



How Washoe County is conserving water

How is Washoe County conserving water?

Washoe County is doing its part by working with our landscape contractors to reduce irrigation use by 10 percent at all County buildings for the spring and summer months. We will continue to monitor the requests from the Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA) relating to water use and will comply with those requests.

Is water being wasted at Washoe County parks and golf courses?

Several Washoe County parks and golf courses are irrigated with treated (effluent) water or ditch water. The public may see “normal” irrigation patterns at these parks and golf courses. The availability of ditch water is anticipated to be very short this year. With the 10 percent reduction and the lack of available ditch water, the public will likely see brown areas throughout Washoe County Parks and Golf Courses. Washoe Golf Course in particular will see a 25% reduction in water usage when the ditch water stops running.

Why are Washoe County water parks open if we are in a drought?

The Melio Gaspari Water Park at Lazy 5 Regional Park and the North Valleys Water Play Park at North Valleys Regional Park recycle and recirculate the water. The water is captured, filtered and then treated before it is reused, much like a pool system. While there is some water loss through evaporation it is not considered significant.

These water parks are great locations for families to use during the hot days summer, as a water-saving alternative to filling small pools or turning on lawn sprinklers to run through. Please visit www.washoecounty.us/parks for hours of operation.

Who should I contact if I see a water leak or break in a Washoe County park?

The public is asked to call (775) 328-2311. If you do not receive an answer, please leave a message and the information will be sent to the field where we will address the water leak right away.

Has Washoe County thought about reducing the amount of grass at the parks or County buildings?

Over the years Washoe County has performed some turf reduction, which has multiple benefits. Not only does turf reduction save water, it also reduces the amount of maintenance required within our parks system. The turf areas at our parks are heavily used by recreation leagues; however, if you have any suggestions as to where we may further reduce turf areas, please feel free to e-mail. Jennifer Budge, Parks Operations Superintendent, can be emailed at jbudge@washoecounty.us.