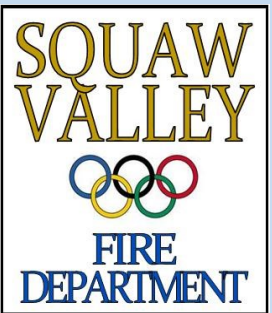




305 Squaw Valley Road
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SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2018



2017 Consumer Confidence Report is now available online:
<http://www.svpsd.org/sites/default/files/2017CCR.pdf>

IS YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION CURRENT?

It is important for the District to have your current mailing address, phone number and email address on file in order for us to contact you if we become aware of an emergency at your residence. This information is confidential.

If you would like to provide us with your updated information, please visit our website at www.svpsd.org and select the "CONTACT US" tab at the top of the homepage!



Board of Directors Meetings

Regularly scheduled meetings are held the last Tuesday of each month at 8:30 a.m. at 305 Squaw Valley Road, Olympic Valley, California.

There's Still Time to Participate in the Toilet Rebate Program!

Our Toilet Rebate Program is still open! The District received a grant to replace up to 200 water wasting toilets by offering participants a \$100 refund on a qualified purchase of a new 1.6 gallon per flush GPF WaterSense compliant toilet.

The process is simple! Just contact the District prior to replacing your existing toilet, fill out an application and we'll send someone over to make sure you qualify! To qualify, your house must have been built prior to 1994, and your old toilet must use more than two gallons per flush.

FIRST MEETING OF THE PSD PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

This article is an abridged version for the purposes of this newsletter. A more complete summary is available at www.SVPSD.org, as well as the slide presentations of the invited speakers.

The SVPSD Parks and Rec. Committee held its first public meeting on May 29th, 2018. Its Board members are Fred Ilfeld (chair) and Bill Hudson. The purpose of this meeting was primarily to "listen and learn," with the agenda being divided into two parts. To begin, four invited speakers knowledgeable about parks and recreation shared their districts' experiences around Parks and Rec. In the second half of the meeting community members brainstormed over where and how we in Squaw Valley might head in the realm of Parks and Rec. About 18 members of the community were in attendance.

In introducing this program Fred Ilfeld and Bill Hudson noted the PSD's current efforts in P & R by being responsible for snow removal along the bike trail. Placer County plus private businesses in Squaw Valley have been funding this. Next they explained a core ground rule adopted by the Board of the PSD, namely that there should be no expenses toward P & R without revenue to meet these expenses. Any projects should be financially net neutral. The PSD Board is steadfast that water and sewer rates will not be increased to pay for park expenses.

Four speakers representing Placer County, Tahoe City Public Utility District, Northstar Community Services District, and the Town of Truckee reviewed their Parks and Rec. programs and how they funded these. Placer County provides facilities (development and maintenance), but not recreational services, which are up to local agencies to plan and to fund. Andy Fisher said the County would likely be more supportive of parks and trails development in Squaw Valley rather than a pool or recreation center. Tahoe City focuses on recreational programming and is able to allocate a proportion of their property taxes plus user fees to support this program. Northstar emphasizes trail building and forest management and funds their program primarily through a special tax passed by the required 2/3 of local voters. Truckee spotlights trails and is funding these primarily though an increase in the town's sales tax approved by over 2/3 of local voters.

These Special District programs have several commonalities. First, they focus on one or two priorities and do not spread themselves thin. Second, enthusiastic support for these priorities from the populace of a given community is important for their success. Third, typically there are multiple sources of funding.

In the second part of the meeting, community members shared their hopes of what they would like to see happen in Squaw Valley for Parks and Recreation. This was a brainstorming session, an attempt to learn from one another, not an effort to move toward

consensus. Here are the main suggestions for priorities in no particular order.

SURVEY – was suggested by David Stepner to gauge voters' appetites for a special tax for P & R purposes. Mike Geary advised that a project(s) or a scope of services need to be specified for the public before we can ask for monies.

MORE TRAILS – both on Valley floor, as well as the mountain, including hiking, mountain bike trails, and Nordic ski trails. (Bob Barnett, Susan Lisagor). Andy Fisher, the head of Parks for Placer County, noted that the Village at Squaw Valley developers are committed to building multiple length concentric hiking trails on Squaw's mountain. The catch here is that Squaw's developers are not required to build these trails until pretty far along in the development process, so it would likely be many years until they are done.

COMMUNITY CENTER - for social, recreational, physical fitness (Bob Barnett, David Stepner, Ed Heneveld). John Wilcox reminded us the Ski Museum proposed to be built in the Park would have a meeting room for 100 to 200 people which would be available at little to no charge.

