



### **News Release**

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### **Community Response to Water and Gas Leak**

South Lake Tahoe, CA (August 8, 2019) – On Tuesday, August 6, 2019 South Tahoe Public Utility District responded to a water leak on Seneca Drive. Upon arriving on scene, District staff observed gushing water from a broken water main and smelled gas. Southwest Gas and 911 were contacted and a community effort ensued to respond to the water and gas leak.

The source of the leak was a 1967 era eight inch steel water main. Due to old age and corrosion, the pipe split. As water jetted out of the water main a two inch gas line running parallel was impacted, resulting in a geyser of water and gas on Seneca Drive.

Lake Valley Fire Protection District and El Dorado County Sheriff's Office responded to the 911 call and were instrumental in securing the area, evacuating the street, and diverting water to minimize property damage. South Tahoe Public Utility District and Southwest Gas worked together to excavate upstream and downstream of the gas leak and clamp the gas line. South Tahoe Public Utility District quickly repaired the water main and worked with Lake Valley Fire and El Dorado County to clean up the area and sweep the street. South Tahoe Public Utility District appreciates the fast response from local agencies and the resources and equipment provided to minimize damage and clean up the spill. The incident was a great example of community partners working together on an emergency response.

The best courses of action if you see a water leak is to call your local water company and if you smell gas, call 911 immediately.

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