



It's Irrigation Season; Time to "Beat the Peak"

The average American home uses about 260 gallons of water per day. During peak season (summer) many homes can use 1,000 gallons of water in a day. If a home uses even more, for example: 3,000 gallons on a peak day,

this is the equivalent of leaving the garden hose running for nearly 8 hours! You can "Beat the Peak" with efficiency in your landscape.

1. START WITH A LANDSCAPE PLAN & GOOD SOIL:

Analyze your site. This includes existing vegetation, sun/shade, ground slope, water availability, soil type, views, noise sources, and privacy. What are your current water uses? The majority of summer household water use is utilized for irrigation. In general, landscaping is the most significant area a homeowner can make cost-effective changes which directly result in reduced water bills. Tahoe soils are often very compacted and thus greatly benefit from the generous use of organic compost and soil amendments. Investing in good soil, saves water in the long run since the plants can grow strong to withstand heat and dryness. Yellow or brown spots on turf do not necessarily indicate dryness, soil compaction is a common culprit.

2. CHOOSE THE RIGHT PLANT FOR THE RIGHT PLACE:

Pull up the lawn and redesign with low water need

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Senator Dianne Feinstein Hosts the 15th Annual Lake Tahoe Summit on Aug. 16

This annual event brings together federal, state and local officials to focus on science, research and the improvements and funding necessary to restore and protect Lake Tahoe's incredible environment. This year the Lake Tahoe Summit will be held on August 16, 2011 at the base area of Homewood Mountain Resort. The event is tentatively scheduled to begin at 9:30 am and last until approximately 12 noon. There will be educational booths, children's activities and speakers on a variety of Tahoe Environmental topics. Homeowners, residents and families are encouraged to attend. Check the website for more information as the date approaches: www.tahoecitypubd.com.

Green Bags for Green Waste

Curbside Yard Waste Recycling Pilot Program
July 11 to Oct. 28, 2011

RECYCLE UP TO 12 BAGS OF GREEN WASTE/YARD WASTE CURBSIDE, EVERY OTHER WEEK, ON THE SAME DAY YOUR BLUE BAG RECYCLING IS COLLECTED.

MATERIALS MUST BE PLACED IN APPROVED, 4 MIL. GREEN BAGS, WHICH CAN BE PURCHASED AT TAHOE SUPPLY COMPANY (OR) ACE HARDWARE. 40 LBS. WEIGH LIMIT PER BAG.

FOR EXACT PROGRAM DETAILS:

WWW.IVGID.ORG/CONSERVATION

WASTE MANAGEMENT: 775-831-2971

IVGID WASTE NOT: 775-832-1284



Director's Corner

As you know, we regularly remind customers to winterize their pipes and check their irrigation system for leaks. Here at Public Works, we also take steps to reduce water loss in the delivery system. Annually, we contract with a company that 'listens' to the water mains to hear leaks. They are remarkably accurate and can locate leaks on a water main in the street at less than one gallon per minute and within 5 feet of where it is leaking. Once a leak is found, IVGID Pipeline staff quickly follow-ups with a repair. This past May, four leaks were found totaling about one gallon per minute. Early detection results in easy and cost effective repairs, the same as at your home. In larger cities, new leak detection methods are being used such as aerial flyover by helicopters with sophisticated heat sensing technology which can sense ground temperature changes down to 1/100 of a degree. The temperature variation can visually display a leaking water main that is cooling the surrounding soil with the water. Maybe one day at IVGID.....

- Joe Pomroy, Director of Public Works

OTHER NEWS



CONSERVATION AND COMMUNITY NEWS

or native plants. Lawns are heavy water users and are often chemical dependent. Replace turf with low water use ground cover, wildflowers or landscape features such as rockwork, tile or decorative mulches. Many homeowners find success by designing with a 1/3 high, 1/3 medium and 1/3 low water use plant plan. Space plants correctly, so they reach mature size without crowding. Avoid invasive plants.

