



Tashi Choling's Spring Bulletin

March 2009

WATER CRISIS SHUTS DOWN TASHI CHOLING. WE NEED YOUR HELP!

In November, as we neared the end of Tashi Choling's annual Vajrakilaya retreat, our well stopped producing water. We managed to finish the retreat by trucking water in from neighboring properties. Since then, however, the Center has been closed to public gatherings.

Yes, this qualifies as a bona fide crisis. It began just after we installed new water storage tanks for fire protection and for use during retreats. We were very pleased to have gotten these in, and we were just starting to follow the necessary legal procedures to include the new water storage system in our regular water quality testing program, when the well dried up.

In December and January, we did a great deal of investigative and diagnostic work on the current well. At the end of February, thanks to a loan from a private lender, we engaged a well driller, who found water in our current well by drilling down to 400 feet. We are happy and excited at this news! Of course, we must repay that loan, and costs of restoring water service will now include extensive steel structural work to protect the new well from collapse or other damage. Until we raise funds to complete that process, the Center will remain closed to public gatherings.

Tashi Choling's abrupt closure has shifted sangha gatherings to the homes of local sangha members. As much as we enjoy the opportunity to practice flexibility and non-attachment, we miss our beloved temple and the magnificent supports for practice that Rinpoche has placed there for us. Everyone looks forward to the day when we can finally return "home." Not being able to use our temple is a loss that is giving all of us a fresh perspective about sangha, practice, and the importance of Tashi Choling.

We are writing this letter to you to let you know about Tashi Choling's water crisis and how it has paralyzed the Center's ability to operate. We desperately need your help. We must raise \$10,000-\$20,000 immediately to bring the well and water system back into operating condition. Every contribution from \$5 up is needed and welcomed. Together, we can do it.

Thank you for your generosity and for sending your contribution as soon as possible. Please share this message with any friends and associates who may wish to contribute. We are grateful for your support in this very difficult passage.

Sincerely,
The Tashi Choling Board of Directors