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ON TAP

Volume 18 Issue 10

October 2012

A VISIT TO DOVE LAKE

In this year's August issue of On Tap, we shared an in-depth article which discussed the function of Dove Lake and its purpose as a working reservoir for TCWD. Even though Dove Lake provides a beautiful backdrop for the local communities of Dove Canyon, Rancho Cielo, and Trabuco Highlands, it is important to understand that it is not designed to be an aesthetic amenity.

Dove Lake, located in the Dove Canyon community, is a man-made lake with over five hundred acre-feet of water storage capacity which is used to supplement TCWD's recycled water system. TCWD acquired ownership of Dove Lake in the early 1990's. When additional recycled water is needed during the warm season, TCWD pumps Dove Lake water back to the Recycled Water Reservoir for distribution to the recycled water users. Also, TCWD Operators routinely test the water's dissolved oxygen levels and collect samples to determine the overall water quality.

TCWD preserves the water quality in Dove Lake through two different methods. Both of these methods assist the lake from stagnant water development, which in turn prevents the attraction of vectors (or pests), such as mosquitos. TCWD actively works with the Orange County Vector Control District (OCVCD) in their work to prevent the proliferation of mosquitos and other vectors, as well as vector-borne disease prevention. For more information on the different types of vectors which can inhabit local areas and vector-borne diseases such as West Nile Virus, please visit OCVCD's website at www.ocvcd.org.

The first method water quality is preserved is through a series of air diffusers which are strategically located throughout the lake. The pumped air helps to keep the

lake water mixed and maintain the water's dissolved oxygen levels, which can prevent the growth of waterborne nuisances. The second method used to maintain water quality is through the application of the two Solar Bee devices. The Solar Bee devices are solar-powered mixers which are designed to evenly mix and oxygenate the water at a slow rate throughout the entire lake.

As with all bodies of water, Dove Lake can experience some natural challenges. For example, at the time of writing this article a portion of Dove Lake is covered with a simple-form aquatic plant known as Duckweed. It is important to note that Duckweed is a naturally occurring phenomena for lakes, and that the plant is often carried on the feathers, coats, and shells of native animals and wildlife. Duckweed is spread by ducks, other birds, turtles, reptiles, and aquatic mammals regularly visiting multiple rivers, ponds, and lakes.

There are a few methods on the market which are available to deal with Duckweed growth on a lake surface, but the ideal solution is to manage duckweed without chemicals. This is because chemicals are disruptive to aquatic ecosystems and threaten native aquatic wildlife and plants. Duckweed typically dies off during the winter season when the water temperature is colder. Also, by increasing the lake's dissolved oxygen levels, the water quality improves and fish and other aquatic wildlife thrive.

Finally, the aerobic bacteria thrive off increased oxygen levels, which result in an improved water quality and a natural decomposition of organic matter, which reduces the duckweed. If you have any questions about Dove Lake, please feel free to contact Customer

Service via phone at (949) 858-0277, or via email at customerservice@tcwd.ca.gov.

2012 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

TCWD's Main Office is scheduled to be closed for the following observed holidays:

Veteran's Day -	November 12
Thanksgiving -	November 22 & 23
Christmas Holiday-	December 24 & 25
New Year's Eve -	December 31 (closed at noon)
New Year's Day -	January 1, 2013

In the event you would like to make a payment on a District-observed holiday, please use TCWD's online bill pay method at <https://www.tcwdonlinebilling.org>.

THE IMPACT OF HOLIDAY MEALS

With the holidays fast approaching, many of us plan to cook special meals to share with families and friends. There is a potential hidden danger to the sewer infrastructure in these meal preparations, both residential sewer pipes and TCWD's sanitary sewer mains. This hidden danger is grease.

Grease needs to be handled carefully all year round, but especially this time of year. It is important to know that larger quantities of grease created by cooking a turkey, ham, or roast can result in problems within your home's sewer pipes, as well as within your neighborhood, if not disposed of properly.



TCWD'S Vactor Truck is routinely used to clean District sewer main lines as preventative maintenance.

Never pour grease down your sink drain, toilet, or garbage disposal unit. Instead, pour the grease waste into a can and refrigerate or freeze until solid, and then

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dispose of it on trash day. An empty soup can works well for everyday cooking. However, you may want to save an empty coffee can to hold the grease waste for larger holiday meals. Finally, when cleaning up after the meal, wipe the excess grease from pots, pans, and utensils with paper towels before washing.

Grease poured down kitchen sinks and other drains can be a great contributor to odors, residential sewage blockages, as well as larger sewage spills. These few simple steps can make a difference in helping TCWD protect the environment by preventing sewer spills.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The Board of Directors Regular Meeting is scheduled to be held on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the District's office located at 32003 Dove Canyon Drive, Trabuco Canyon. The public is encouraged to attend.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The Regular Board Meeting for September was held on September 19, 2012, and the following items are highlights from the Meeting:

- Ratification of TCWD's Cadiz Valley Water Conservation, Recovery and Storage Project Support Letter.
- Discussion regarding TCWD Committee Assignments.
- Discussion regarding MET/MWDOC 2013 Water Rate Increase.
- Approval of TCWD response to the Orange County Grand Jury Required Response to Findings and Recommendations.
- Approval of Disposal of Surplus District Property per District Policy.
- Adoption of Resolution Nos. 2012-1178 and 2012-1179 Fixing the Employers' Contribution under the Public Employee's Medical and Hospital Care Act.
- Authorization of General Manager to purchase the Financial Software Solution, as presented.
- Status Update Relating to the Baker Regional Water Treatment Facility.
- Status Update Relating to the Alternate Raw Water Transmission Line.