



SPRING NEWSLETTER 2013

2013 Project Notebook

PAVING:

RHGID will once again be busy in 2013 enhancing your neighborhood. In 2010, the District contracted to pave McFaul Way. This summer, the District will be paving Elks Point Rd. and correcting issues with swales at various locations throughout the District. Construction is expected to start sometime after June 1 and be complete during this construction season. In addition to paving Elks Point, the District may also seal McFaul Way.



PINE NEEDLE PICK UP:

Property owners are encouraged to comply with Defensible Space Guidelines (www.livingwithfire.info). The first step is to remove all pine needles, cones, and other dead vegetation within thirty feet of your residence. The Tahoe Fire Safe Community or the Round Hill General Improvement District will fund a Pine Needle Pick Up on Monday and Tuesday, June 3rd and 4th, 2013.

Coinciding with the Pine Needle Pick Up is South Tahoe Refuse's annual Big Trash Day on Wednesday, May 22nd, when South Tahoe Refuse will allow up to six additional bags of spring clean up materials to be set out with your normal trash at no additional charge. After Wednesday, May 29th, you may set your bags of clean pine needles and cones for Pine Needle Pick Up. Clean pine needles, cones and slash can also be taken to Boulder parking lot on South Benjamin Drive as part of the Tahoe Douglas Fire District's "Compost Your Combustibles" program from May 25th through July 4, 2013.

Water Storage is Critical

On August 29, 2012, the State of Nevada Bureau of Safe Drinking Water gave RHGID approval to put our new 500,000 gallon welded steel water tank in service. The project, which was funded in part by a grant from the U.S. Forest Service, increases the District's storage capacity and improves our fire fighting capabilities. The construction of the new tank gives the District the operational flexibility to provide

storage during our next capital improvement project, replacement of the 500,000 gallon upper concrete storage tank.



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The District's 2012 Water Quality Report is also available online at <http://www.rhgid.org/flipbooks/CCR2012>

www.rhgid.org

NEW TANK

The Bureau of Safe Drinking Water has identified the 500,000 gallon concrete upper storage tank as potentially operationally deficient. The upper concrete tank was constructed in 1964 and does not meet current structural integrity requirements and does not meet current seismic construction codes. In addition, the exterior of the tank is beginning to deteriorate. Therefore, RHGID has enlisted the services of an Engineering firm to design a replacement tank. The new tank will be designed in 2013 and it will be a 500,000 gallon welded steel tank that will be constructed on the same footprint as the existing concrete tank. Construction of the new tank is scheduled to take place during the 2014 construction season.

Construction of the new tank will position the District well into the future. RHGID will have three tanks with a combined 1.5 million gallons capacity; all constructed within a ten year period. Properly maintained welded steel tanks have a useful life of 75 – 100 years, positioning the District well for its storage needs.

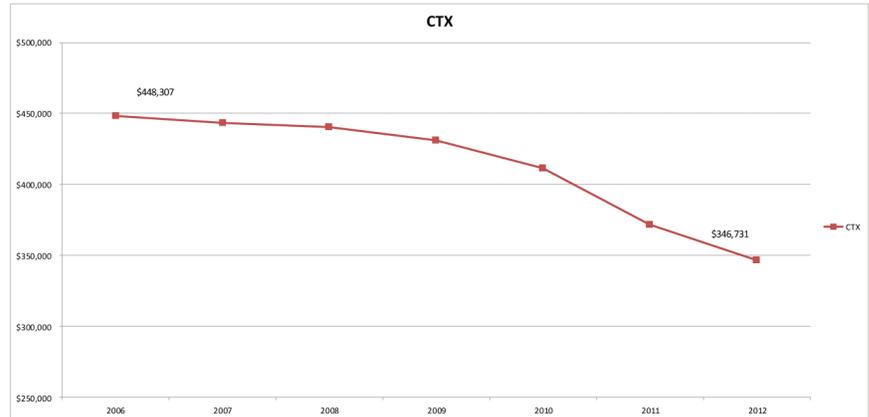
TMDL

Cleaning the storm drain systems is an important activity in helping to eliminate the introduction of fine sediment particles (FSP) in Lake Tahoe. These FSP's are responsible for degradation of Lake Tahoe's famed water clarity. To help protect that clarity, the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) has developed a regulatory process known as the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL).

