

In this issue

- How Does Assigned-Day Watering Really Work?
- Understanding Your Watering Days
- Addressing Feedback on Customer Conservation



Smart About Water Quick Fact:

Our Truckee River System is Unique

TMWA has a diverse portfolio of water resources stored in local groundwater aquifers and six large, upstream reservoirs—two of which are directly owned by TMWA. This system of upstream reservoirs provides resiliency to our water supply.

TMWA also stores surface water underground in several basins located throughout our service territory. These sources of supply are used to meet customer demand during peak-use periods in the summer or drought years when needed.

This network of surface and ground water storage is the result of extensive planning and decades of investments to help secure our community's water future. See smartaboutwater.com for information.

How Assigned-Day Watering Helps the Truckee Meadows Thrive

Water in the Truckee Meadows is a shared resource, and during the summer months, overall water demand increases to about four times that of average winter use. This is due almost entirely to outdoor watering. For TMWA, managing this increased load on our system is critical for ensuring there's sufficient water available for everyone's needs. That's where Assigned-Day Watering comes in.

Why Assigned-Day Watering Matters

By distributing irrigation use across different days of the week, Assigned-Day Watering helps TMWA "level the peaks" of summer demand. This keeps the water system balanced and ensures that water is available, not only for lawns and gardens, but also for households, businesses and critical public services—like firefighting. It also encourages responsible water use in our high-desert climate where water is a precious resource.

Assigned-Day Watering

Odd Addresses

- ☾ Wednesdays
- ☾ Fridays
- ☾ Sundays

Even Addresses

- ☾ Tuesdays
- ☾ Thursdays
- ☾ Saturdays



NO WATERING ON MONDAYS. DO NOT WATER BETWEEN NOON AND 6 P.M.

Customers Make the Difference

"Assigned-Day Watering is one of the easiest and most effective ways for our community to use water," said John Zimmerman, TMWA general manager. "We're grateful to our customers for embracing this schedule. It makes a real difference in keeping our system reliable while protecting this vital resource."

Smarter Watering Tips

- ✓ Water in the morning or early evening when it's cooler
- ✓ Turn sprinklers off when it's windy or raining.
- ✓ Use the "water and wait" method: run sprinklers until puddles form, let the water soak in. Then repeat until the soil is moist 6–8 inches deep which can be measured by pushing a screwdriver into the soil.

A Shared Commitment

By following the watering schedule, customers help TMWA protect the long-term health of the Truckee Meadows' water system. It's a simple step with lasting benefits for the community, the environment and our water resources.



THE WATER COOLER

Where Customer Survey Comments Are Addressed

“It would be better to allow water once daily 7 days a week rather than 3 or 4 times 3 days a week. Do the math.”

For overall capacity, the math is simple: If everyone waters at once, pressure drops. A staggered schedule balances the load, so your shower doesn't turn into a drizzle and fire hydrants have water pressure if needed. Power savings are also maximized as constant daily demand would skyrocket TMWA's energy costs, eventually hitting your wallet.

From a landscape health perspective, frequent watering actually works against you. Watering three days a week encourages deep root growth. If you water daily, roots stay shallow and “lazy,” making them less likely to withstand heat in the summer.

Conservation through Assigned Day Watering is a community-scale approach to using critical water resource supplies responsibly.

“I see flagrant, excessive and wasteful water use by commercial properties...it should be easy for TMWA to identify and fine.”

TMWA manages over 140,000 connections across 171 square miles. If you see waste, please report it. Sometimes property owners or managers may not know that a sprinkler or drip system is malfunctioning. TMWA acts on these calls. Our conservation team visits 2,500 – 3,000 sites on average each year.

Approximately 11% of TMWA's water services are for commercial customers, and those businesses must follow Assigned-Day Watering like everyone else. Yet, depending on the location, there are many commercial sites that use “purple pipe” or reclaimed water systems for landscape irrigation.

Reclaimed water is managed separately from TMWA's drinking water infrastructure. It is an important component of regional water management, as this reuse helps keep water in the Truckee River for downstream users.

Important to note: TMWA does not manage the reclaimed water system. Purple pipe water waste can be reported to Reno Direct (775-334-INFO), Sparks Environmental Control (775-861-4152) or Washoe County 311 (simply dial 311).

“Thank you for the early morning fellow who drives through Southwest Vistas for watering violations. People overwater without regard for runoff. TMWA does a great job for the community.”

Our seasonal Conservation Consultant team is focused on helping customers identify and eliminate waste through awareness and education. We're more than happy to do that.

TMWA's Water Waste Hotline : 775-834-8005 or tmwa.com/waste

Our Conservation Consultants are here to help you save water!

Where to Call

- General Inquiries775-834-8080
- Emergency Repair775-834-8090
- Water Conservation775-834-8005
- Water Quality775-834-8118
- Water Rights775-834-8029
- Ombudsman775-848-0813



Truckee Meadows Water Authority is a 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 475,000 Truckee Meadows residents.

Events and Public Meetings

Meeting: Standing Advisory Committee

Tue., June 2, 3 p.m. – 5 p.m. at TMWA Offices

Morning Tours: Verdi Hydroelectric Power Plant

Wed., June 3, Wed., June 10, & Sat., 13, 10 a.m. – 11 a.m. See separate insert for details.

Afternoon Tours: Verdi Hydroelectric Power Plant

Wed., June 17 & Wed., June 24, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m. See separate insert for details.

Meeting: Board of Directors:

Wed., June 17, 10 a.m. – Noon. Sparks City Council Chamber

Find details for all workshops and meetings at tmwa.com/meeting.

