

KINGSWOOD 500 TANK/120 BOOSTER PUMP DEMOLITION AND GRIFF CREEK RESTORATION PROJECT

With this project, the North Tahoe Public Utility District saw a chance to demolish an old 500,000 gallon water tank and booster pump station, both built in the 1960s, and also restore a sensitive Stream Environment Zone (SEZ) along Griff Creek.

NTPUD initially received grant funding to install BMPs on a service road it used daily to access the tank and booster station by crossing Griff Creek and the SEZ. But it realized that approach would not be cost effective, so it decided to build a new water tank and pump station in a new location, and then demolish this tank and pump station, and restore the creek and SEZ.



Before: The water tank that was removed.

This project was designed to improve water quality by removing infrastructure from the SEZ and restoring the area as closely as possible to pre-disturbance conditions. The priorities were to reconnect the creek with its floodplain in an area where a berm was built to protect the water tank from stream flows, re-contour the site and re-vegetate it to prevent erosion and restore a diverse native

plant community, and remove the in-bed creek crossing to eliminate streambed disturbance and associated erosion.

These measures prevent the mobilization of fine sediment and nutrients by erosion, which in turn reduces fine sediment deposition into Griff Creek and Lake Tahoe. The project:

- Removed more than 10,000 square feet of coverage in and around the Griff Creek SEZ
- Restored a functioning floodplain on Griff Creek
- Eliminated pollution from maintenance vehicles driving through the creek
- Restored more than 10,000 square feet of wetland, meadow and other riparian plant communities along Griff Creek

This project was made possible by a grant from the U.S. Forest Service Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit.



After: Restored SEZ

The North Tahoe Public Utility District Quarterly Newsletter is published to keep our customers informed about Sewer, Water and Park related issues and upcoming events. If you have any suggestions, please submit them to the Office of the General Manager. We send press releases and other information out when we have information to share. If you would like to be added to the list to receive this information as it is available, please e-mail Pam Emmerich at pemmerich@ntpud.org or sign up on the website.

For more information on any of the articles contained in this newsletter, please call 530-546-4212 or visit www.ntpud.org

KEEP UP ON WHAT'S GOING ON AT THE NTPUD!

We want to keep our residents informed about what's going on at the NTPUD. We offer a variety of ways to do so, but if you have other ideas, please let us know!

1. Sign up on our website to receive email updates. A new email management program launched last month allows our residents to more specifically choose the information they wish to receive.
2. Follow us on Facebook (North Tahoe Public Utility District, North Tahoe Regional Park, Tahoe Vista Recreation Area and North Tahoe Event Center) and Twitter (NorthTahoePUD).
3. Read this newsletter. If there are specific topics you would like to read about, please let us know.

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North Tahoe Public Utility District Quarterly Newsletter - Fall

November 2015, Volume 7, Issue 4

En Español Llamar, (530) 546-4212

Inside this Issue.....

- 2016 Dolly Varden, Salmon and Chipmunk Water Main Replacement Projects and Property Reconnection Information
- Best in the Basin Award
- Dog Park Grand Opening
- Preparing Your Property for Winter
- September 2015 Water Conservation Results

MANAGER'S BRIEFS - ON THE CLOTHESLINE

By the time you read this, I will have been on the job for eight months. I'm always mindful that it takes many people to accomplish tasks, and I'm grateful to be surrounded by so many professional employees. Here's an update on some things your NTPUD has been doing on behalf of all residents.

We've moved into the new offices at 875 National Avenue. It's a beautiful building constructed without debt. By planning for the expenditure and using \$4.4 million held in reserves, we achieved the best possible bang for the buck. We call the facility our "Base" with both operations and administration starting work here each day. A formal dedication will be held in November or December, and we will reach out with a date and notice as soon as it can be scheduled. Watch our website, Facebook pages or email notifications from the District for the date! We are excited to share our new building with the public!



District staff moved into the new Base Facility on August 17-18. Watch for the announcement regarding the date of the Dedication and Open House.

The Board of Directors solicited input on a question of whether we should change the method of voting for the directors from election "by seat" to election "at large". Currently, an interested candidate must declare which open seat they are trying to fill. The other method elects the candidates receiving the most votes, without regard to a specific seat. With 90% of respondents supporting the change to an "at large" format, the Board directed staff to bring the necessary resolution to them at the November 2015 meeting to implement the change.

