



Lahontan Dam, Churchill County

**Did You Know?**

*In 2007 the total economic activity generated by Churchill County Agriculture was \$175.43 million. <sup>1</sup>*

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# The Flow

*News of the plans, projects and people of the Carson River Watershed*

Fall 2011

## *Meet Your New Watershed Coordinator*

Carson Water Subconservancy District is pleased to have Brenda Hunt join our staff as Watershed Coordinator. Brenda earned her Bachelors of Science degree in Natural Resources from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a Masters of Art in Environmental Science from Monash University located near Melbourne, Victoria, Australia. While earning her Masters degree in Australia, Brenda had the opportunity to work with many stakeholder groups on conservation issues. Brenda has over twenty years of environmental employment experience with non-profits and local and regional governmental organizations in the U.S. and Australia. Through these experiences, Brenda learned the art of finding common ground to resolve conflicts. Her education and work experience has solidified her love of the natural environment and enhanced her desire to use what she has learned to help people reconnect with their natural surroundings. As a resident of Carson City, Brenda has a passion for the Carson River Watershed. In her free time, Brenda enjoys traveling with her husband and son, playing ultimate Frisbee, and hiking and biking. Brenda will be exploring the entire watershed, and as she does, she looks forward to meeting you, receiving your input, and working with you.



## *Home Means NEVADA – Celebrate with Us!*



The Nevada Day Parade’s theme this year is **Discover Nevada’s Great Outdoors**. The Carson River Coalition – Education Working Group has entered a float and we invite you to join us in the parade and dress in your favorite outdoor garb (i.e. fisherman, hiker, mountain biker, etc.)! Our float banners carry the message: **Carson River Watershed – Explore ~ Conserve ~ Celebrate**. The float is designed to encourage people to get out and discover all of the wonderful outdoor activities available in the Carson River Watershed, yet leave no trace.

Some walkers (in their costumes) will carry hand-held signs depicting *I love my watershed*, and others will distribute watershed maps to interested parade spectators. The parade will be held on Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup>. There are only 40 spots available so HURRY and CALL NOW! RSVP to Kathi Lawrence at 887-1260 or [kathi@cwsd.org](mailto:kathi@cwsd.org)



*And the winners are ....*

Mike Jones and Millie Karol! The Carson Clear Water Revival (CCWR) team is pleased to announce the winners of this year's BMP contest! Mike and Millie have won a site evaluation and project implementation to install BMPs (Best Management Practices) for their property on Timberline Drive in Carson City. Mike and Millie's winning contest application described erosion problems on their property, as well as ideas for BMPs which could be installed to reduce sediment and stormwater runoff. Preliminary plans include grading the right-of-way area, lining the channel with rocks and check dams, installing gravel in the parking area, and creating an infiltration basin. The project also recommends thinning evergreens and landscaping with drought and fire resistant plants.



The Carson Clear Water Revival Program is a free educational program to help Carson City property owners to understand how the installation of BMPs

can reduce flooding and erosion problems on their property, create defensible space, enhance their landscaping, and protect the Carson River.

If you have drainage or erosion problems on your property, or just want to learn more about the program, click on the CCWR logo on our website: <http://www.cwsd.org>.

Congratulations Mike and Millie! The Carson Clear Water Revival team looks forward to working with you during the month of October to install BMPs on your property. Thank you for helping protect the Carson River Watershed!

Stormwater runoff washes down the hill without being absorbed, bringing debris with it.



The gravel in the right-of-way on this property has become inundated with cheatgrass on its way to the homeowner's driveway.

Whenever there is a storm event, sediment washes across the driveway and continues down the hill without infiltrating.



Thick evergreens and broom near the house create a fire hazard and needs to be thinned.



## Conservation Raft Tours Make a Big Splash!

Non-point source (NPS) pollution impacts every community in the Carson River Watershed (Watershed). Therefore it is crucial to educate leaders and policy-makers to understand the dynamics of the Watershed, existing and future Watershed concerns, and the variety of sources that contribute to pollution.

The conservation raft tours provide the opportunity for community leaders, policy-makers and student leaders to experience the river as a living system. While floating various sections, these participants are informed about various water quality and watershed issues and how these issues impact the environment, the economy, and the network of river users.

The environmental education tours assist program participants to become ambassadors to the community at large to promote pollution prevention, best management practices, and low impact development in the Carson River Watershed.

High school students learn firsthand the concerns and challenges of the Carson River. (Photo: courtesy of Linda Conlin)



Popular hot springs on the East Fork of the Carson River frequently experiences traffic jams.

## Clear Creek Watershed Council

The Clear Creek Watershed Council celebrated its 10th anniversary with a BBQ, picnic, and cake. The Council formed in 2001 to promote conservation and educate residents about the importance of protecting Clear Creek watershed. Its members consist of homeowners, concerned citizens, local, state, and federal agency employees. Over the past 10 years, the Council has conducted outreach and education to increase awareness and understanding of the watershed and the need to prevent NPS pollution and reduce stormwater erosion. The Council has provided a forum for dialog and has been a conservation advocate for overall creek health as development projects were planned and implemented in the Clear Creek watershed.

## 10th Anniversary BBQ and Au Revoir to Margie Evans



Margie Evans recently resigned as Clear Creek Watershed Coordinator. Please join us in thanking

Margie for her dedication and diligence over the past several years. We are glad she is continuing her work in the area—you might see her out there spraying tall whitetop. Brenda Hunt will assist the Clear Creek Watershed Council to continue their vital work.

Clear Creek residents chow down on plenty of delicious food.



Thanks to the Groths and Fredlunds for hosting this great get together!



Harvest Moon over Tahoe  
© D. Neddenriep

Do you have events or articles that you would like to have published in "The Flow"? Please send email to [kathi@cwsd.org](mailto:kathi@cwsd.org).



This newsletter has been developed in part with Clean Water Act 319 (h) funds from the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection.

## Upcoming Special Events

### Snapshot Day

October 14, 2011, 10 am—Noon

### Nevada Day Parade

October 29, 2011

To RSVP contact Kathi Lawrence at (775) 887-1260 or email [kathi@cwsd.org](mailto:kathi@cwsd.org).

### Conserve Carson River Work Days

Carson Valley

October 4–5, 2011

Dayton Valley

October 11, 2011

More info: Linda Conlin at (775) 230-0633

### Carson River Film Contest

Submissions due by December 9, 2011. Go to [www.unce.unr.edu/NEMO](http://www.unce.unr.edu/NEMO) for instructions. Contact Sue Donaldson (775) 336-0242 or [donaldsons@unce.unr.edu](mailto:donaldsons@unce.unr.edu).

**Save A Tree...**

by receiving a digital copy of newsletter!  
Email [kathi@cwsd.org](mailto:kathi@cwsd.org) to switch. Thanks!



References: <sup>1</sup> Harris, Thomas R. and Ashley Kerna. *An Economic Description of the Agricultural Sectors of Churchill County, Technical Report UCED 2009/10-01*, (University of Nevada, Reno: University Center for Economic Development, Department of Economic Resource Economics, June 2009), p. 2.

**FOR INFORMATION ON REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS VISIT [www.cwsd.org](http://www.cwsd.org)**

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