



TUD's Water Supply

The most important factor in water quality is its source. Tuolumne Utilities District's water process starts when the snow from the Sierra Nevada melts and runs through the South Fork Stanislaus River filling first the Pinecrest reservoir and then the Lyons reservoir. Rain is also an important factor to help fill the reservoirs.

Once full, Pinecrest Reservoir's main function is to store water to supply it to Lyons Reservoir when needed, this will usually happen between the months of July and December. Tuolumne Utilities District (TUD) main water supply is the Lyons Reservoir, the water will flow through canals, pipes, and open ditches until it reaches the water treatment plants. While traveling the 57 miles of open ditches, a portion of this raw water is used for agricultural purposes. When the water arrives at the treatment plants it goes through a rigorous treatment process that will turn raw water into drinking water. This water can then be distributed through the population. In the dry season, the water that remains in the reservoirs along with the 71 treated water storage tanks can supply our community for an average of five months.



Water can also be extracted from wells. This water is being constantly tested according to state regulations and it will be distributed to our community along with the treated surface water.

TUD has the mission "to provide our community with reliable, high quality water". This water is constituted of surface water that originates from rainfall and runoff from snowpack in the Sierra Nevada Mountains which accounts for 95% of our water and from 30 ground water wells that makeup the balance. However, TUD has no independent water rights. PG & E owns and operates Pinecrest and Lyons Reservoirs, and 15.7 miles of the Main Canal since 1983. Water from Lyons Reservoir and a portion of the water from Pinecrest Reservoir is free of charge. When in necessity, TUD purchases water for approximately \$250 per Acre Feet.