



TCPUD

QUARTERLY

NEWS

A Report to Our Community

October 2014

Utilities News/Tips

TCPUD Customers Have Conserved Water!

Since drought mandates went into effect, customers have exceeded State goals saving 25%! Since the beginning of the year TCPUD customers have saved 45 million gallons of water!

Continue to Save Water and Money – WIN/WIN!

Under our current Stage 2 Drought Response Declaration, the Tahoe City Public Utility District is encouraging water conservation. Easy ways to save water IN your home include: checking for water leaks (including your toilet), taking shorter showers, not letting the faucet run when washing dishes or vegetables, watering your yard only when needed and when it is not windy or hot, and using water only when necessary. For more information about conserving water, call the District to schedule an on-site water conservation evaluation, visit www.wateruseitwisely.com, or come by the District to pick up a FREE water conservation kit.

Winter is Just Around the Corner

Winter months and cold temperatures are just around the corner, for home winterizing tips visit www.tcpud.org.

Did you know?

In 1947 TCPUD took over local maintenance of Commons Beach, and in 1969 a community survey added recreation services.

Proposed 5-year Maximum Water & Sewer Rate Schedule

In 2009, the District approved a 5-year maximum schedule for both water and sewer rates. Due to significant efforts to control costs, TCPUD never charged the approved maximum water or sewer rates. Current water rates are 19% and sewer rates are 24% below the approved maximum rate.

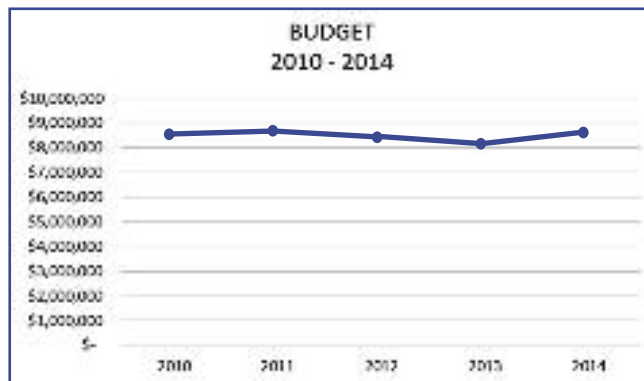
Per Proposition 218's requirements, it is now time for a re-evaluation of the rates. TCPUD is asking customers to re-approve the previous 2009 maximum sewer rate schedule, phased in more slowly over the next 5 years. For water rates, typical customers would remain under the previous 218 approval until 2018 and in 2019 there would be an additional 5.6% increase. This allows for slower, steadier rate increases versus the more aggressive approach approved in 2009. The rates are focused on providing 1/2 of the funds needed for infrastructure investment and rehabilitation. The other 1/2 will come from a combination of property taxes, grants and potential borrowing.

There will be two public workshops to review the rate study and proposed rates: Tuesday, October 16, 2014 from 6pm - 7:30pm and Friday, October 17, 2014 from 12pm - 1pm at the District office. Additionally, the TCPUD Board of Directors invites the public to attend a scheduled public hearing on Friday, November 21, 2014 at 8:30am to consider the adoption of this new rate schedule.

Get involved in TCPUD's 2015 Budget Planning Process

It's that time of year again when the TCPUD begins developing its budget and goals for 2015. Every person at the TCPUD, from front line staff to the Board of Directors understands that we are entrusted to steward the taxes and fees you provide. Fiscal accountability is a core value of the District and as such, we look for the most cost effective and efficient ways to provide you services. The below chart illustrates the budget over the last 5 years. Cost controls and efforts have kept the budget under 2% growth over the last 5 years, despite increases in many of the mandates, supply, and material costs. TCPUD is holding a budget workshop on Tuesday, November 4th at 4pm in the TCPUD Board Room. Your input is important.