The TMDL process establishes a baseline (based on the 2006 estimated load) of the amount of FSP's entering Lake Tahoe. Then, to ensure protection of the Lake's clarity, NDEP established a reduction in the amount of FSP's that can be discharged to the lake over time. The ultimate goal is to reduce the FSP's entering the Lake to a level that will restore the clarity to the levels of the 1960's, or 105 feet.

RHGID continues to work with all area agencies to determine the most appropriate methods to employ to assure compliance with current and future TMDL requirements at the most cost efficient means possible for the residents of Round Hill.

DECLINING REVENUES



As illustrated in the graphic above, since 2006, RHGID has continued to operate with fewer General Fund revenues than the past year from the District's share of the State's Consolidated tax. In 2006, the District received \$448,307, and only \$346,731 in 2012, a decrease of \$101,576 or nearly one quarter of the revenue received in 2006. Since 2006, total Consolidated tax (CTX) revenues received were \$245,000 less than the District would have received had the CTX revenue not declined. The District uses the CTX revenue as the only General Fund revenue source for the maintenance of roads and storm drainage systems within the District's boundaries.

Even with the loss of revenues, RHGID has continued to provide high quality services to our customers. In that period, RHGID has continued to routinely clean the storm drain systems, crack seal roads and plow the District's streets as needed. McFaul Way was paved in its entirety, and the intersection of Elks Point Road and Highway 50 was also paved. The remainder of Elks Point Road is proposed to be paved this summer. Upon completion of that project, the District will have repaved 6,100 feet of deteriorated pavement in the past four years. However, the decline in revenues cannot be endured forever. Additional General Fund revenues may need to be established.

Herbicides and Pesticides in Lake Tahoe?

The Lahontan Regional Water Quality Board adopted a basin plan amendment in 2012 that included a provision to allow pesticide and herbicide applications in Lake Tahoe and to develop a permitting process for the introduction of herbicides and pesticides in the Lake. RHGID and the Tahoe Water Suppliers Association (TWSA) continue to oppose the introduction of herbicides and pesticides in Lake Tahoe.

Lake Tahoe is a Tier 3 National Water Resource and both the TWSA and RHGID believe it should be treated as such. It is our position that pesticide and herbicide applications in Lake Tahoe are counter to that Tier 3 classification, and counter to the utilization of Lake Tahoe as a source of drinking water for more than 60,000 people every day, and therefore should not be allowed.

RHGID and TWSA encourage all Lake Tahoe residents to get involved in the care / protection of your drinking water source.



WATER QUALITY REPORT

Does Your Water Meet All Drinking Water Standards?

Absolutely. Last year, as in years past, your tap water met all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state drinking water health standards. Round Hill GID vigilantly safeguards its water supply and once again we are proud to report that our system has not violated a maximum contaminant or other water quality standard.

Do I need to take special precautions?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Source water assessment and its availability.

A source water assessment has been completed by the Nevada Bureau of Safe Drinking Water and is available upon request at (775) 687-9520.

How can I get involved?

The Round Hill Board of Trustees meets regularly on the third Tuesday of every month at 6:00 p.m. at the Round Hill Fire Station on Elks Point Road. Please join us at our meetings, as it is important to get your feedback to assist us in operating the District according to our customers' needs. Call us at (775) 588-2571 or check us out on the web at www.rhgid.org.

Your Trustees

2012 was an election year for the RHGID Trustees. Three candidates were vying for two open Board positions. Incumbents Glen Smith and Wesley Rice were re-elected. First time candidate Michael Pook faced a daunting challenge in trying to unseat two incumbents. New Board members are always encouraged to participate in the election process. Three positions will be open in 2014, and once again new candidates are encouraged to participate.



