



# SPRING NEWSLETTER 2020

## *Pine Needle & Combustibles Pick Up Dates*

### IMPORTANT DATES

**Big Trash Days**      **Wed., May 27**  
                                  **Wed., October 28**

**Pine Needle Pick Up** **Wed., June 24**  
                                  **Thurs., June 25**  
                                  **Fri., June 26**

South Tahoe Refuse's (STR) annual Big Trash Day will be held on **Wednesday, May 27, 2020**. At no additional charge, STR will allow up to six additional bags or cans of house garbage and/or spring cleanup yard waste. Anything over six extra cans or bags will be an additional charge at STR regular rates.

Residents must be **active service customers** with STR to take advantage of this service. Your STR refuse invoice states that included in your weekly service you are allowed one garbage can, one blue recycle bag and one bag of yard waste. Please call (530) 541-5105 for more information.

## *You're Invited to our 6th Annual Barbecue*

### IMPORTANT DATES

**Open House Meet & Greet BBQ**      **Thursday, July 9**

The RHGID Board of Trustees invites all Round Hill residents to an Open House Meet and Greet Barbecue at our office at 343 Ute Way on **Thursday, July 9, 2020** from 12:00 noon until 3:00 pm.

The Round Hill General Improvement District Board of Trustees is elected by *you*, the residents of Round Hill.

The Trustees have a fiduciary and civic responsibility to their constituents, the homeowners of Round Hill. In order to support you and understand your desires, they need your feedback. The annual Meet &

Coinciding with the STR Big Trash Days, the District also sponsors a "Pine Needle Pick Up." On your regular trash pickup day Wednesday, June 24, you may set out bags of clean pine needles and cones for pickup on **Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, June 24, 25 and 26**. We do not know where they will start; therefore, please have the bags out early.

**Keep the pine needle pick-up bags separate from the regular trash.**

If you miss the above dates, you may take your clean pine needles, cones and slash to the Heavenly Stagecoach Lodge parking lot on Quaking Aspen Lane as part of the Tahoe Douglas Fire District's "Compost Your Combustibles" program from May 24 through July 7, 2020.

**The next big Trash Day will be on Wednesday, October 28, 2020, and the same South Tahoe Refuse rules above will apply.**

Greet BBQ is your opportunity to meet the board members and staff.

### *Your Board*

Wes Rice is the longest tenured member of the Board, and is currently serving as the Chairman of the Board. Chuck Fagen is the Vice Chairman and was first appointed to the Board in 2007. Trustee Keith Fertala was appointed in 2014 and is the Secretary / Treasurer. Trustee Darin Smith was elected in 2016. Hunter Harris is the newest member of the Board, appointed April 17, 2018 and then was elected in November 2018.

Please come and meet the staff of RHGID and the Board to let them know what is important to you.

### IN THIS ISSUE:

Pine Needle Pick Up Dates . . . .	1
RHGID BBQ . . . . .	1
Staffing . . . . .	2
Round Hill Covid-19 Info . . . . .	3
Backflow Preventer . . . . .	3
<b>Water Quality Report . . . . .</b>	<b>4-6</b>
Free Clean Waste Dump . . . . .	7
Source Water Protection Tips . . .	7
Water Conservation Tips . . . . .	7
The Value of Water . . . . .	8

The District's 2019 Water Quality Report is also available online at <http://www.rhgid.org/CCR2019>

### **Round Hill Board of Trustees**

Wes Rice, Chairman  
 Chuck Fagen, Vice-Chairman  
 Keith Fertala, Secretary/Treasurer  
 Darin Smith, Trustee  
 Hunter Harris, Trustee

Please visit our improved and updated website!

