's system that drops 2,600 feet to the end user. However, if your home is in a low-lying area, you should have a pressure-regulating device protecting your household plumbing from higher pressures. Correspondingly, if you live at a higher elevation, there's a good chance TMWA is pumping uphill some or all the water you use.

“The goal is to make sure pressure is sufficiently strong at higher elevations and not too strong in lower areas,” Mothershead said. “There are places where we have to take the pressure down from over 300+ psi to under 65 psi in order to serve our customers without stressing their household plumbing,” Mothershead added. “On the low end, we try to maintain at least 40 psi in lower-pressure areas—while also maintaining adequate flows for fire crews when needed.”

If you have a concern about water pressure at your home or business, please contact a plumber.

## Truckee River Fund Project Update

A healthy and thriving Truckee River watershed is directly related to a high-quality water supply for our community. To assist in watershed protection, the Truckee River Fund (TRF) provides grants to local agencies and organizations that are working on projects to improve and restore the health of the river environment. To accomplish this goal, members of the TRF Advisory Committee, who are appointed by the cities of Reno and Sparks and Washoe County, research, select and recommend funding for projects that meet that criterion. Selected projects must also provide matching funds, which optimize the impact of TMWA's contribution.

This year, the TMWA Board approved \$945,251 in funding for the following projects:

- ✓ OneTruckeeRiver for watershed coalition building
- ✓ Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful for River Clean Ups, Adopt-A-River Program and community education

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- ✓ Sierra Nevada Journeys Watershed Education Initiative in local schools
- ✓ South Euer Valley Improvement Project for rehabilitation of a tributary to the Truckee River
- ✓ River Stewarts Program which reduces the amount of trash on the Truckee River
- ✓ Great Basin Outdoor School for watershed education and protection programs
- ✓ Lower Truckee Trout Habitat Project addresses impaired areas of the Truckee River
- ✓ Mt. Rose Noxious Weed Monitoring for the long-term health and biodiversity of the watershed
- ✓ Independence Lake Forest Resilience Project for forest health improvement work at TMWA's reservoir

- ✓ River Justice Pollution Reduction which helps sustain water quality and reduce pollution

All projects either improve Truckee River water quality or help increase community stewardship. Since TRF's inception in 2004, \$17 million has been approved for distribution for 223 qualifying projects, with \$26.7 million matched from organizations receiving funds. The next funding period will be spring 2025.

View details on all current and completed TRF projects at [www.truckeeriverfund.org](http://www.truckeeriverfund.org). Donations to help fund these types of efforts can be made by contacting the Community Foundation of Northern Nevada, TRF's grant administrator.

### The TMWA Water System by the Numbers

97

Tanks (a combined 123 million-gallon capacity)

86

Wells

118

Pump Stations

387

Pressure Regulation Stations

5

Treatment Plants

31,341

Total Gate Valves

2,127

Miles (Length of Pressurized Water Mains)

135,891

Customer Connections

169

Square Miles (Size of TMWA Service Area)

## EPA Announces \$128 Million to Support the OneWater Nevada Advanced Purified Water Facility at American Flat

On October 24, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced \$128 million in funding, supported by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, to assist the City of Reno and TMWA in building the OneWater Nevada Advanced Purified Water Facility at American Flat. Project construction will start in 2025 and the facility will produce high-quality drinking water to meet and sustain the region's needs, once completed.

Funding from the EPA includes \$55 million through the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection's Drinking Water State Revolving Fund, \$70 million through the state's Clean Water State Revolving Fund, and \$3 million through Congressionally directed spending sponsored by Senator Rosen and Senator Cortez Masto. The project has also received \$30 million in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding from the Department of Interior's Bureau of Reclamation and support from area ratepayers.

"This innovative project will provide a sustainable, drought-proof water source for the Biggest Little City, transforming traditional wastewater effluent management into long-term water resiliency and securing reliable resources for our growing community. It's a shared vision that wouldn't be possible without the support of our partners," said TMWA Chair Naomi Duerr.

### 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

### Events and Public Meetings

**New Years Holiday: TMWA Offices Closed**  
Jan. 1

**Board of Directors Meeting**  
Jan. 15, a.m. – noon. Sparks City Council Chambers

**MLK Jr, Holiday: TMWA Offices Closed**  
Jan. 20

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



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.