Health Information from the U.S. EPA

The Water that you use in Round Hill comes from Lake Tahoe. Your water is treated with filtration, then it is chlorinated and delivered through a seven mile distribution system to your home. The water from your tap meets all requirements set forth by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity:

microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses; organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems; and radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

WATER QUALITY TABLE

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. In this table you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions below the table.

<u>Contaminants</u>	<u>MCLG or MRDLG</u>	<u>MCL, TT, or MRDL</u>	<u>Your Water</u>	<u>Range</u>		<u>Sample Date</u>	<u>Violation</u>	<u>Typical Source</u>
				<u>Low</u>	<u>High</u>			
Disinfectants & Disinfectant By-Products								
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)								

Chlorine (as Cl ₂) (ppm)	4	4	0.59	0.22	0.59	2012	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Total Organic Carbon	NA	TT	2.6	0.5	2.6	2012	No	Naturally present in the environment
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	4.8	2.4	4.8	2012	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Inorganic Contaminants

Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.012	NA		2012	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (optional) (ppm)		MPL	6.4	NA		2012	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching

Microbiological Contaminants

Turbidity (NTU)	NA	0.3	100	0.03	0.07	2012	No	
100% of the samples were below the TT value of 0.3. A value less than 95% constitutes a TT violation. The highest single measurement was 0.07. Any measurement in excess of 1 is a violation unless otherwise approved by the state.								

Radioactive Contaminants

Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	0	15	1.58	NA		2007	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Beta/photon emitters (pCi/L)	0	50	3.08	NA		2007	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits. The EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for Beta particles.
Radium (combined 226/228) (pCi/L)	0	5	0.488	NA		2007	No	Erosion of natural deposits

Synthetic organic contaminants including pesticides and herbicides								
Dioxin (2,3,7,8-TCDD) (ppq)	0	30	0	NA		2009	No	Emissions from waste incineration and other combustion; Discharge from chemical factories
<u>Contaminants</u>	<u>MCLG</u>	<u>AL</u>	<u>Your Water</u>	<u>Sample Date</u>	<u># Samples Exceeding AL</u>	<u>Exceeds AL</u>		
Inorganic Contaminants								
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	0	2010	0	No		
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.05	2010	0	No		

Undetected Contaminants

The following contaminants were monitored for, but not detected, in your water.

<u>Contaminants</u>	<u>MCLG or MRDLG</u>	<u>MCL or MRDL</u>	<u>Your Water</u>	<u>Violation</u>	<u>Typical Source</u>
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	ND	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	ND	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Unit Descriptions	
<u>Term</u>	<u>Definition</u>
ppm	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
ppq	ppq: parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter
pCi/L	pCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
NTU	NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.
NA	NA: not applicable
ND	ND: Not detected
NR	NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.

Important Drinking Water Definitions	
Term	Definition
MCLG	MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
MCL	MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
TT	TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Variations and Exemptions	Variations and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
MRDLG	MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfection level goal. The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
MRDL	MRDL: Maximum residual disinfectant level. The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
MNR	MNR: Monitored Not Regulated
MPL	MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level

Lead in Drinking Water

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Round Hill General Improvement District is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800) 426-4791 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 400 gallons of water per day or 100 gallons per person per day? Luckily, there are many low-cost and no-cost ways to conserve water. Small changes can make a big difference – try one today and soon it will become second nature.

Take short showers - a 5 minute shower uses 4 to 5 gallons of water compared to up to 50 gallons for a bath.

Shut off water while brushing your teeth and shaving and save up to 500 gallons a month.

Use a water-efficient showerhead. They're inexpensive, easy to install, and can save you up to 750 gallons per month.

Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons per month. Water plants only when necessary.