[www.RHGID.org](http://www.RHGID.org)

# RHGID Staffing News

## *Meet Our Staff...*



### ***Josh Bisset***

Josh has been with RHGID since December of 2015. Initially hired to be a maintenance mechanic, Josh has worked his way to being the lead operator in the field. Josh holds Level II certifications from the State of Nevada for both Treatment and Distribution of Drinking Water. Josh was born in Reno and raised in Dayton, NV. Away from RHGID, Josh is an experienced fabricator who

designs, builds, and modifies vehicles primarily for off-road use (think trophy truck racing). Josh loves to spend time with his girlfriend Ashley, his daughter KiKi, and his son Makai. They all enjoy swimming and biking at Lake Tahoe.



### ***Willie Pinella***

Willie has been with RHGID since March of 2019. Willie holds Level I certifications from the State of Nevada for both Treatment and Distribution of Drinking Water. Willie was born in San Diego and grew up in Santa Rosa. Willie is an avid snowboarder and artist who has been featured in art shows and

galleries from the Tahoe Basin to the Bay Area. In his spare time, Willie says he likes to camp, fish and ride his bike.

***Be sure to wave  
next time you see  
our crew!***



### ***Adam Day***

Adam has been with RHGID since November of 2018. Adam holds Level I certifications from the State of Nevada for both Treatment and Distribution of Drinking Water. Adam also has experience with landscape and foliage and puts that knowledge to use as the implementer for the beautification projects throughout

the district. Adam was born in Montana and raised in Southern California. Adam is a big sports fan and loves the outdoors.

### ***How can I get involved?***

The Round Hill Board of Trustees meets regularly on the third Tuesday of every month at 4:30 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 our website at [www.rhgid.org](http://www.rhgid.org).

## Round Hill COVID-19 Information

As the world and nation continues to investigate, educate and regulate the public health risk and subsequent reaction to COVID-19, I feel it is my responsibility to do the same. Below is information as it pertains to the community of Round Hill, specifically in regards to our water and sewer systems.

### Q&A

#### Q: What is the Corona Virus and/or COVID-19?

A: The Corona Virus is part of a group of viruses that cause respiratory infections ranging from the common cold to more severe diseases such as Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS). The most recently discovered coronavirus causes coronavirus disease COVID-19.

More scientific information can be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/index.htm>

#### Q: Can the COVID-19 virus spread through drinking water?

A: The COVID-19 virus has NOT been detected in drinking water. Conventional water treatment methods that use filtration and disinfection, such as those in most municipal drinking water systems, should remove or inactivate the virus that causes COVID-19.

Furthermore, RHGID has a 4-log removal filtration and disinfection process. 4-log removal means inactivation of 99.99% of pathogenic organisms; including viruses.

Another indicator of the effectiveness of the inactivation of pathogenic organisms is by measuring Free Chlorine Residual. This is the chlorine disinfectant available to still fight pathogens or other

organic matter. RHGID water operators measure and record this result every day. It is also continually measured by instrumentation that has alarms to alert our staff via telephone should the level start to decrease.

#### Q: Can the COVID-19 virus spread through sewerage systems?

A: CDC is reviewing all data on COVID-19 transmission as information becomes available. At this time, the risk of transmission of the virus that causes COVID-19 through sewerage systems is thought to be low. Although transmission of COVID-19 through sewage may be possible, there is no evidence to date that this has occurred. This guidance will be updated as necessary as new evidence is assessed.

Wastewater and sewage workers should use standard practices, practice basic hygiene precautions, and wear personal protective equipment (PPE) as prescribed for current work tasks. Round Hill GID operators employ these precautions during all sewer system activities. All sewer activity has been limited to emergency only, and extra sanitation procedures have been enacted as well.

**\*\*As toilet paper shortages continue, please DO NOT FLUSH ANYTHING OTHER THAN TOILET PAPER. Flushing wipes, paper towels, or any other item down the toilet can clog our sewers and damage our pumps. Repairing pipes and pumps is expensive and can affect rates.**

If you need any other information, please call me directly at (775) 588-2571 (office) or (775) 790-3623 (cell).

- Andrew Hickman - Round Hill GID District Manager

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## What is a Backflow Preventer and why do I need one?

