



DROUGHT UPDATE

California Governor Jerry Brown declared a drought emergency in January, 2014, announcing the lowest total rainfall in the state's 163-year history and asking residents to voluntarily reduce their water use by 20%. Although much of the media coverage of the drought focuses on areas west of the Sierra Nevada Mountains, the Squaw Valley Public Service District is embracing best-management practices to conserve water and prepare for the potential of aquifer levels lower than we've ever seen.

As we continue monitoring drought conditions and weather forecasts, implementation of the District's Water Conservation Program remains a potential course of action for our Board of Directors to consider. It is part of the PSD's Water Ordinance and includes three stages of drought alert and water conservation measures aimed at promoting the health, welfare, and safety of our customers. We remain in Stage 1 or Normal Conditions now. The District may also leverage the framework of cooperation inherent in the Olympic Valley Groundwater Management Plan to coordinate the management of groundwater in Squaw Valley with other pumpers of the aquifer.



Every year, District water system operators manage pumping in the aquifer in response to declining aquifer levels in the later months of summer. Pumping is managed daily by reacting to aquifer levels at each well and by rotating pumping between the District's four active wells. Monitoring of these groundwater levels will continue this summer as they are expected to drop sooner than normal.

Of course, the District continues its work to drought-proof our water supply and establish more reliable sources of supply to our existing and future customers. Progress continues on the Redundant Water Supply – Preferred Alternative Evaluation to identify a feasible alternative water supply that provides supply source redundancy to our system and better prepares us to respond to historical drought periods or contamination in our community's sole source of water.

The District is also aggressively seeking out and repairing leaks in our water distribution system. Recently, water leaks at the Stables property, two of our wells and on the S-turn on Squaw Valley Road were found and repaired. As the age our system reaches upwards of 50-years old, we're seeing vulnerabilities we plan to address and portions of the system in need of replacement. Your water user fees help to fund these repairs and capital replacements.

Please do what you can to reduce your water consumption by a minimum of 20%. Check your water consumption at our website at www.svpsd.org. See page three for outdoor water conservation tips.

DEPARTING WORDS FROM ALETA DRAKE



After 28 happy years with the District and 41 years in Tahoe, I find it time to move on in my life. During this time, I have seen many changes in Squaw with the rise of the Resort at Squaw Creek, a new Village in the heart of the valley and new owners of the mountain. I worked for several companies in Squaw prior to being recruited by the District, maintaining the accounts for the construction of the Aspens Condos, Squaw Ridge Condos, Squaw Summit Subdivision and the PlumpJack Convention Center to name just a few. All in all, I have many years of wonderful memories to be thankful for. There are many more changes in the works here and I will be anxiously watching to see if they actually become reality. It is exciting to see the evolution of such a beautiful valley.

Many of you in Squaw Valley have become very special friends. I leave with the confidence that the employees of the District will continue to serve you as the most qualified staff I have ever worked with. Please welcome Tom Campbell as the new Finance and Administration Manager. He is a very competent replacement that I am sure you will find helpful and pleasant to work with.

My husband and I will be off traveling the USA in our new 5th wheel. I have always loved to travel and can't wait to see this beautiful land of ours. Hopefully, you will give me your e-mail addresses so I can keep in touch with you as we go "walk-about".

I WILL SINCERELY MISS YOU ALL! *Aleta*

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE



The Squaw Valley Public Service District is proud to supply safe, reliable and healthy water that meets or exceeds State and Federal public health standards for drinking water. Annually, the PSD publishes a water quality report titled "Consumer Confidence Report" as required by the State Department of Public Health to inform customers about the quality of their drinking water. This report is based on a culmination of water sample data collected throughout the year from selected sample sites. It can be accessed on our website at the following link: http://www.svpsd.org/pdf/ANNUAL_QUAL_RPT.pdf

DISTRICT WELCOMES NEW FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION MANAGER

The Board and staff are pleased to introduce Tom Campbell as the District's new Finance and Administration Manager. After an extensive search and recruitment process, Tom was selected to fill the role of the District's retiring 28-year veteran Controller/Network Administrator, Aleta Drake.