Fix leaky toilets and faucets. Faucet washers are inexpensive and take only a few minutes to replace. To check your toilet for a leak, place a few drops of food coloring in the tank and wait. If it seeps into the toilet bowl without flushing, you have a leak. Fixing it or replacing it with a new, more efficient model can save up to 1,000 gallons per month.

Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered. Apply water only as fast as the soil can absorb it and during the cooler parts of the day to reduce evaporation.

Teach your kids about water conservation to ensure a future generation that uses water wisely. Make it a family effort to reduce next month's water bill!

Visit www.epa.gov/watersense for more information.

Source Water Protection Tips

Protection of drinking water is everyone's responsibility. You can help protect your community's drinking water source in several ways:

Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides – they contain hazardous chemicals that can reach your drinking water source.

Pick up after your pets.

Dispose of chemicals properly; take used motor oil to a recycling center.

Volunteer in your community. Find a watershed or wellhead protection organization in your community and volunteer to help. If there are no active groups, consider starting one. Use EPA's Adopt Your Watershed to locate groups in your community, or visit the Watershed Information Network's How to Start a Watershed Team. Organize a storm drain stenciling project with your local government or water supplier. Stencil a message next to the street drain reminding people "Dump No Waste - Drains to River" or "Protect Your Water." Produce and distribute a flyer for households to remind residents that storm drains dump directly into your local water body.

Cross Connection Control Survey

The purpose of this survey is to determine whether a cross-connection may exist at your home or business. A cross connection is an unprotected or improper connection to a public water distribution system that may allow contamination or pollution to enter the system. We are responsible for enforcing cross-connection control regulations and ensuring that no contaminants can, under any flow conditions, enter the distribution system. If you have any of the devices listed below please contact us so that we can discuss the issue, and if needed, survey your connection and assist you in isolating it if that is necessary.

- Boiler/ Radiant heater (water heaters not included)
- Underground lawn sprinkler system
- Pool or hot tub (whirlpool tubs not included)
- Additional source(s) of water on the property
- Decorative pond
- Watering trough

Remember, RHGID restricts all outside irrigation between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. RHGID reserves the right to resort to odd / even water restrictions. Please avoid wasting water and over irrigating.

2013 Lead and Copper Sampling

RHGID is required by the U.S. E.P.A. to test for lead and copper in our distribution system every three years. Since the District last tested for lead and copper in 2010, we will once again be sampling for lead and copper in 2013. Samples collected from the distribution system, from inside the customers' homes, are analyzed for lead and copper. To date, RHGID has always been in compliance with the lead and copper requirements. Upon completion of testing, RHGID will publish lead and copper results and make them available to our customers.



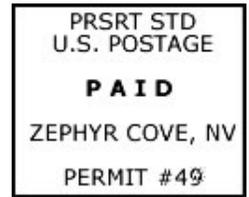


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**We Welcome Your
Feedback**

WWW.RHGID.ORG



F.O.G. Prevention



Fats, Oils and Grease from cooking areas can enter the sewer system creating backup problems.



Sewer Overflows Can be Expensive

Sewage backups and overflows are often the result of grease buildup, which can cause property damage, environmental problems and health hazards. Keep Fats, Oils and Grease out of the sewer system.

It is common for sewer blockages in the sewer lines to be caused by grease buildup. The problem is not isolated to Lake Tahoe and has become so large on a national scale that it has gained its own acronym, the FOG Program, standing for Fats, Oils and Greases.

The main cause of sewer line blockages has been grease buildup that restricts the flow in the wastewater collection system. All too often, Fats, Oils, and Grease from cooking and food preparation are washed into the plumbing system when hot, and stick to the insides of

sewer pipes both on your property and under the streets as the grease cools. Usually, FOG enters the plumbing system through kitchen sinks in homes and restaurants and floor drains found in food preparation areas of restaurants. Eventually this grease buildup can block pipes completely, causing raw sewage to back up into homes and businesses or sewage spills from line cleanouts or public manholes.

