

## Not Down the Drain!

NEVER FLUSH MEDICINE DOWN THE SINK OR TOILET



Proper disposal of unused or outdated medicine (and medical supplies such as diabetic needles / sharps) has become a hot topic in many communities.

In support of public safety, we encourage all residents to take steps to correctly dispose of these items.

### How to properly dispose of old medicine:

1. Keep medicine in original child-resistant container. Scratch/mark out the patient information on the label.
2. Place some water into solid medications, such as pills or capsules. Then add something nontoxic and unpalatable such as sawdust, kitty litter, charcoal, or powdered spices.
3. Close and seal the container lids tightly with packing or duct tape. For blister packs of unused medicines, wrap in multiple layers of duct tape.
4. Put medicine containers in durable packaging that does not show what's inside (a cardboard box). Then place it in your household trash.

**Note: Safeway and Rite Aid in Kings Beach, and other large pharmacies in the Reno/Carson area, have 'take back' programs for their customers. It is always best to return unused medicines when possible.**

### Proper disposal of sharps:

Waste Management offers a free, sharps mail-in program. Call them at 775-831-2971.

Medicines that enter the sanitary sewer system are often not removed during wastewater treatment. All wastewater from IVGID's sanitary sewer system is treated for primary disinfection of pathogens and

removal of solids, then pumped in pipes, 26 miles south along Lake Tahoe, over Spooner summit, and eventually released at a 700 acre wetlands disposal site in the Carson Valley. Water testing at this disposal site has not shown any problems at this time. However, there is national attention on these trace amounts of pharmaceuticals that are being detected in some waterways that supply drinking water. The IVGID effluent does not reach a waterway that supplies drinking water.

While Lake Tahoe, as our community drinking water source has very little chance of contamination from medicines due to the exportation of the wastewater, regional water supplies need to be considered. It is much less expensive to 'protect the source' and keep toxins out of the water, than to have to invest in cleaning it up later. Taking care of Nevada's water is up to all of us. Visit the websites: [www.pharmacy.ca.gov/publications/dont\\_flush\\_meds.pdf](http://www.pharmacy.ca.gov/publications/dont_flush_meds.pdf) (and) [www.nodrugsdownthedrain.org](http://www.nodrugsdownthedrain.org) to learn more.

## DIRECTOR'S CORNER

The theme for many homeowners this summer in the Tahoe Basin was addressing defensible space. We saw an increase in the number of properties in Incline Village undergoing defensible space audits and receiving treatment to reduce the risk of fire around the homes. Much of IVGID's parks and open space was treated by the North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District, including a demonstration project using mechanized equipment that can work in sensitive stream zones.

But what about the water needed to put fires out? Incline Village was a master planned community; meaning all of the water lines, water tanks and fire hydrants were planned and installed to meet the ultimate needs of the community. Over the past 25 years, IVGID has continually upgraded its water system in Crystal Bay and Incline Village, replacing aging lines and correcting any sub-standard flows in the water system. The Fire District annually tests fire hydrants to make sure they are in proper working order and deliver the necessary water flow to put out fires. IVGID staff works closely with the Fire District staff, to identify areas that need improved fire flows and if additional hydrants are needed. Typically the Fire District needs a fire hydrant every 1000 feet. This summer we completed the second of three phases to get better flows to the commercial area east of Country Club on Tahoe Boulevard, by upgrading old water mains to larger pipes that are able to carry more water flow. IVGID Public Works is committed to providing these vitals services for our community.

- Joe Pomroy, Director of Public Works

# OTHER NEWS



CONSERVATION AND COMMUNITY NEWS

## Diamond Peak Season Pass Sale!

Season passes will be on sale until Sep. 30th!



### INCLINE VILLAGE & CRYSTAL BAY RESIDENT RATES

FULL PASS	Sale Price*	Regular Price
Adult (18-59)	\$369	\$461
College (with ID)	\$170	\$212
Youth (13-17)	\$153	\$191
Child (7-12)	\$127	\$159
Senior (60-69)	\$153	\$191
70+	\$42	\$53
6 & under / 80+	Free	Free

\*Prices subject to change without notice

There are many ways to buy a Diamond Peak season pass: Buy online at [www.diamondpeak.com](http://www.diamondpeak.com) or download the forms and mail or fax them to us.

Mail to: Diamond Peak, 1210 Ski Way, Incline Village, NV 89451 / Fax to: (775) 832-1281.

Visit us in person at the Diamond Peak Administration Building Monday-Friday 9:00 am- 4:00 pm.

For more information, please call (775) 832-1177.

## 'Tis the Season to Book Early

Plan your holiday party before dates fill up! The Chateau at Incline Village is the perfect place to hold a memorable event and our friendly sales staff will assist you in accommodating 25 to 300 people. Whether it's business or social we'll deck the halls and ensure that your holiday party at The Chateau will be one to remember. Call (775) 832-1240 for more information.

## Fill out the Tennis Survey and get a free guest pass!

Tell us what you think and get a free tennis pass!

Fill out the IVGID Tennis Center survey at:

[www.inclinerecreation.com/tennissurvey](http://www.inclinerecreation.com/tennissurvey) and receive a free 1-day guest pass to the Tennis Center. Restrictions apply; please visit [www.inclinetennis.com](http://www.inclinetennis.com) for more details.

## Recycle! Recycle! Recycle!

Incline Village General Improvement District (IVGID) wishes to thank the entire Incline Village/Crystal Bay community for outstanding participation and interest in the new recycling program! In the first two months of operation, the program has diverted 202.92 tons of recyclable materials. This two month total equals 45% of the recycling tonnage collected in all of 2007!

There have been concerns about the mixing of the materials. According to the operations staff at the Cabin Creek Materials Processing Facility (MRF) in Placer County (the processing center for the blue bag materials); there are minimal problems with glass breakage. Even when the 'crusher' trucks are used, the mass of all the other materials pads the glass and reduces breakage. Yes, broken glass shards can contaminate the paper/fiber products. However, the Cabin Creek recycling center handles many tons of materials daily; all delivered co-mingled. The facility is equipped with both high-tech and manual mechanisms for sorting. The reclaimed materials are sold according to differing grades of purity.

While use of a disposable 'blue bag' may be problematic, the blue bags are themselves recycled, once they are

opened at the MRF. The blue bag program has allowed us to move forward to offer a greater number of materials in recycling collection. This system has worked very well for more than 10 years, in the neighboring communities of Truckee, Kings Beach and Tahoe City.

The concept of single stream recycling is expanding into

the greater Northern Nevada area. Reno officials are studying the feasibility of single stream recycling for the entire City of Reno. In the future, we hope to explore the options of more frequent collection, and a more permanent collection container/cart.

Interested community members are always welcome to call IVGID Waste Not at 775-832-1284 with questions about the blue bag program.

