

## Lake Tahoe Water Levels— How Does it Affect Our Water Supply?



The Incline Village General Improvement District owns water rights permitted through the State of Nevada to draw water out of Lake Tahoe as our drinking water supply. We are able to pump this water regardless of the low lake level because we draw our water from a depth of 30 feet in the lake. So even if the lake drops below the natural rim and the Truckee river stops flowing out of Tahoe, IVGID still has water to use. Our primary concern is that we stay below the permitted amount of water we are allowed to draw from the lake. This is why we enforce a landscaping ordinance to reduce the amount of turf installed on properties to reduce water use. Washoe County also enforces the latest editions of the Uniform Plumbing Code which includes requirements for water saving fixtures.

This summer, North Tahoe Public Utility District, South Tahoe PUD and Tahoe City PUD in California have enacted Mandatory Water Conservation Measures and Enforcement Programs based on the California State Mandate declared on July 15, 2014. This is a California State mandate and does not apply to the Nevada side of Lake Tahoe. Nevada has not passed any similar mandate.

The District does have an emergency condition water plan should the State require a reduction in water use because of critical water levels in Lake Tahoe or the District approaches its permitted water right. There are essentially three levels of conservation that would be mandated to reduce consumption in these critical instances.

The District always supports smart water use and has the expertise to assist property owners on efficient water use on their property. Please visit the IVGID Public Works website ([www.ivgidpublicworks.com](http://www.ivgidpublicworks.com)) as a starting point to read some important information about water conservation, leak detection and irrigation system operation.

## Lake Tahoe Water Levels Getting Low for Launching

### *The Status of Incline's Ski Beach Boat Ramp*

Lake Tahoe's water level is extremely low and launch conditions at Incline's Ski Beach Boat ramp change daily. It is likely that the Ski Beach Boat Ramp will become unusable to launch/retrieve before the normal boating season ends on September 30. On October 1, if water levels allow for the boat ramp to operate, reservations are required a minimum of 24 hours in advance. Boaters can confirm the ramp is open by calling one of the following telephone numbers before launching: Recreation Center: (775) 832-1300 or Ski Beach Boat Ramp (775) 832-1156. *A good rule of thumb for boaters to use each time they are considering going boating is (a) check water level conditions before they launch or retrieve their boat and (b) make their own decision about whether it is a good day or not to go boating.*

## Effluent Export Pipeline Update 2014

In 1970, this 21 mile pipeline was installed as part of the regional effort to protect Lake Tahoe's water quality by requiring all wastewater effluent to be exported out of the basin.

Portions of the pipe, now 44 years old, are reaching the end of useful life, and ongoing corrosion has caused two failures in the last five years in the Tahoe Basin, although none of the treated wastewater ever reached the lake.



*High capacity emergency generators allow for wastewater export in the event of loss of power.*

In 2012, the first phase of the project was completed. The District replaced approximately 6-miles of 16-inch diameter effluent export pipeline in the Lake Tahoe Basin and a critical piece near the Carson River in Douglas County. This was accomplished in multiple phases (starting in 2006 and finishing in 2009). These pipeline segments are generally located in the Southbound lane of State Route 28. The District also completed a major pump station renovation to increase reliable pumping capacity and installed a new emergency generator. The total cost of all this work was \$20,600,000. The District has received Federal Funding in the amount of \$15,500,000 for the Sewer Effluent Export Project.

Over 10 years this amount equates to a total savings of \$1,825 per residential customer (an average of \$15 per month).

The Effluent Export Project funding comes through our partnership with the US Army Corp of Engineers and we receive funding from the Section 595 Program of the Water Resources and Development Act of Congress.

So what is next? There are still six miles of vulnerable pipe in the Tahoe Basin that needs to be replaced. Preliminary cost estimates put the project cost at \$23 million. This is why sewer rates have been increasing dramatically over the last three years, so we can pay for this project if no Federal Funding is available. Your staff and the District's Federal Lobbyist have been working hard with the Nevada Congressional delegation to secure funding for this project that effects the whole Tahoe Basin. Should this funding materialize, we can expect to reduce or eliminate those previous rate increases to pay for this project. Stay tuned for more about this project.

**RECYCLE  
OLD TELEVISIONS  
for FREE in  
NOVEMBER  
from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.  
on the following  
Tuesdays and  
Thursdays only:  
Nov. 4, 6, 11, 13, 18, 20.**



In honor of "America Recycles Day 2014", IVGID Waste Not is waiving the normal \$5 to \$15 drop-off fee for television recycling, on the above listed dates during the month of November. This offer is only available to District property owners and residents.

Participants can bring television sets for recycling to IVGID Public Works at 1220 Sweetwater Road. Drop-offs outside this time frame will not have the fee waived. Customers must provide valid District identification.

Site is closed Thanksgiving Day, Thurs. Nov. 27.

For more information call Waste Not at (775) 832-1284 or email: [wastenot@ivgid.org](mailto:wastenot@ivgid.org)

Year round, you can contact Waste Not or visit [www.ivgid.org](http://www.ivgid.org) to learn about the many materials you can easily recycle in our community. America Recycles Day is held annually every year on Nov. 15, as the nationally recognized day in the United States dedicated to the promotion of recycling programs.

**"Curses,  
ANOTHER  
BEAR BOX ?  
I'm foiled again!"**



## Bear Box Incentive Program Returns!

IVGID Public Works is pleased to announce the Bear Box Rebate Program has been reestablished with dedicated funding for the new fiscal year 2014/15.

Rebates valued at \$150 are available for District customers who install an approved vendor metal bear box on their property, after July 1, 2014.

Interested participants must file an application before installation of the bear box. The box must then be installed within 60 days of customer filing of the rebate application.

The application is available online at: [www.ivgid.org](http://www.ivgid.org).

Questions? Call IVGID Waste Not at 775-832-1284  
Email: [wastenot@ivgid.org](mailto:wastenot@ivgid.org)

