The Flow

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

Summer 2011

Did You Know?

Outdoor irrigation accounts for about 75% of residential water usage during the summer and fall in the Carson River Watershed.

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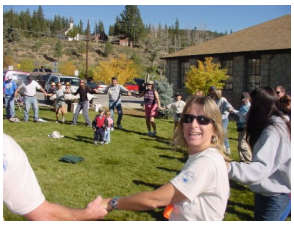
Farewell and Best Wishes to Genie Azad

The CWSD staff and Board wish to thank Ms. Azad for her friendship and service to the District. Despite our own sense of loss, the CWSD staff and Board wish her great success in the future.



Genie dancing at Markleeville Creek Day, 2003.

Genie Azad joined the CWSD staff in April 2002 as Watershed Coordinator. She brought enthusiasm and a gift for communicating to the job. Under her guidance the Carson River Coalition flourished and became a driving force behind numerous educational and data gathering programs throughout the watershed, including the Children's Museum Watershed Learning Center, the Explore Your Watershed Map Program and Website, Snapshot Day, Carson Clear Water Revival, and many others.

Her environmental background, expertise in technical report writing, and stakeholder facilitation eventually expanded her job to grant management as a Watershed Program Manager. Ms. Azad has been instrumental in creating the Carson River Watershed Adaptive Stewardship Plan, the Regional Floodplain Management Plan, as well as obtaining grant funding for numerous projects and programs.

Genie speaking at Dangberg Ranch on the 2009 "Get on the Bus" Tour.

Over the years Ms. Azad has been enthusiastic about opportunities to increase her skills and knowledge. Most recently she completed a week of FEMA training in Virginia to supplement the rigorous program she completed to become a Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM). Her CFM qualification not only served CWSD, but the member counties without their own. Earlier this year Ms. Azad was invited by the U.S. State Department to go to Thailand and represent the U.S. at an international watershed conference and other meetings throughout the country.

Linda Conlin says it best: "Genie worked tirelessly towards building a coalition honoring all the stakeholders in the Carson River watershed. Through her vision and inclusiveness, projects were completed and funding stretched to accomplish needed work. As we move forward together, we know her energy and passion for the Carson River watershed strengthened the foundation of the Carson River Coalition. For that, and so much more, we thank you, Genie."

Snap Shot Day 2009

No Dirty Stormwater—
Rolling Down the River

Carson Clear Water Revival Program is underway for 2011. It is an educational program for Carson City homeowners about Best Management Practices (BMPs) which help protect our streams and the Carson River by reducing erosion caused by stormwater runoff. An open house demonstrating BMPs implemented in the yard of last year's contest winner was held June 4, 2011. Homeowners viewed the site and had the opportunity to speak with professionals about methods to implement BMPs on their own property.

This year, homeowners are again invited to attend a ***free community workshop from 10:00 a.m. to noon on Saturday, June 18, 2011 at Hampton Inn and Suites***. At the workshop homeowners will receive helpful information with topics such as *Dirt Hurts – How and why this program got started; BMPs Rock! – What are BMPs and what do they have to do with you & your property; and Rock-It Science – Designing BMPs for your location.*

A homeowner discussing BMPs with JoAnne Skelly (right).

The winning property from last year's BMP contest before juniper removal *(right)*. Afterward, the toe of slope is anchored with rock while jute mesh and vinca plants stabilize the slope to prevent erosion. *(below)*.

For more information about BMPs, click the Carson Clear Water Revival logo on our website: http://www.cwsd.org.

Thanks to the CCCR team for all their work on this great event: Robb Fellows and Shyla Lemons from Carson City; Steve Lewis, JoAnne Skelly, and John Cobourn of the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension; Dave Goodell of Nevada Tahoe Conservation District, and Genie Azad who coordinated this program for CWSD.

Carson Clear Water Revival is funded by a grant from NDEP.

2011 Contest!

Carson City residents can apply for chance to **WIN** up to $2,500 in BMP materials and labor!

Regional Watershed Plan Development

In 2010, Carson Water Subconservancy District received a grant from the US Bureau of Reclamation to develop a Regional Water Management Plan for the 13 water purveyors in Carson River Watershed. The plan will also consider water needs for the environment and agriculture. CWSD took a proactive approach to regional watershed management after the 2007 Nevada Legislature formed an oversight committee to ensure a management plan was created for the Truckee River watershed.

In developing the plan, the Subconservancy District will be evaluating future water supplies and demands in the watershed and the feasibility of developing water marketing and water leasing programs. It is also analyzing runoff patterns and climate change. Another component is the development of a Regional Water Conservation Plan. As part of that plan, several pilot projects are being conducted to develop recommendations to reduce water waste and educate water users of the benefits of conservation in the arid Great Basin. These pilot projects include homeowner irrigation surveys, large water user landscape audits, education and outreach, a demonstration project at the Historic Douglas County Courthouse in Minden, and a demonstration garden at the Lyon County Utility building in Dayton.

The demonstration project at Lyon County Utility building. Junipers and inefficient turf areas will be replaced with lower use plants which are also aesthetically pleasing.

In the second year of the management plan study, CWSD will gather and analyze each water purveyor's water master plan, compare future water demands and supplies, gather groundwater data by basin, and evaluate regional water projects, such as the water pipeline now under construction between Carson City and Minden. Water conservation pilots programs will continue to be conducted to determine which are most effective.

Watershed Pioneer

Dan Kaffer, dressed as Kit Carson, educates children about the Carson River.

CWSD wants to acknowledge and thank Dan Kaffer for his commitment and dedication to conservation efforts throughout the Carson River watershed over the past two decades as his role at Western Nevada RC & D comes to an end. In that time, he has worked with partners addressing concerns such as water quantity and quality, watershed conservation and restoration, invasive weeds, risk of wildfire, and loss of farmland and wildlife habitat to urbanization.

Dan has spearheaded *Carson River Workdays,* rallying over 100 organizations to implement conservation and educational projects utilizing over 15,000 volunteers to get conservation on the ground. These workdays provide an opportunity for volunteers to experience hands-on conservation, while restoring the riparian corridor and environment of the Carson River. Dan also initiated *Eagles and Agriculture*, a popular conservation and educational tour program to support the seasonal migration habitat of bald eagles on agricultural land and to promote conservation easements.

Thank you, Dan, for all you have done for the Carson River Watershed; we hope you keep up the great work—whatever you pioneer next!

Round Top Flowers, Carson Pass in Alpine County. *Photo courtesy of EldoradoCNPS.org*

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

Upcoming Special Events

2011 Wings & Willows Festival
July 16, 2011

For tour registrations and current festival information, please visit website at wingsnwillowsfestival.com. You can also follow us on Facebook under "Wings & Willows Festival" or contact Robin Wilson, Audubon NV IBA Program, rwilson@nevadaaudubon.org or 775-247-2798.

WINGS & WILLOWS
FESTIVAL 2011 • CARSON VALLEY

Homeowner's BMP Workshop
June 18, 2011, 10 am—Noon

Whit Hall Interpretive Center Open House—
The Nature Conservancy
June 18, 2011, 9 am—Noon

Contact Kim Littman at klittman@tnc.org or call 322-4990 to RSVP.

Save A Tree...

by receiving a digital copy of newsletter! Email kathi@cwsd.org to switch. Thanks!

FOR INFORMATION ON REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS VISIT www.cwsd.org

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Carson Water Subconservancy District

Carson River Coalition
Working together for the Carson River Watershed

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