LAND ACQUISITION - the procurement of open space for a broad variety of public recreational purposes (Nancy Bartusch, Ed Heneveld)

"SWAP" OF FUNCTIONS ON DIFFERENT PARCELS OF LAND - David Stepner speculated about different locations for a future community center, the charter school, and the PSD maintenance facility.

COVERED PAVILLION over the current field in SV Park - this would provide for field games during inclement weather and winter. Its surface could be changed from turf to hardwood to ice as desired. (Katrina Smolen, Bob Barnett) Katrina has already submitted this project for TOT (Transient Occupancy Tax) funding.

UPDATING CURRENT PLAYGROUND plus a perimeter Bike "PUMP" TRACK- (Susan Lisagor, Mike Carabetta)

DOG PARK - (Nancy Bartusch)

Fred Ilfeld explained the process by which a Special District can request a "special tax". Note that this is not an "assessment", which a Special District cannot levy. Such a "special tax" must be slated for a specific project, and it has to be passed by a 2/3 vote of eligible voters in the Valley. All property owners in the Valley would be assessed such a tax.

Going forward, our own P&R committee plans to draft a Mission Statement and to explore with ongoing public input what sort of focus meets our particular needs in Squaw Valley. Any project brought before the PSD Board will need to have broad community support and a pathway for funding it.

Fire and Safety Notes

Summer, 2018

PANCAKES!

The Memorial Day weekend community cleanup day organized by the Squaw Valley Property Owners Association has been a Squaw Valley tradition since the 1960's. The Saturday event kicks off with a pancake breakfast, hosted by the Squaw Valley Firefighters Association, at the fire station. Despite the long, rainy spring, the weather broke for the pancake breakfast and mostly sunny skies delighted both those who spent their day picking up trash and some who spent the morning taking a few last runs on the mountain. All were well fed by the fire department staff prior to starting their endeavors.

If you've never participated in the cleanup day or eaten breakfast at the fire station, we recommend both activities. The hearty breakfast can be rationalized with community service and roadside exertion and you'll have a chance to see old friends and make new ones. It's always the same day - Saturday of Memorial Day weekend at 8:00. It is FREE!

DEPARTMENT NEWS

SVFD Captain, and North Tahoe Training Officers President, Brad Chisholm was involved in organizing the Bi-State Evacuation Drill in Kings Beach/Stateline area this past May. The event simulated a wildfire evacuation drill with other Fire Departments, Law Enforcement, and Utilities Companies from both California and Nevada participating. We also sent a crew on SVFD B-21 to the drill.

Firefighter-Paramedic John Rogers has been busy this spring training members of Squaw Valley Fire Department as well as North Tahoe Fire Protection District, Northstar Fire Department and Truckee Fire Protection District staff in swift water rescue.

We welcome on staff 3 new part time firefighters, Michael Brixey, Nicholas Cherne and Hunter Simons. We are also currently hiring another full time firefighter-paramedic, who should be on shift mid summer.

Preparing for Wildland Season

After a moderately dry winter and a wet spring, California is bracing for another fire season. Fuel conditions on the western slope of the Sierra are already dry - the grasses are turning brown in the foothills and the coastal hills are reaching that characteristic golden color as of the first week of June. Intermittent rains in the mountains have been a welcome bit of moisture in a landscape that's only going to get drier with the arrival of summer. The beautiful lush spring growth will not last through the long hot summer months.

Here in Squaw Valley, we're gearing up for the summer routine of defensible space inspections. We have had a very ambitious and successful program for over two decades, thanks to a very knowledgeable, concerned and conscientious community. Please be particularly careful this summer - get that vegetation cut early and make sure to maintain those neatly cut grasses as summer progresses. Remember that we're happy to come out and give you an on-site consultation so that you cut everything that needs to be cut and not much more. You can reach us at (530) 583-6111.

Defensible space is about helping homes to 'stand alone' during a fire situation when resources are limited. We've seen again and again where homes with a modicum of treatment survive a fire moving through a residential area where homes with less preparation are lost. Often the difference comes down to a few simple things: fire resistant construction, the absence of a continuous source of flammable vegetation between wildland and the home, closed attic and subfloor vents, a roof free of leaves and pine needles. Firefighters - given enough time and a home that stands a reasonable chance of surviving - will take the opportunity to do more preparation in advance of an approaching fire front, but that time and opportunity is not always available.

Our annual push for defensible space is an opportunity to remind our neighbors and friends of those factors that can make a difference in helping their home to survive when others will not. Please let us know what we can do to help you prepare your home for the upcoming fire season.

