

North Forty  
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Got snow? It must be the combination of the holiday and weather because every time I look out the window the same song plays in my head: "When it snows ain't it thrilling, Though your nose gets a chilling, We'll frolic and play the Eskimo way walking in a winter wonderland." Of course that tranquility is often broken by the hum of snow blowers as neighbors dig out their driveways and sidewalks once again.

The holidays and snow are giving us a short break from some important North Trinity Lake issues. Over the winter, the Trinity Center CSD has several community projects to work on – facilitating the development of our North Lake community fuel reduction plan, informing the greater community about proposed septic tank legislation, and designing our new Trinity Center VFD fire hall.

At the December TCCSD meeting we had a good turnout of residents from Covington to the Knolls. Alex Cousins from the TCRCD lead a workshop to identify areas in our community that are in need of fire fuel reduction. Neighbors looked over large maps and marked areas near their homes to be considered in the plan. The top area of concern is the corridor along Highway 3. Fire studies show that the majority of man-made fires start along roadways. Alex is compiling the draft plan and looking at funding options. Although it is tough to think about the extreme fire danger that exists in our area when there is a foot of snow on the ground, the CSD strongly encourages all North Lake property owners to participate in future workshops.

At the January TCCSD meeting we will hear about AB885 that mandates the inspection of new septic systems every five years, at the owner's expense. Although the bill was signed in 2000, a draft environmental impact report is still in the works and the regulatory action document was released for review in November. We are now in a 90-day public comment period. Please plan on attending this meeting to learn about the legislation, its impact on you, and the bill's definition of "new septic system."

Also at the January meeting is an update from the North Lake Trail Committee. We are in the beginning stages of developing a trail system throughout the North Lake area. The first phase of the plan is the airport trail. This trail will be a combination handicap accessible and primitive trail running between the airport and the lake. The plan includes viewing areas and will hopefully, one day, make a continuous loop around the airport back to town.

For information on these topics and dates for CSD and Trail committee meetings, please visit the North Lake website at [northtrinitylake.com](http://northtrinitylake.com). The website has a calendar and a Community forum where you can post questions, answers and comments about topics ranging from the Trinity Lake water level to classifieds.

From all the contributors to the North Forty, we wish you and your loved ones the best of the holiday. "May your days be merry and bright, And may all your Christmases be white."