

**ROUND HILL GENERAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT  
NEWSLETTER  
February 23, 2009**

**ASIAN CLAM REMOVAL PILOT STUDY**

Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, in conjunction with UC Davis and other agencies will soon be conducting an Asian Clam removal pilot program. The Asian Clam is a non-native species of clam that resides in Lake Tahoe. The clams can become a nesting habitat for other, more serious non-native species such as the Zebra and Quagga Mussels. Additionally, the study will attempt to determine if the existing clam populations were in any way responsible for the algae bloom last summer in Marla Bay.

The pilot project will evaluate different methods of eradicating the clams from the Lake. The pilot project will commence in Marla Bay during late February and into March. Later in the summer, additional work will be completed for the project. Round Hill residents may notice barges, divers and other equipment in the Marla Bay area associated with the pilot project.

There are two methods being investigated during this pilot project. First, bottom barriers will be placed on top of the Clam beds, and left for different, specified periods of time. The beds will be inspected for Clam kill after the bottom barriers are removed. The second method will be to use suction hoses to remove the clams from the Lake. A combination of bottom barriers and suction hoses, used in tandem will also be explored. If the pilot project is successful, the work area could be expanded to encompass more of the Lake.

During the study, Round Hill General Improvement District staff will work closely with the research team to ensure that there are no water quality problems that will impact the delivery of potable water to our customers. Continuous measurements will be conducted at the District's intake to alert the research team and the District of any disturbances in water quality.

**ENTRANCE SIGN**

In order to facilitate the replacement of the Round Hill entrance sign in the Spring, the District has hired Young Electric Sign Company to design a new sign. The first step in the process is to obtain TRPA approval. We have submitted an application for a new design, and with TRPA approval, will be ready to install the sign in the Spring.

**NEW OFFICE HOURS**

Beginning March 2, 2009, the District office hours will change. The new office hours will be Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The office will be closed for lunch from 12:00 to 12:30 p.m. As always, Round Hill residents are always welcome at the office if you have questions or need assistance.

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