Spring Newsletter 2016

Pine Needle Pick Up Dates

South Tahoe Refuse's (STR) annual Big Trash Day will be held Wednesday, May 25th. At no additional charge, STR will allow up to six (6) additional bags or cans of house garbage and/or spring cleanup yard waste to be set out with your regular trash.

Residents must be active service customers with South Tahoe Refuse to take advantage of this service. Included in your weekly service you are allowed one (1) garbage can, one (1) blue recycle bag, and one (1) bag of yard waste.

Coinciding with the STR Big Trash Day, the District also sponsors a "Pine Needle Pick Up". After your regular trash pickup day on Wednesday, June 1, you may set out all of your bags of clean pine needles and cones for pick up on June 2 and 3.

If you miss these District dates, clean pine needles, cones and slash may also be taken to the Heavenly Boulder parking lot on South Benjamin Drive as part of the Tahoe Douglas Fire District's "Compost Your Combustibles" program from May 28 through July 4, 2016.

2nd Annual RHGID Luncheon

The RHGID Board of Trustees invites all Round Hill residents to the 2nd Annual Luncheon at our office at 343 Ute Way on July 8, 2016 from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

District staff learned a few things from last year's luncheon and hope to make this year more enjoyable for everyone.

The RHGID Board of Trustees is elected by you, the residents of Round Hill. They have a fiduciary responsibility to their constituents and in order to support and understand your desires, they need your feedback.

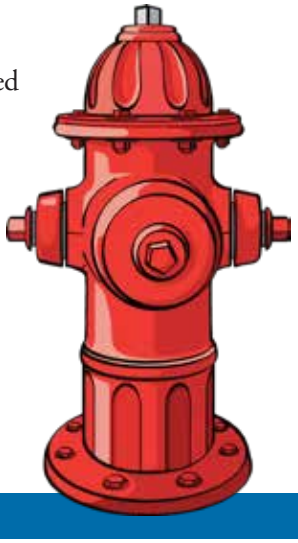
Please join the Trustees and staff of the RHGID and your neighbors for a BBQ luncheon and let us know what is important to you.

An RSVP is not necessary to attend but would help us to be prepared.

Hydrant Replacement

The RHGID has been the recipient of a 50% matching grant totaling $210,218 from the U.S. Forest service through the Lake Tahoe Fire Protection Partnership since 2009. In 2016/2017, the District will use $24,000 of those funds to replace approximately 20 fire hydrants located throughout the District.

You may see District personnel working around hydrants in the District as this work is scheduled from July 2016 through June 2017.



In This Issue:

The District's 2016 Water Quality Report is also available online at **http://www.rhgid.org/flipbooks/CCR2016**

Round Hill Board of Trustees
Glen Smith, Chairman
Steve Seibel, Vice-Chairman
Wesley Rice, Secretary/Treasurer
Chuck Fagen
Keith Fertala

www.RHGID.org

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 Lake" or "Protect Your Water." Produce and distribute a flyer for households to remind residents that storm drains dump directly into your local water body.

Lead & Copper Testing

RHGID operators will be sampling for lead and copper in the distribution system again this summer. The District must test for lead and copper every three years during the summer months. Lead and copper testing checks for the effects of our water on individual plumbing inside each participant's home. If lead and copper exceed the prescribed limits, the District could be required to make modifications to its treatment systems to control the corrosiveness of our water. To date, RHGID has always been well under the established limits for both lead and copper.

Herbicides and Pesticides in Lake Tahoe?

The Lahanton 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 and protection of our drinking water source.

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.

WATER QUALITY REPORT

Your water meets 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 supplies and once again we are proud to report that our system has not violated a maximum contaminant level or any 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.

Where does my drinking water come from?

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.

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 by calling (775) 687-9520.

Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

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 stormwater 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 stormwater 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.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

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. 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 on the following page.

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Your Water	Range Low	Range High	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Disinfectants & Disinfectant By-Products (There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)								
Chlorine (as Cl2) (ppm)	4	4	0.73	0.29	0.73	2015	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Total Organic Carbon	NA	TT	ND			2015	No	Naturally present in the environment
Inorganic Contaminants								
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.012	NA		2015	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (optional) (ppm)	NA		6.8	NA		2015	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching
Microbiological Contaminants								
Turbidity (NTU)	NA	0.3	100	0.02	0.04	2015	No	Soil runoff
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 0.04. Any measurement in excess of 1 is a violation unless otherwise approved by the state. RHGID Turbidity ranged from 0.02 to 0.04 NTU.								
Radioactive Contaminants								
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	0	15	1.58	NA		2007	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Beta/photon emitters (mrem/yr)	0	50	3.08	NA		2007	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
Radium (combined 226/228) (pCi/L)	0	5	0.488	NA		2007	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (combined)(ug/L)	0	30	0.11	NA	0.11	2013	No	Erosion of natural deposits

Contaminants	MCLG	AL	Your Water	Sample Date	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source
Inorganic Contaminants							
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.048	2013	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Contaminants							
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	0	2013	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

UNDETECTED CONTAMINANTS

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

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL or MRDL	Your Water	Violation	Typical Source
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	ND	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes) (ppb)	NA	80	ND	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection

UNIT DESCRIPTIONS

Term	Definition
ppm	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
pCi/L	pCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
mrem/yr	mrem/yr: millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)
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.
Variances & Exemptions	Variances 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 visit their website at **www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.**

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 cause 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 that are connected to the water system, 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

Water Conservation Tips

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, washing your hair 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 a month.
- Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a 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 a 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.

News from Your Board

Your Trustees

Board Chairman Glen Smith has served as a Trustee since 2004 and must now step aside as required under the State term limits regulations. We will miss his input and contributions to the District. 2016 is an election year for the District's Board. Two positions were up for election and two candidates applied for consideration. The departure of Glen Smith due to term limits and the expiration of Wes Rice's term opened two positions for election. Darin Smith (no relation to Glen) submitted his name as a candidate and Wes Rice resubmitted his application. With two open seats and two candidates, no election will be held for Trustees in 2016. Wes and Darin will be declared elected at Douglas County's 2016 Election Canvass.

Employee News

RHGID welcomes Josh Bisset to our staff. Josh started at the District just before last Christmas as a temporary maintenance mechanic. Josh did such a great job for us that he was hired as a permanent employee in March, three months before his temporary status expired. Josh comes to the District with no water and wastewater experience and yet he passed his Class I Water Distribution Operator's license exam in just his first three months at the District. Congratulations, Josh! If you see Josh out in the District, welcome him to the neighborhood.

Road sealants scheduled

McFaul Way was paved in 2010 and Elks Point Road was paved in 2013. As part of the District's commitment to road maintenance, RHGID will be contracting to apply a sealant to these roads in 2016. During sealant applications, expect to see heavy equipment on district roadways. Traffic may be re-directed during sealant applications.

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.**

Save this date!
Annual Luncheon
July 8, 2016
from 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

ROUND HILL GENERAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

343 Ute Way
P.O. Box 976
Zephyr Cove, NV 89448

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We Welcome Your Feedback

WWW.RHGID.ORG

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.

Please collect your grease and dispose of properly. Do not pour grease down drains.