Tom is a graduate of Juniata College of Huntingdon, PA, where he studied business management with a concentration in finance and accounting. Prior to joining the District, he was the Director of Finance for Physician's Weekly, a medical publisher of Basking Ridge, NJ, where he oversaw the reorganization of its financial operations resulting from several private equity deals. He has also worked with other media and advertising agencies including Star Marketing, Jena Publishing, and Hartmann Media Solutions.

Tom has extensive experience managing finance and business operations in corporate and private business environments. Tom's primary objectives are to continue managing the day-to-day accounting operations of the District, with a focus on optimizing operational efficiencies and enhancing the District's financial transparency throughout the execution of the District's strategic plan.

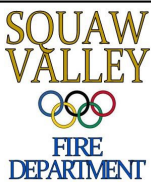
Tom has relocated from Pennsylvania to join the PSD team. In his free time, he enjoys outdoor activities including skiing, kayaking, fishing, camping, mountain biking, and disc golf. Tom also produces musical artists in his spare time, having recorded hundreds of live and studio songs over the past 15 years, releasing several albums, and receiving an award for Independent Album of the Year in 2007.



SQUAW VALLEY PUBLIC SERVICE DISTRICT

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Fire and Safety Notes

Summer, 2014

PERSONNEL NEWS

Firefighter Michael Sacchi is our newest full-time employee. Michael has worked with Squaw Valley Fire since 2012 and manages to balance his work for us with service with the Nevada Air National Guard and coaching at Incline High School. Michael and his wife Natalie live in Incline Village, Nevada.

William Marshman is our newest part-time Firefighter-Paramedic. Will grew up in Truckee and has also worked at North Tahoe FPD and Northstar Fire Department. Will comes from a fire service family - his father, Steve, worked at Northstar Fire Department for many years. Will is married and lives in Reno.

Fire Captain Sal Monforte has been recuperating from a motorcycle accident last July and will (hopefully) be back at work by the time you read this.

GREEN WASTE DISPOSAL

Thanks to an agreement with Tahoe Truckee Sierra Disposal, Placer County residents can dispose of up to 6 cubic yards of vegetation at the Cabin Creek Road facility at no charge between May 1 and October 31. That's about 40 bags of material or a couple of standard pickup loads. You must bring proof of residence (such as a utility bill for your Squaw Valley home).

Green waste is also collected with household trash on Monday mornings, but the trash company will only take a couple of bags at a time. If you 'meter' out your bags of pine needles two or three at a time, they'll be collected, but if there are forty bags at the curb, the trashmen will NOT take two bags a week until they're gone...

Fire Season Preparation and Defensible Space

It's unnecessary to go into any discussion of the severe drought conditions currently being experienced in California and by now you've heard a great deal of bluster about what a terrible fire season it promises to be. At the Squaw Valley Property Owners Meeting, a gentlemen asked a question that I thought was perceptive and interesting and it allowed me to provide a somewhat detailed and lengthy answer that I hope some in the audience found enlightening. He asked, "What's the risk to the Valley of a fire that starts on Highway 89?". My reply involved an explanation of the conditions that affect wildland fires: the idea that a number of factors contribute to the relative ease of ignition and rate of spread of a wildland vegetation fire. Those factors include the types of fuels present, the amount of moisture in those fuels, temperature, relative humidity, wind and topography. In evaluating the risk of fire, we assess all of those factors and combine them to create predictive indices which for some agencies drive the allocation of resources. The indices help determine how aggressively they assign initial attack resources to suppression efforts (and I should note that this is true for the larger, wildland agencies - our Department simply throws everything we have at every fire).

In terms of structure protection and modifying the fire environment so that people and property can be protected from a wildland fire, only one of the variables mentioned above is under our control (discussions of climate change aside). That is, "What fuels are present, in what quantity and in what proximity to the structures to be protected?" When we talk about 'defensible space', it really comes down to modifying the environment in the area that will most directly affect ignition of a home. The fuels present in that area are the only factor that we can modify and are the single most decisive factor in whether a structure can be saved or even if resources are assigned to that effort. In a wildland-urban interface fire, resources for structure protection are chronically limited and stretched thin - as is the water supply - and homes that have the ability to "stand alone" or that can be protected with minimal intervention are generally the ones that survive the fire. Homes with construction elements that don't resist fire well or that have vegetation that, when burned, is likely to carry the fire to the home are simply passed over in favor of homes that provide a greater likelihood of success.