Because the NTPUD has used the election "by seat" method since its formation, the Board wanted additional input from the community, and staff was directed to prepare a binding question for all registered voters to be placed on the November 2016 ballot to help decide if the new "at large" method will continue or revert back to the historical "by seat" method.

For almost six months, the Board of Directors has struggled with the question of whether it should continue to fund about 95 street lights within the District's boundaries. The Board directed staff to work with Placer County and Caltrans to assess the street lights and see if the other agencies might incorporate them into their own street lighting programs. Caltrans identified four lights which it determined would be paid for within its cooperative agreement with Placer County. Placer County is seeking a funding source for 36 lights being considered within the Kings Beach "grid" located at intersections or in high pedestrian areas. No mid-block lighting is being considered by Placer County with the exception of street lights near Kings Beach Elementary School.

Additionally, there are 17 street lights on Highway 28 within the area of the Kings Beach Commercial Core which are being replaced by pedestrian lighting throughout the core to be paid for by a newly formed business assessment district.

With all three agencies working together for a positive result for the community, a solution was found which will keep about 70% of the street lights illuminated or replaced. When it is received, information about specific street lights affected will be made available on the District's website (www.ntpud.org).

If you have any questions about the happenings at your District, please feel free to call or email me at DWhitelaw@ntpud.org. Please keep your eyes open for the announcement about the dedication and public open house for our new Base facility. We are excited to welcome the community in to visit the new facility.

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TAHOE UNLEASHED DOG PARK OPENS!

On October 18 the community gathered to celebrate the opening of the Tahoe Unleashed Dog Park. The Park was blessed by Christian, Jewish and Buddhist clergy before the gates were opened and the dogs went to play! Check out our North Tahoe Regional Park Facebook page for more pictures.

Over the last three years numerous volunteers have contributed in a variety of ways to help make the dream of a dog park a reality. Both Dog Day in the Park and the North Tahoe Public Utility District thank each and every one of you for your help, as do all of our four-legged paw pals. Many of our volunteers and donors don't even have a pet or live in our community!

We would like to recognize a few paw pals that have gone beyond our expectations of generosity in money, time or in-kind donations. Brian Brown of Estate Landscape got the ball rolling with the original design of Tahoe Unleashed. John Reite designed, crafted and donated the beautiful redwood benches. Fred and Kris Hipwell provided a yearly donation that allowed for the purchase of a pet friendly drinking fountain, which will be arriving soon. Perennial Nursery and Tahoe Tree Co. donated eight trees for the small dog park. Juan Estrada of Mountain Tree Service felled a dangerous dead tree. Placer County Animal Services for offering discounted rabies vaccines and Dr. Don Mielke volunteering his time to administer the vaccines. Placer County Parks and Recreation Commission and Placer County



Lots of smiling dogs and people in the big dog park!

Board of Supervisors for approving a \$232,700 grant for the Tahoe Unleashed Dog Park. The NTPUD Parks maintenance staff whose hard and meticulous labor to get the Park open is obvious. John Bergmann who has helped design and print every single notice, banner, sign, raffle ticket and flyer over the past four years! Tholl Fence significantly discounted the fencing material so that we could complete phase I of the dog park this year. Greg Bechtel and Doug Grant helped Court Berger with the very unglamorous dirty work of clearing the area that would become the Tahoe Unleashed Dog Park. And

thank you to everyone else that hasn't been mentioned here who contributed time and smaller amounts of cash or products. Every contribution has helped us reach our goal of having an off-leash dog park this year. We sincerely thank you, as do all our four-legged paw pals.



L to R) Christian, Jewish and Buddhist clergy preparing to bless the Park with Board President John Bergmann speaking.



Small dogs getting ready to be "unleashed" for their first adventure at the dog park!

PREPARING YOUR PROPERTY FOR WINTER

It's time to start thinking about preparing your yard and home for winter. Visit www.ntpud.org/winterization and download a copy of the District's "Winterization Checklist" which gives you a guide to help reduce the chances of frozen and broken water pipes, irrigation and hose bibs. Not only could these cause damage to your home and property, these types of problems waste a significant amount of water and money!

If you typically leave your home unattended, please take extra precautions to protect your home and save water and money.

- Never completely shut the heat off when you are not at home and leave cabinet doors open to allow air to circulate.
- All homeowners should have a water shut off valve installed in the home that will allow you to completely shut off the water to your home when you will not be home for any length of time. The shut off should also allow the water system in your home to completely drain, leaving no water in the pipes.
- Most importantly, make sure your water District has your most current contact phone number so we can reach you in the event of a water emergency. There is nothing worse than seeing water pouring out of a house or garage and having to send a letter to notify the homeowner instead of calling them!



