



# JOSHUA BASIN WATER DISTRICT

Proudly providing water from an ancient source...well into the future

## THE METER READER

### JUNE 2026

Mission Statement: To provide, protect, and maintain Joshua Tree's water - our vital community resource.

## CONTENTS

### >>> In This Issue

Pages 1-3

- AGENDA: Meetings, Classes, Events
- Water Saving Tips
- Curious Minds Want to Know
- In Case You Missed It (ICYMI)
- Farmers Market Booth
- Your Leadership in Action
- Outpost Mainline Leak

### >>> Special Articles

Pages 4-6

- Hydration for Good Health
- Plant of the Month
- Water Wise Gardening Tips
- Nano Plastics in Bottled Water



## agenda

### Board Meetings:

- Regular Board Meeting: 06.03.26 at 5pm
- Regular Board Meeting: 06.17.26 at 5pm

### Other Meetings, Classes, or Events:

#### **Independence Day Office Closure**

In observance of Independence Day and the 250th Anniversary of the United States, the District office will be closed on Thursday, July 2, and will reopen on Monday, July 6.

For water emergencies or leaks, please call (760) 366-8438. Our crews are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to respond to emergencies.

## Monthly Water Use

**MARCH 2026: 82.14 GPCD**

The measure used for reporting water conservation is called Gallons per Capita per Day (GPCD). The GPCD value reported here reflects water usage from three months earlier. California aims to achieve 42 GPCD by the year 2030.

**Keep saving, Joshua Tree!**

# »»» JUNE WATER SAVING TIPS «««



Early desert travelers understood one thing well: water was survival. Whether crossing rocky washes or dusty trails, they carried it everywhere—often in sturdy metal canteens that kept it ready through blazing heat and chilly desert nights.

As temperatures rise, remember that convenience isn't always the safest choice. Disposable plastic water bottles—especially those that aren't BPA-free—can become a health concern when left to warm inside a vehicle, potentially releasing chemicals into the water you drink.

A smarter desert companion? A refillable stainless steel bottle. It keeps your water colder, cleaner, and safer than heated plastic ever could. So wherever the road takes you this summer, drink often and stay hydrated!

## »»» Curious Minds Want to Know

Enjoy the question of the month.

### Question

What is the largest water tank (reservoir) JBWD has, and where is it?



### Answer:

JBWD's largest reservoir (tank) is on the north side of Joshua Tree. It is called the C2B Tank.

It holds a whopping 5.6 million gallons of great tasting water!

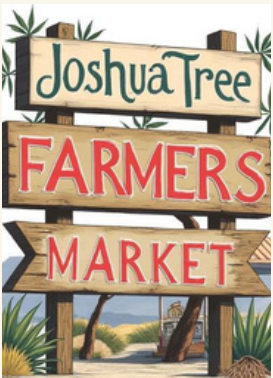


## »»» IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Joshua Basin Water District, Hi-Desert Water District, Bighorn Desert-View Water Agency, and Mojave Water Agency joined forces and educated nearly 300, 8<sup>th</sup> grade La Contenta Middle School students (10 rotations!) on “everything water” at their annual Water Education Festival in May.



**PHOTO:** JBWD's Human Resources Generalist, Audriana helped with lessons on hydration for good health, and how animals naturally know how to find water in the desert!



Every Saturday in June, from 8AM-1PM, we'll be cooling you down with ice-cold tap water while you discover the absolute way to tell if you (personally) are properly hydrated or not.

This life saving skill can make a huge difference between good health, or health that could trigger so many ailments it would make your head hurt (coincidentally, that is one symptom of dehydration!) Recent statistics show that adults are 47% improperly hydrated in the USA (and not just in the desert!)

So, stop by, say, “Hi!”, and have a cool one on us!

# YOUR LEADERSHIP IN ACTION



Reaching out for help: JBWD engaged Adam Schiff with an overview of the Chromium 6 State mandate and a tour of facilities impacted during a brief visit in May. Schiff is a lawyer and politician serving as the junior United States senator from California, a seat he has held since 2024. Schiff served in the United States House of Representatives from 2001 to 2024 and in the California State Senate from 1996 to 2000.

Schiff came to JBWD to learn more about our Chromium Six mandate, in an effort to see where the District might gain financial assistance from the government.



## Working Hard to Save Our Water...

It was all hands on deck as crews worked to repair a mainline leak on Outpost Road last month!