Defensible space is all about modifying the factors within your control to give your home a better chance of survival. Your help in controlling the fire environment surrounding your home is both badly needed and greatly appreciated, especially this summer.

New Emergency Notification System for Squaw Valley

Squaw Valley Fire Department is now utilizing a service called **Nixle** as a way of better communicating emergency information to our residents. Nixle is a web-based application that can provide emailed or "texted" notification to residents of a geographic area. You need to be a subscriber to information distributed by Squaw Valley Fire Department, but it's a very simple, one-step process and we will use it only for urgent notifications.

Some of the situations in which we foresee Nixle being useful are advising of high or extreme avalanche warnings for the Valley's Potential Avalanche Hazard Areas, information on wildland fires or smoke, emergency evacuation, power issues, flooding and potential weather emergencies. Nixle has been used to good effect by neighboring jurisdictions for a little over a year and we see potential (if infrequent) benefit to our community. It's easy to subscribe and equally easy to unsubscribe if you choose.

For more information, see: <http://www.nixle.com/>
To subscribe to SMS alerts, text 96146 to 888777 - you'll receive a confirmation text
There is also an app available for iPhone and iPad: search "Nixle" in the iTunes store.

OUTDOOR WATERING CONSERVATION TIPS

Most people think that they use more water indoors than outdoors. Typically, the opposite is true. In some areas, 50% or more of the water we use daily goes on lawns and outdoor landscaping. There are lots of ways to save water at home, but reducing the water you use outdoors can make the biggest difference of all. Here are a few easy ways to change the way you use water outside your home.

Know the Basics

- Water early in the morning or later in the evening when temperatures are cooler. Save: 25 gallons/each time you water
- Check your sprinkler system frequently and adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered and not the house, sidewalk, or street. Save: 15-12 gallons/each time you water
- Choose a water-efficient irrigation system such as drip irrigation for your trees, shrubs, and flowers. Save: 15 gallons/each time you water.
- Water deeply but less frequently to create healthier and stronger landscapes.
- Put a layer of mulch around trees and plants to reduce evaporation and keep the soil cool. Organic mulch also improves the soil and prevents weeds. Save: 20-30 gallons/each time you water/1,000 sq. ft.



- Plant drought-resistant trees and plants. Save: 30- 60 gallons/each time you water/1,000 sq. ft.

Don't Overwater

One easy way to cut down how much water you use outdoors is to learn how much water your landscaping actually needs in order to thrive. Overwatering is one of the most common mistakes people make.

Outdoor Cleanup

Water is often a go-to tool for outdoor clean-up jobs.

- Use a broom to clean driveways, sidewalks and patios. Save: 8-18 gallons /minute.
- Wash cars/boats with a bucket, sponge, and hose with self-closing nozzle. Save: 8-18 gallons/minute.
- Invest in a water broom. If you have to use water to clean up outside, a water broom will attach to your hose but uses a combination of air and water pressure to aid cleaning. Water brooms can use as little as 2.8 gallons per minute (gpm) to remove dirt, food spills, leaves, and litter from concrete and asphalt while a standard hose typically uses 5 to 20 gpm.

TWO BOARD SEATS UP FOR ELECTION

Are you interested in serving the Olympic Valley community? Two seats on the Squaw Valley Public Service District Board of Directors are up for election on Tuesday, November 4, 2014.

Boulevard, Tahoe City, from Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., excluding holidays.

If you are interested and would like more information regarding the District or the position of Director, please stop by the District office, or call 530-583-4692.



The District is governed by a five-member Board of Directors elected to four-year terms. Directors are elected "at large" by the registered voters within the boundaries of the District. Monthly meetings of the Board are held on the last Tuesday of each month, at 8:30 a.m., in the Squaw Valley Public Service District's Community Room.

A free candidate workshop is tentatively scheduled for Friday, July 11th at 6:00 pm at the North Tahoe Event Center, 8318 North Lake Blvd, Kings Beach. For more information, as well as locations for workshops in western Placer County, contact the

County Elections Division at 530-886-5650 or at election@placer.ca.gov.

Candidates may file Nomination Petitions starting July 16, 2014. In the Tahoe area, forms may be obtained at the Tahoe City Customs House, 775 North Lake