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CAPITAL PROJECTS

2014: \$3.5 Million in Completed Projects; including Lake Forest Boat Ramp Replacement & Chamberlands Waterline Replacement

2015-16 Scheduled Construction Projects: \$21.5 Million

- Tahoe City Well Replacement Project
- Tahoe City Main Emergency Water Supply
- West Lake Tahoe Regional Water Treatment Plant
- Bunker Water Tank Replacement
- Sewer Export Truckee River Crossing Replacement
- Tahoe City Sewer System Rehabilitation
- Homewood Bike Trail
- Truckee River Trail Pavement Rehabilitation
- Kilner Tennis Court Re-surfacing
- Truckee River Trail Stabilization Project
- Dollar/Edgewater Lakefront Sewer Line Replacement

MEETINGS

October / November / December Schedule

Sewer & Water: 10/9, 11/13, 12/11; 7am

Finance: 10/10, 11/14, 12/12; 8:30am

Parks & Recreation: 10/14, Nov TBD, 12/9; 8:30am

Board Meetings: 10/17, 11/21, 12/19; 8:30am

Golf Course Oversight: 12/15; 12:30pm

Online Viewing of Board Meetings

All Board of Directors meetings are streamed live, or you can watch the recorded meeting anytime at your own convenience. Either option is available online at www.tcpud.org.

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Budget Planning Process

The community is invited and encouraged to participate in the budget process. Prior to the budget workshop each committee will conduct a budget review at their October meeting. These too are public meetings and you are encouraged to attend (see enclosed meeting schedule).

For more information, or to sign up for email notifications, please call 530-583-3796.

Staff Updates



JEREMY RAY, RECREATION SUPERVISOR

Jeremy Ray comes to Tahoe City from the City of Patterson in California's central valley. He has eight years of recreation experience; starting his career in the aquatics field, running an aquatic facility. He branched out into more recreation programming while working as the Recreation Coordinator for the City, running sports programs, special events, aquatics, and contract classes.

Jeremy is new to the Tahoe area and currently resides on the north shore with his wife and two pups. He is grateful for how well he has been received in his short time here. In his spare time he likes to spend time with his family and take rides on his motorcycle along the shores of Tahoe.

KURT ALTHOF, GRANTS & COMMUNITY INFORMATION ADMINISTRATOR

Kurt Althof joins the administration team assuming the role of Grants and Community Information Administrator. Kurt earned a bachelor of science in business administration from Humboldt State University and recently a masters of business administration from the University of Nevada Reno. He has been a resident of the North Tahoe region for 18 years and has a significant background in marketing, sales and public relation roles for the tourism/resort industry. He comes to the District most recently from Care Flight where he was the business development manager; responsible for partner relations, public information, fundraising, and financial modeling. "It is truly fantastic to be working in and for this amazing area," said Kurt. "I am very fortunate to be a part of this great team and organization".

Parks & Recreation

Lake Forest Boat Ramp Update

The Lake Forest Boat Ramp Rehabilitation project began September 8th and is expected to run through December. The ramp was constructed in 1963 and after 51 years has significant structural deterioration. This \$1.1 million dollar project is predominately funded by grants received from the Wildlife Conservation Board (75%) and the North Lake Tahoe Resort Association (11%). Once completed, the ramp may reopen as early as January 2015.

Winter Sports Park

The Tahoe City Winter Sports Park, located at the Golf Course in downtown Tahoe City, now offers 3km of groomed cross country ski trails, a family sledding hill, and rentals for XC skiing, skate skiing, and snowshoeing. Dogs are welcome. Conveniently located just behind town, the Winter Sports Park has something for the whole family, as well as a restaurant and bar in the clubhouse/day lodge. Visit wintersportspark.com for more information.

Fall Family Fun!

Harvest Festival & Pumpkin Patch

Sat, Oct 18, 10am-2pm, Rideout – Join us for the 2014 Harvest Festival! A fun-filled day of games and activities including a jump house, bungee run, carnival games, hay rides and more! Get dressed up for the costume contests; get ready to compete in the pie eating contest. All ages welcome. Get the whole family ready for a great time! See you there!

Downtown Trick or Treat

Thurs, Oct 31, 4pm-6pm, Tahoe City – TCPUD Parks & Rec Dept and downtown businesses are excited to offer a fun and safe location for families to Trick or Treat this Halloween. Check in at Heritage Plaza for a goodie bag, spooky surprise, and list of participating businesses. FREE.

Santa's Calling

Thurs & Fri, Dec 11 & 12 – Naughty or nice. Santa and/or Mrs. Claus will answer all notes received from local boys and girls with a personalized phone call. Visit Rideout to fill out a "Secret Santa" letter, or download from our website. All letters must be submitted to the Recreation Office on Wed, Dec 10 by noon.