Talking to a 911 Operator

It's pretty likely that at some point, all of us will need to call 911, either to report an emergency that we're involved in or one that we've observed happening to someone else. The people who work in 911 dispatch centers are very skilled at drawing out the information they need to be able to dispatch resources to the location at which they're needed, but there are a couple of things to keep in mind when calling 911. If you call on a landline phone, the dispatcher on an "enhanced 911" system (such as we have in this area) can see the location where the call originates: even if you are unable to speak, they can send someone to your address to investigate. Calling on a cell phone provides the dispatcher with less information, but a location can eventually be determined. So - given a choice, *call on a landline phone* when possible. Give the dispatch center the nature of the emergency right away, because this determines how they route the call: "I need the police", "I need an ambulance", "There's a fire" all would be helpful opening statements. The more information you can provide about where you are, the better. Then allow them to ask their scripted questions in order and answer as accurately and completely as you can. Be calm and be patient; help is coming!

Smoke, CO and Haz Gas Detectors

Current building and fire codes require a smoke detector in each sleeping area and hallways outside of bedrooms, they also require Carbon Monoxide (CO) detectors in each bedroom if there is a source of carbon monoxide in the bedroom. There are also gas detectors on the market that are similar to the smoke and CO detectors, that can detect dangerous levels of specific hazardous gases. When buying these detectors you should carefully read what exactly the device will detect and alarm for. It is also important to know what the life span of the device is (typically 10 years) and when they need to be replaced.

MEET THE NEW FACES AT THE DISTRICT

We are very excited to announce the addition of Tyler Trojan, as the District's new Junior Engineer! Previously, Tyler worked as a project manager at Q&D Construction in Reno, where he helped with construction management for projects in the Reno and Carson City areas.

Tyler grew up in Reno, and graduated from the University of Nevada, Reno in 2015. When he's not working, he's outside snowboarding, wakeboarding, backpacking, hunting or mountain biking!

If you see Tyler out and about in the valley, please help us in welcoming him to SVPSD!



WHAT'S GOING ON AT THE DISTRICT: THE SEWER MANHOLE PROJECT

The Squaw Valley Public Service District owns and operates a sewer collection system that services the entire Olympic Valley, discharging into the Tahoe Truckee Sanitation Agency Truckee River Interceptor on the east side of the Truckee River. The District system is comprised entirely of gravity sewers and siphons, ranging in size from 4 inches to 18 inches in diameter. This includes approximately 19.5 miles of sewer collection pipeline and over 8.5 miles of sewer laterals, including sewer cleanouts and sanitary sewer manholes.

Infiltration and inflow (I&I) is a concern for all sewer collection systems. Infiltration is the process of water seeping into the sewer system through defects in pipes or manholes such as cracks, loose connections, or failing joints. Inflow is the process of water entering into the sewer system by draining directly into the system. An example of inflow is water from snowmelt or a storm event entering into the sewer system through an improperly fitting manhole cover. I&I causes both capacity and treatment problems in the sewer system and therefore is monitored and controlled through system maintenance programs.



Over the past 15 years the District has focused efforts on controlling I&I mainly through inspections of sewer mainlines. These inspections are done through closed circuit television (CCTV). During a CCTV inspection a video camera is pushed through the pipeline, that video is then analyzed by staff for pipe defects. The District's CCTV program is a repeating 4 year cycle, which includes annual CCTV inspection and condition assessments of approximately ¼ of the system each year over a 4 year period. This condition assessment information is incorporated into the District's asset management database, which allows staff to evaluate the data and develop sewer pipeline rehabilitation and replacement projects, as necessary.

The District currently has approximately 435 manholes, many of which date back to 1958. The average useful lifespan of a concrete manhole is 50 years. In an effort to remain proactive in managing I&I the District is adding sewer manholes to the I&I Management Program. Formal inspection and condition assessment of the District's manholes has not been performed in the past. The addition of manholes to the I&I Management Program will allow the District to assess manhole conditions and identify issues for maintenance and rehabilitation. The Sanitary Sewer Manhole I&I Inspection Program will take place over a 4 year period starting in 2018. Each year ¼ of the District's manholes will be inspected and assessed. The inspections of manholes will begin with known problem manholes followed by remaining manholes from oldest to newest.

District staff is trained for inspection and condition assessment of both sewer pipes and manholes through the National Association of Sewer Service Companies (NASSCO). District staff is working alongside our consulting engineer to perform field inspections of manholes and a detailed condition assessment using NASSCO standards. The data from the condition assessment will be incorporated into the District's asset management software, allowing the District to identify and prioritize manholes for maintenance, rehabilitation, or replacement dependent on condition.