Make sure your property has an operational shut off valve on the customer side of the meter.

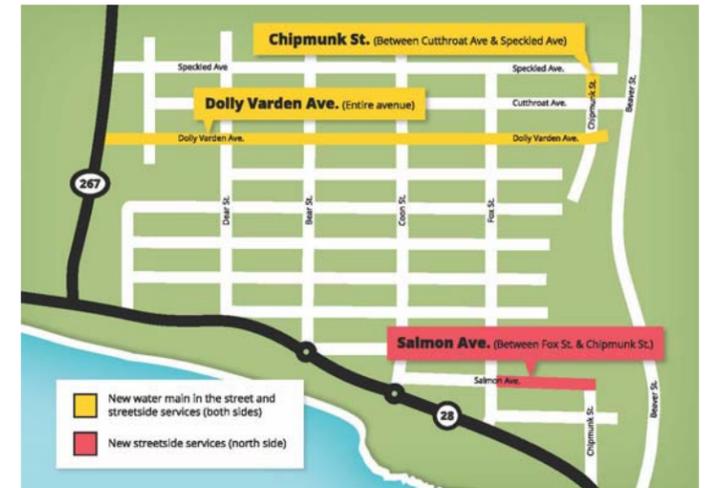
2016 CONSTRUCTION SEASON WATER PROJECTS: DOLLY VARDEN WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT PROJECT AND NORTH SIDE SALMON WATER SERVICES

In the upcoming 2016 construction season, the District will replace approximately 4,500 linear feet of water mains in Dolly Varden Avenue from Chipmunk to State Highway 267, Chipmunk Street from Cutthroat to Speckled, connect the new water main in Dolly Varden to Wolf, and install additional fire hydrants. The new main and service laterals in Dolly Varden will allow the District to abandon the mid-block water mains between Dolly Varden and Cutthroat and between Dolly Varden and Loch Levon. The District is completing the project ahead of Placer County's planned paving of Dolly Varden in 2016.

In 2016, the District will also install new service laterals to the property lines on the north side of Salmon Avenue between Fox and Chipmunk Streets and provide customer-side shutoff valves. The new service laterals in Salmon will allow the District to abandon the mid-block water mains between Minnow and Salmon from Fox to Chipmunk, allowing all properties on Salmon in that area to reconnect to the new main.

The historical mid-block mains in Kings Beach and other areas of the District have been problematic due to numerous leaks and extremely limited access. As part of the construction process, the District will install new service laterals to the property line and provide a customer-side shutoff valve. Per Chapter 5 of the District's Code of

Ordinances, property owners will have two construction seasons after the new main and laterals have been installed to relocate their water service from the backyard to the new points of connection at the street at the property owner's expense. Prior to the start of construction, the District Board of Directors will hold a public hearing to establish the relocation schedule for property owners to relocate their services. Additional information will be mailed to the affected property owners as construction season nears.



Property owners on the highlighted streets should watch for notifications on the public hearing and re-connection deadlines.

DROUGHT UPDATE: RESIDENTS FALL SHORT OF 28% MANDATORY REDUCTION FOR SEPTEMBER 2015

Residents of the North Tahoe Public Utility District reduced residential water consumption in September 2015 by 25% compared to September 2013 usage, falling short of the 28% State mandated target. NTPUD Residents have reached the mandated targets in all months but July and September since the State mandated the target in April 2015.

NTPUD September 2013 usage was 206.3 residential gallons per capita per day, 185 residential gallons per capital per day in 2014 and 147 residential gallons per capita per day in 2015.

"The North Tahoe Public Utility District would like to thank our residents that have been diligently working to reduce their water consumption," said General Manager Duane Whitelaw. "Please make sure to prepare your irrigation and your property for winter to attempt to eliminate frozen and broken pipes that can cause the loss of large amounts of water and result in significant cost and possible property damage during the winter."

Graphs with water production and usage numbers are available on the District's website at www.ntpud.org/conservation by clicking on "How are we doing?" at the top of the page. Mandatory water conservation regulations remain in effect through the winter. The complete list of prohibitions on water use is available on the District's website at www.ntpud.org/conservation.

23 Low Flow Toilet Credit Rebates Remain

Go to www.ntpud.org/howtoconserve to download the application.