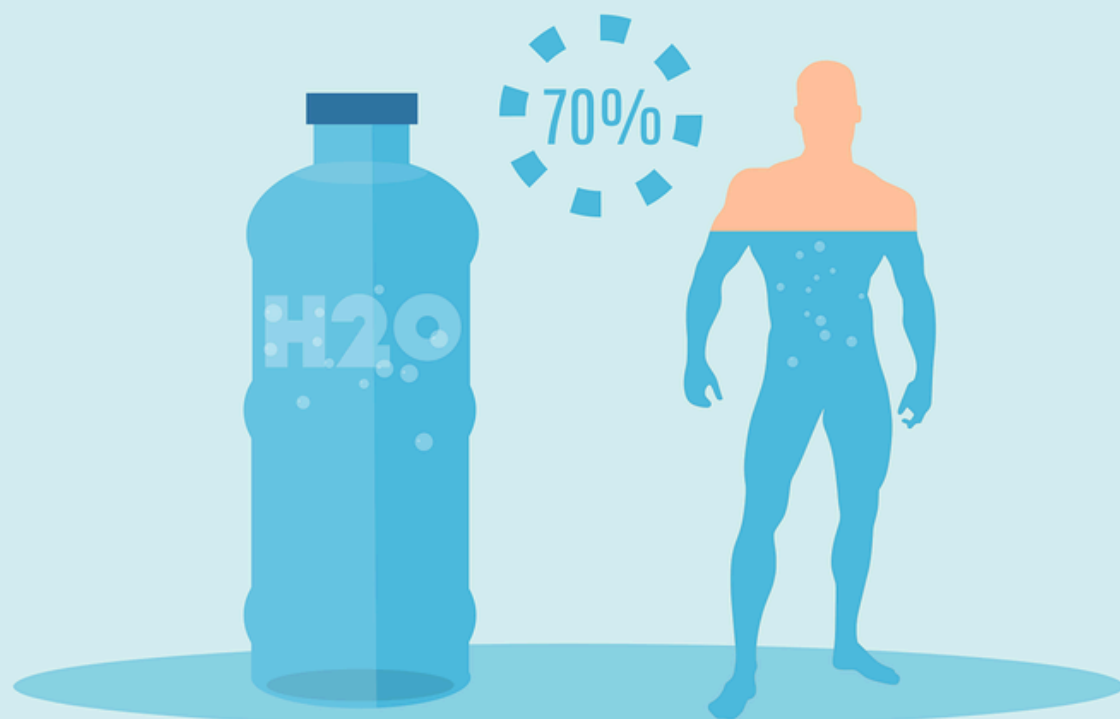
# Hydration Matters

Staying hydrated offers numerous health benefits, including improved brain performance, better digestion, and reduced joint pain. It also helps regulate body temperature, flush out toxins, and maintain overall bodily functions.

Getting enough water from what you eat and drink helps the body replace water you lose throughout the day.

You may have heard the advice to drink eight glasses of water a day. That's easy to remember, and it's a good goal. But some people may need less fluid, while others may need more. How much fluid is best for you depends on a few things:

- If you're extremely active (exercise, sports, physical work)
- Climate, temperature, and altitude that you reside in
- Your age, your body weight, and health condition
- If you are pregnant and/or breast feeding
- Your diet



To learn more on this topic, visit:

<https://www.mayoclinic.org/healthy-lifestyle/nutrition-and-healthy-eating/in-depth/water/art-20044256>

# June 2026 Plant of the Month

## Mojave Desert Sage, Desert Purple Sage

*Salvia dorrii*

Plant Form: Evergreen sub-shrub  
Water Use: Very low  
Mature Size: 1-2 ft. tall x 2-3 ft. wide  
Exposure: Full sun, part shade  
Bloom Time: Spring (May), Summer (June-July)  
Native to: California, Arizona, Idaho, Nevada,  
Oregon, Utah, Washington (between 2500 - 8500 feet)  
Hardiness: Cold hardy to 10°F

Mojave Desert Sage is an aromatic, native "shrublet" with striking blue-violet flowers that emerge from purplish, ball-shaped flower heads along the stems. This herbaceous perennial is impervious to rabbits and deer, while enticing all types of bees, pollinators, butterflies, and hummingbirds. A compact, moderately fast-growing sub-shrub, this gem of a plant has a wonderful minty aroma, released when the silver-gray, spoon-shaped leaves are rubbed. This evergreen plant usually spreads wider than high. Mojave Desert Sage is a heavy bloomer that loves the hottest, most challenging sites in your yard. Trim off seed heads and lightly prune to shape after flowering. While more water results in more flowers, be careful not to water in summer. This mint-family treasure can be used for borders, accents, bank stabilization, and in gardens designed for butterflies, hummingbirds, bees, and birds.



Alliance for Water  
Awareness and Conservation

For more information on low-water-use gardening,  
contact your local water provider or go to

[www.mojavewater.org/conservation/awac](http://www.mojavewater.org/conservation/awac)

Photos © 2026 Robin Kobaly ~ Content © 2026 The Power of Plants ([www.PowerofPlants.com](http://www.PowerofPlants.com))  
Produced by The SummerTree Institute ([www.SummerTree.org](http://www.SummerTree.org))



## GARDENING TIPS FOR YOUR DESERT-SMART LANDSCAPE

- Take a few minutes each week to check your watering system for surprise leaks. You'll save water, AND save money on your water bill too
- This is a good month to plant or transplant palms or cacti
- Prune fast growing trees like mesquite, palo verde, and acacias to prevent wind damage, don't remove more than 20% of a plants foliage, however
- Keep adding to mulches to conserve water and keep plant roots cool (water soil first before adding the mulch to ensure moist soil)
- Continue to deadhead spent flowers for a longer bloom cycle



## HISTORIC MEDICINAL USES OF MOJAVE DESERT SAGE/PURPLE SAGE

*Salvia dorrii*

*Mojave Desert Sage, when applied externally is strongly anti-inflammatory and antioxidant. It is known for relieving the pain and redness from burns and other injuries. Its use rivals Lavender in these conditions.*



A recent study raises fresh concerns about plastic exposure from everyday drinking habits.

[Read the article here.](#) 

Note: Recent required water sampling of JBWD's water revealed **NO** presence of nanoplastics in our tap water!