Many people do not understand the importance of having an irrigation system backflow prevention device and/ or why it is necessary. The landscape around your home or business is filled with all sorts of things that can make you sick if ingested. Fertilizers, pesticides and the bacteria from pet or wildlife waste are just a few examples.

Most irrigation systems are connected to a potable (drinking) water supply. Backflow preventers, as the name implies, prevent contaminated water from flowing back into the potable water supply. Backflow can occur if there is a sudden pressure drop in the municipal water supply line. This can be caused by the opening of a fire hydrant, for example. When the pressure drops suddenly on the supply side of an irrigation system, it creates a back siphoning effect where water that is standing around a sprinkler head can be drawn into the irrigation pipes, into your home water pipes, and potentially into the municipal water lines, thus potentially contaminating the municipal water supply. Another example is having a hose sitting in a bucket of soapy/dirty water while you wash your car. Contaminated water can be drawn in, in the same manner. Round Hill GID has preventative measures in place to protect our municipal supply, but that still leaves your home water lines vulnerable. Irrigation backflow preventers and hose bib backflow preventers keep this from happening.

There are several types of backflow prevention devices. The type of device you are required to install is likely dictated by local codes and the severity of the contaminants located downstream of the device. Contact the RHGID office if you have any questions about what type of device you may need.

This is a ¾" Wilkins-Zurn 720a. These are very common for residential irrigation systems. You can purchase these or similar kinds for under \$100 and install them yourself if you have a knack for DIY. Otherwise, call your local plumber for a quote to have one installed.



This is a hose bib backflow preventer. These can be found at your local hardware store for under \$10 and is installed between your hose and the hose bib.





# WATER QUALITY REPORT 2019



## ROUND HILL GID Consumer Confidence Report – 2020 Covering Calendar Year 2019

### ***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 supply and once again we are proud to report that our system has not violated a maximum contaminant or other water quality standard.

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.**

This brochure is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided last year. Included are the details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies. It is important that customers be aware of the efforts that are continually being made to improve their water systems. To learn more, please attend any of the regularly scheduled meetings. For more information please contact Andrew Hickman at 775-588-2571.

We treat your water to remove several contaminants and we add disinfectant to protect you against microbial contaminants. The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) requires states to develop a Source Water Assessment (SWA) for each public water supply that treats and distributes raw source water in order to identify potential contamination sources. The state has completed SWAs for all community water systems that use groundwater, but not surface water systems (such as Round Hill GID).

### ***Message from EPA***

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons, such as those 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/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).

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 EPA's 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.

Contaminants that may be present in source water before we treat it include:

**Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.

**Inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals, 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** may come from a variety of sources such as storm water run-off, agriculture, and residential users.

**Radioactive contaminants**, can be naturally occurring or the result of mining activity.

**Organic contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, may also come from gas stations, urban storm water run-off, and septic systems.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulation which limits the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. We treat our water according to EPA's regulations. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Our water system tested a minimum of 2 samples per month in accordance with the Total Coliform Rule for microbiological contaminants. Coliform bacteria are usually harmless, but their presences in water can be an indication of disease-causing bacteria. When coliform bacteria are found, special follow-up tests are done to determine if harmful bacteria are present in the water supply. If this limit is exceeded, the water supplier must notify the public by newspaper, television or radio.

### ***Water Quality Data***

The following tables list all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the 2019 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done January 1- December 31, 2019. The state requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old. The bottom line is that the water that is provided to you is safe.



## **WATER QUALITY TERMS & DEFINITIONS**

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):** the “Goal” is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to human health. MCLG’s allow for a margin of safety.

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** the “Maximum Allowed” MCL is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water.

MCL’s are set as close to the MCLG’s as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

**Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL):** the secondary standards of “Maximum Allowed” MCL allowed in drinking water.