3. MANAGE WATER WISELY: Make sure you have the correct water pressure for your irrigation system. Over-pressurized sprinkler heads create mist, which never reaches the plants. Create zones of water use; group plants with similar cultivation requirements. Place higher use zones above lower use zones to maximize natural drainage patterns. Conduct monthly inspections of irrigation controllers and reprogram as the weather changes. Check irrigation systems regularly for leaks. Adjust emitters and sprinkler heads to minimize overspray. Replace old sprinkler heads with new, high efficiency design heads, and shorten run times to eliminate water run-off. Don't over-water; even in the hot season established plants (including lawns with deeper roots) can often handle dry soil to 6" deep.

4. CREATE AND USE MULCH: Some of the green waste from your garden can be chipped and applied as mulch. Mulch not only reduces weeding, watering, and moisture evaporation, but also moderates soil temperature and helps improve soil texture. Mulch with a 2 to 4 inch layer of bark, leaves, crushed rock, or other attractive material. Use the principles of fire safe landscaping; maintain the TRPA recommended 30 foot buffer around structures, mulching with non-flammable materials. Leave the lawn clippings on-site, as beneficial mulch. Recycle your excess green waste easily using the new curbside "green bag" yard waste recycling pilot program.

5. ADOPT GREEN GARDENING PRACTICES: Use compost and slow-release organic fertilizers to strengthen plants. Choose less toxic controls such as beneficial insects, insecticidal soap and plant based products. If you must use a standard chemical remedy, limit your application of pesticides and fertilizers— water runoff carries these chemicals into our streams and the lake. Always dispose of unused chemicals responsibly through the IVGID Waste Not Household Hazardous Waste Collection program.

Contact IVGID Waste Not for your free outdoor water use evaluation at (775) 832-1284.

Black Bears are attracted to food sources such as: dumpsters, trash cans, birdfeeders, pet food and food in your car or garage. *Please...Always Secure Your Food and Garbage.... and Pack Away the Birdfeeders !*



Photo: T. Georgiou

Renew Recreation Punch Cards Online!

Renew Recreation Punch Cards Online! Skip the wait at the Parks & Recreation Counter and go directly to www.inclinerecreation.com.

1. When can I renew Recreation Punch Cards online?

Starting June 1, parcel owners can renew Recreation Punch Cards online! This new feature is quick and easy.

2. What website do I use to renew Recreation Punch Cards? www.inclinerecreation.com

Avoid lines at the Parks & Recreation Counter this summer and go directly to our website. Select "Renew Recreation Punch Cards Online" and within minutes, complete the renewal process. Keep all issued Recreation Punch Cards even if summer is over or the balance is zero. Recreation Punch Cards remain valid on your property until May 31st and are renewable each June 1.

3. What do I need to renew Recreation Punch Cards online?

- Your property's Parcel Number or APN. If you don't know your Parcel Number, you can look it up by the property's physical address.
- A Confirmed Log-In ID. This login ID is the number located on the front of your IVGID Recreation Photo ID. If you own multiple properties, your Recreation Photo ID may be attached to a parcel different from the parcel you are renewing Recreation Punch Cards on. Contact the Parks & Recreation Department Counter to request a confirmed login ID for all properties.

4. Can I authorize someone else to manage Recreation Punch Cards online?

Yes. Parcel owners can authorize a member of their family or an agent to manage Recreation Punch Cards online. Request confirmed login IDs for anyone managing your property by contacting the Parks & Recreation Department.

5. What else can I do on this site?

Parcel owners and authorized agents can view valid IVGID Recreation Photo ID's and check the balance of Recreation Punch Cards anytime.

SELECT



Renew Recreation
Punch Cards
ONLINE!



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EM: parksandrec@ivgid.org
On the Web: www.inclinerecreation.com



Tennis Pro Exhibition Match July 30
at the Incline Tennis Center.

Call for more details:
775-832-1235