



# TCPUD QUARTERLY NEWS

A Report to Our Community

April 2004

## Are you a VIP?

This spring, TCPUD is establishing a new program ... **Volunteers in Parks**, or **VIPs**. As we encounter the impacts of State budget reductions, TCPUD is working to offset costs with the help of volunteers.

You can volunteer with TCPUD and help preserve our wonderful recreation facilities!

- **Trails Inspectors** – walk or ride a section of trail twice a month (or more!) and report trail conditions to our maintenance staff including signage issues, hazards, and litter. Volunteers will also help trail users with rules and directions.
- **Boat Ramp** – work 1-2 days per month helping direct boat launch traffic, assist inexperienced boaters, and mediate concerns. Survey users and provide general information.
- **Park Partner** – help care for one of our parks with 40 hours of service during the year. Duties include maintaining plantings, weeding, spreading playground mulch, surveying users, and counting visitors.

Training sessions are scheduled for later this Spring. Please email, fax, or call to volunteer.

**The Spring/Summer 2004  
Parks & Recreation Catalog  
will be available April 6th!**

## TCPUD Reacts to State Budget Impacts

The full impacts California's budget deficit remain uncertain. The state budget proposes a \$1.3 billion transfer from local governments (cities, counties, and special districts) to the State. These funds would be transferred from property tax revenues otherwise issued to local governments for services provided in their communities.

In light of this proposal and the uncertainties with the implementation of this "taking", TCPUD's Board requested an additional \$300,000 be cut from its proposed 2004 budget. While the initial cuts were focused on delays in capital projects, if these cuts are made permanent, TCPUD will be forced to take further steps in reducing service levels or raising fees for service.

TCPUD staff and consultants will continue to monitor State budget issues and provide information to our legislators about the uses of the property tax TCPUD receives, and the potential effects if the State "takes" these revenues. Parks and Recreation are the most vulnerable services since they rely heavily on property tax revenues. The Board and the Parks and Recreation Commission are currently reviewing fees charged for recreation programs and park facilities in an effort to reduce our dependence upon property tax.



**Bob Duffield**, Director of Recreation, is leaving TCPUD after 18 years of service. Bob will be exploring new horizons, and having fun assisting his wife Jeanie with her dog training business.

## COMMONS BEACH PLAQUES AVAILABLE

Plaques on the posts at Commons Beach are available. You can honor or remember someone special to you. Plaques are \$1,000 each. Revenues earned from these plaques offset some of the costs for the improvement project. Please call Lynne Dee Taylor at 530-583-3796 x32.

## TRAIL SNOW REMOVAL ORDINANCE

The Tahoe City Public Utility District would like to remind its customers that it will be enforcing the new Trail Snow Removal Ordinance this spring. If you have stored snow on our trails over the winter months, you must have it removed before April 30, 2004. Please have your snow removal contractor clear the snow from the bike trails as soon as is prudent, but at the latest by April 30, 2004. Trail users are anxious to be on the trails as soon as the weather turns warm, with your cooperation, we can have them open for operation in May.

## 3rd Annual Tahoe-Truckee Earth Day Festival!

The Tahoe Truckee Earth Day Festival will be held at the Village at Squaw Valley on April 17 from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. and will include many fun and educational events. Also part of the Earth Day Celebration is the annual Film Festival on Thursday, April 15 from 7 to 10 p.m. Live music and entertainment will also be happening throughout the day. This all-volunteer, non-profit, community event is being organized to celebrate and promote the Lake Tahoe/Truckee region's unique beauty and to raise awareness of the fragility of its ecosystem. Additional information is available at [TahoeTruckeeEarthDay.org](http://TahoeTruckeeEarthDay.org).

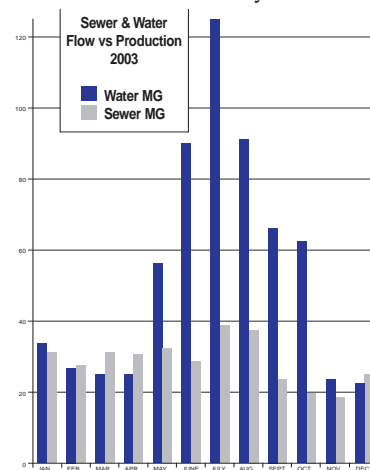
# Water Issues In McKinney Area

TCPUD has only one active water source for the McKinney/Quail Water Service Area. This well has a current capacity approximately equal to the present maximum-day demand. Over the last few years, the static water level of this well has been dropping with acute drawdown during peak periods. Last summer the demands on the well exceeded its capacity during the peak of summer. This has created strong concerns about the well's long-term viability. In addition, the Department of Health Services requires the District to have a secondary supply source available for back-up.

The District has been aware of the problem and trying to find solutions. We have drilled a number of other wells within the area. None of the wells has proved to be an acceptable secondary source without treatment. Therefore, it has been determined that a backup or new primary water source is needed as soon as possible. As a result of the decline of the groundwater level in this well and concerns regarding the reliability of groundwater sources in the area, TCPUD has decided to focus on treating surface water from Lake Tahoe using an existing intake. A permanent sur-

face-water treatment plant will require a number of years to construct; therefore, TCPUD will also be pursuing an interim solution to provide a short-term back-up for the summer months. This interim solution will likely be some form of portable treatment plant installed at one of the District's existing wells.

We urge **all** customers to **always** practice water conservation. Customers in the McKinney/Quail system should be especially vigilant. Water outages could occur if customers over use the system resources.



The graph shows TCPUD annual water consumption and sewer flows. Elevated water consumption in summer attributed to irrigation and outdoor water use.

## Lake Tahoe Summer Job

Is there someone in your family interested in working at Lake Tahoe this summer? TCPUD is seeking motivated individuals to perform grounds, building, park and trail maintenance. Workers must have a valid drivers license and some park maintenance experience is preferable. All new and returning employees will be required to take a drug test as part of a pre-employment physical. Call for more information, 530-583-3796 x29. TCPUD is an equal opportunity employer.

### Annual Easter Egg Hunt!

**Saturday, April 10th • 10am sharp! • 64-Acres Park**

*Face painting, hot chocolate, balloons, adult egg hunt, a visit from the Easter Bunny, and of course lots of Easter Eggs for the kids!*

***This is a fantastic and FREE event for the entire family!***

