



# TCPUD QUARTERLY NEWS

A Report to Our Community

July 2004

## Family Events at Tahoe City Commons

Beginning the second week in July and throughout the summer look for a variety of fun family events at Commons Beach. The TCPUD, Tahoe City businesses, The Bear League, California State Parks, The Wildlife Shelter, and USFS will be co-sponsoring weekday evening activities ranging from live music, wildlife presentations, to historical and environmental presentations. All events will be held at the new amphitheater beginning at 5pm and conclude by 6:30pm. For more information call 530-583-3796, x 29.

## 40% Increase in Demand WATER CONSERVATION NEEDED

TCPUD is exceedingly concerned about water consumption rates within our District. In May of 2004 TCPUD water customers used 40% more water than in May of 2003. This increase is attributable to irrigation and other outside water use. Our costs, and therefore your water rates, are affected by increased consumption. It is important to practice water conservation and encourage your neighbors to as well.

We suggest you follow these simple guidelines:

- Limit irrigation to 2 hours maximum
- Do not irrigate between the hours of 8 AM and 6 PM
- Do not irrigate native plants, established trees, or ground cover
- **Immediately** repair all leaks, running toilets, dripping faucets, etc
- Do not wash down driveways or decks
- Avoid washing vehicles if possible
- Only run full loads in your laundry and dishwashing machines
- Shut off irrigation timers following significant rains or showers

We urge you to make water conservation a way of life in your household. Excellent water conservation information is available at the following website: [www.h2ouse.org](http://www.h2ouse.org). See the back page for more water conservation tips.



# TRPA Best Management Practices (BMPs) Retrofit Program

Pursuant to subsection 25.5.A of the TRPA Code of Ordinances, all property owners in the Tahoe Basin are required to install infiltration facilities designed to accommodate the volume of runoff from a twenty year/one hour storm (approximately one inch of precipitation in an hour) within their property boundaries. These infiltration facilities are called Best Management Practices (BMPs). Some examples of BMPs include roof runoff infiltration trenches, slotted trench drains to capture driveway runoff, and landscaping enhancements to impound and infiltrate storm water before it leaves your property.

Free assistance to help homeowners comply with the TRPA ordinance is available by calling the Tahoe Resource Conservation District (TRCD) at 530-543-1501, x 113. In addition, the TRCD will be hosting the following FREE workshops this summer (please RSVP whenever possible):

[July 9, 2004](#)

## **BMP Demonstration Home Tour**

3255 West Lake Blvd

5pm -7pm

Call Scott at x 114 to RSVP / info

[July 16, 2004](#)

## **BMP Demonstration Home Tour**

530 Virginia Street, Tahoe City

5pm - 7pm

Call Sara at x 113 to RSVP/ info

[July 24th, 2004](#)

## **Sierra Tract Public BMP Workshop**

1161 Carson Avenue, South Lake Tahoe

9am - Noon

Call Molly at x 109 to RSVP/ info

[August 28th, 2004](#)

## **West Shore Public BMP Workshop**

Fairway Conference Center, Tahoe City

9am -11am

Call Scott x 114 to RSVP/ info

[September 16, 2004](#)

## **Permeable Paving Surfaces Workshop**

**for Driveways and Walkways**

Lake Tahoe Community College

Demonstration Garden, South Lake Tahoe

5pm - 6:30pm

Call Molly at x 109 to RSVP/ info

## Lakeside Trail: Lake Tahoe Outlet Project... Your Tax Dollars at Work!

TCPUD is soon to begin a remarkable project, which will create a pedestrian walkway/trail connection along the lakeside of the Lake Tahoe Dam. River overlooks, interpretive signage, public plazas, and river and lake bank stabilization are also included in the project. At the time this newsletter is going to print, TCPUD is planning to award the contract and move forward with this project in July 2004.

As a small local agency, TCPUD could never have undertaken this project without incredible cooperation and funding assistance from many public agencies. Funds from two voter-approved bonds, as well as other funding have been committed to this project as follows:

- **California Tahoe Conservancy**  
Public Access & Recreation Program Funds
- **California Resources Agency**  
California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks & Coastal Protection Act of 2002
- **California State Parks**  
Safe Neighborhood Parks, Clean Water, Clean Air & Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2000

- **United States Bureau of Reclamation**  
Federal Water Quality Funding
- **North Lake Tahoe Resort Association**  
Transient Occupancy Tax Funds
- **Placer County**  
Traffic Mitigation Funds & Transient Occupancy Tax Funds



## TOP FIVE WAYS TO SAVE WATER

### STOP THE LEAKS!

Silent leaks allow water to go down the drain. Studies have shown homes can waste more than 10% of their water due to leaking.

### REPLACE OLD TOILETS – the largest water user in your home!

If your home was built before 1992 and the toilet has never been replaced, then it is very likely that you do not have a water efficient 1.6 gallon per flush toilet.

### REPLACE YOUR CLOTHES WASHER – the 2nd largest water user in your home!

Washers that have the Energy Star rating and also have a Water Factor at or lower than 9.5 use up to 50% less water and energy per load.

### PLANT THE RIGHT PLANTS WITH PROPER LANDSCAPE DESIGN & IRRIGATION

Select plants that are appropriate for our local micro-climate and conditions.

### WATER ONLY WHAT YOUR PLANTS NEED

Significant amounts of water is wasted in your garden by watering when your plants do not need the water especially natural bushes such as manzanita, and when irrigation systems aren't maintained.