**Action Level (AL):** the concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

**Treatment Technique (TT):** a treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL):** 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.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):** the level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG’s do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

**Non-Detects (ND):** laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

**Parts per Million (ppm):** or milligrams per liter (mg/l)

**Parts per Billion (ppb):** or micrograms per liter (µg/l)

**Picocuries per Liter (pCi/L):** picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

**Millirems per Year (mrem/yr):** measure of radiation absorbed by the body.

**Million Fibers per Liter (MFL):** million fibers per liter is a measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that are longer than 10 micrometers.

**Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU):** nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

# WATER QUALITY TABLE

## *Testing Results for Round Hill GID*

Disinfection By-Products	Monitoring Period	RAA	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5)	2019	3	2.9	ppb	60	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM	2018	6	5.69	ppb	80	0	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Lead and Copper	Date	90th Percentile		Unit	AL	Sites Over AL	Typical Source
COPPER, FREE	2017-2019	0.059	ND - 0.068 0.042	ppm	1.3	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives.
LEAD	2017-2019	2	ND - 3.7	ppb	15	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

Radionuclides	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
Combined RADIUM (-226 & -228)	9/19/2019	0.2	0.2	pCi/L	5	0	Erosion of natural deposits

Secondary Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	SMCL	MCLG	
CARBON, TOTAL	9/12/2019	1.7	0 - 1.7	ppm	4		
CHLORIDE	11/7/2019	2.8	2.8	mg/L	400		
MAGNESIUM	11/7/2019	2.2	2.2	mg/L	150		
SODIUM	9/19/2019	6.1	5.8 - 6.1	mg/L	200	20	
SULFATE	11/7/2019	1.8	1.8	mg/L	500		
TDS	11/7/2019	53	53	mg/L	1000		

### ***Health Information About Water Quality***

While your water meets the EPA's standards for Lead, *if present at elevated levels* this contaminant 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. Your Water System 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 mini-

mize 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 drinking 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 at 800-426-4791 or at [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

### **Violations**

Type	Category	Analyte	Compliance Period
No Violations Occurred in the Calendar Year of 2019. There are no additional required health effects violation notices.			





## 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 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.

## 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.

## Get Ready for a Greener 2020 with South Tahoe Refuse and Recycling Services

### FREE CLEAN GREEN WASTE DUMP DAYS!

May 30, June 27, September 5, October 10  
8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Resource Recovery Building

2121 Eloise Ave.

South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

(530) 542-8354

Support our local efforts to reduce greenhouse gases by diverting green waste from the landfills!

**Clean up your defensible space, or yard this Spring, Summer & Fall!**

## Clean Green Waste Only

(no trash, milled wood, plywood, plastic, stumps, rocks)

**NO BAGGED MATERIAL!**

### Residential Customers!

Did you know STR has a FREE Green Waste Voucher Program?

Call the office for more information on both programs

(530) 541-5105

[www.southtahoerefuse.com](http://www.southtahoerefuse.com)

### STR service area only -

Douglas County, El Dorado County, City of South Lake Tahoe

**\*\* Remember to Tarp your Loads - No End Dumps \*\***

**Just say NO to Plastic Yard Bags!**

- 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](http://www.epa.gov/watersense) for more information.



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**We Welcome Your  
 Feedback**

PRSR STD  
 U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
 ZEPHYR COVE, NV  
 PERMIT #49

**WWW.RHGID.ORG**

**Be Water Wise!**

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.*

# The Value of Water



RHGID ¾" Residential rate contains 12,000 gallons of safe, treated drinking water in Base Rate

ITEM	Unit Price	Total Comparison
RHGID ¾" Residential	\$63.02 base rate	\$63.02
Bottle Water	\$1.29/gal (grocery store)	\$16,770
2L Soda	\$1.79/2L (= 0.528 gal)	\$44,043
Milk	\$3.50/gal	\$45,500
Gasoline	\$4.29/gal	\$55,770
Starbucks Coffee (20 oz)	\$3.65/20oz	\$303,680