

**NOVEMBER DISTRICT HOLIDAY
CLOSURES:**
Veteran's Day: Monday, Nov. 11
Thanksgiving Day: Thursday, Nov. 28

THE METER READER
NOVEMBER 2024

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

CONTENTS

>>> In This Issue

Pages 2-4

- November Water Saving Tip
- Curious Minds Want to Know
- In Case You Missed It
- Farmer's Market Booth
- Your Leadership in Action
- Joshua Tree's Weather Water
- Plant of the Month
- Gardening Tips

>>> Special Articles

Pages 5-8

- Signs of a Frozen Pipe & How to Thaw
- Holiday Kitchen Water Saving Tips
- Imagine a Day Without Water
- Free Upcoming Water Saving Classes:
 - Winterizing Class



agenda

Board Meetings:

- Regular Board Meeting - 11.06.24 - 5:30 pm
- Regular Board Meeting - 11.20.24 - 5:30 pm

Committee Meetings:

- Citizens Advisory Council - 11.12.24 - 5PM
- Finance Committee - 11.13.24 - 9:00 am
- Water Resources & Ops - Cancelled

Classes & Events: *All classes are on ZOOM*

- Winterizing to Save Water: 11.07.24 - 6PM

National Election Day:
Tuesday 11.5.24

Monthly Water Use

August: 130.12 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!

»»» NOVEMBER WATER SAVING TIP:



REMEMBER: Set your clocks back one hour.

As the days grow shorter, remember to adjust your landscape watering time schedules, as well. With seasonal desert colder temperatures bringing early frosts, plants will appreciate being watered between the warmer hours of 9AM and 6PM during November.

Keep watch for freeze forecasts! Drain your irrigation lines prior to temperatures dropping to prevent line breaks.

»»» Curious Minds Want to Know Enjoy the question of the month

Question:

I've heard mention that JBWD's elected officers must follow the Brown Act. What is that?

Answer:

The Brown Act is California's sunshine law. (Gov. Code § 54950, et seq.)

"All meetings of the legislative body of a local agency shall be open and public, and all persons shall be permitted to attend any meeting of the legislative body of a local agency (Gov. Code § 54953(a)) except when closed sessions are permitted."

Also note:

Individual board members do not hold separate powers or authority. Their power is exercised collectively as part of the District Board.



»»» IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

JBWD was at the "Great Shake-Out" event this past month teaching on water for emergencies. Many emergency responders were there, as well. In case you missed it, be sure you have the San Bernardino County Office of Emergency Services "Alert Notification App" on your cell phone!

Download the app for FREE at: <https://oes.sbcounty.gov/stay-informed/>

Do it today and and get prepared!

»»» JT FARMERS' MARKET

November's weather can be fickle--mellow and pleasant one day, followed by a mini snowfall the next. Some Novembers bring winter freezes that create havoc on our household water pipes, too. Come visit us on weekends in November, 8AM-1PM, to learn more about simple and inexpensive DIY ways to winterize your water pipes. Remember: pipes grow weaker as they age--and broken water pipes cause additional \$\$ damage to your home, not to mention water loss.



At the regular Board of Directors meeting on Wednesday, October 16, 2024, Director of Finance Anne Roman presented a revision of the investment policy authorizing Joint Powers Authority Local Government Investment Pools, under Resolution 24-1066.

Resolution 24-1066 passed unanimously, 4-0 (absent: VP Doolittle).

For more information on this complex topic, watch the meeting recording on YouTube: www.youtube.com/@JoshuaBasinWaterDistrict.

>>> Consider Joshua Tree's Average Weather and Water...

The chart below provides an overview of our desert weather over time, highlighting our limited percipitation. Make 2025 the year to adopt new strategies for saving every drop! Look out for a schedule of free classes coming in 2025 to help you reduce your water usage.

Climate data for Joshua Tree, California.													
Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year
Record high °F (°C)	79(26)	86(30)	90(32)	99(37)	102(39)	113(45)	115(46)	110(43)	105(41)	102(39)	86(30)	78(26)	115(46)
Mean daily m °F (°C)	62.2(16.8)	61.5(16.4)	69.8(21.0)	76.4(24.7)	86.0(30.0)	93.9(34.4)	101.1(38.4)	100.4(38.0)	95.8(35.4)	81.2(27.3)	69.1(20.6)	58.2(14.6)	79.6(26.4)
Record low °F (°C)	18(-8)	18(-8)	29(-2)	32(0)	36(2)	40(4)	55(13)	52(11)	46(8)	37(3)	26(-3)	17(-8)	17(-8)
Mean daily minimum °F (°C)	37.9(3.3)	37.5(3.1)	41.0(5.0)	46.0(7.8)	53.4(11.9)	60.0(15.6)	70.8(21.6)	70.1(21.2)	65.8(18.8)	53.4(11.9)	43.0(6.1)	35.8(2.1)	51.2(10.7)
Average precipitation inches (mm)	0.62(16)	0.48(12)	0.39(9.9)	0.13(3.3)	0.17(4.3)	0.01(0.25)	0.33(8.4)	0.50(13)	0.33(8.4)	0.33(8.4)	0.61(15)	0.79(20)	4.69(119)
Average snowfall inches (cm)	0.5(1.3)	0.0(0.0)	0.0(0.0)	0.0(0.0)	0.0(0.0)	0.0(0.0)	0.0(0.0)	0.0(0.0)	0.0(0.0)	0.0(0.0)	0.0(0.0)	1.6(4.1)	2.1(5.3)

Source: The Western Regional Climate Center[19]

November 2024 Plant of the Month

Pink Muhly Grass

Muhlenbergia capillaris

Plant Form: Ornamental grass

Water Use: Low, moderate

Mature Size: 2-3 ft. tall & wide

Exposure: Full sun, part sun

Bloom Time: Summer (July – Aug), Fall (Sept – Nov)

Native to: Texas, Northern Mexico

Hardiness: Cold hardy to -10°F

Pink Muhly Grass is a traffic-stopper with its masses of airy, pink to purple flower plumes in late summer and fall. Plant on the east or west side of your yard to collaborate with the morning or evening sun to help provide the dramatic backlighting that accentuates this plant's seasonal color. This fast-growing, heat-tolerant, cold-tolerant, drought-tolerant ornamental grass is an easy-care, low-water-use plant that is also rabbit and deer-resistant (what more could you want?). Pink Muhly can also tolerate full sun, reflected heat, and part shade, as well as almost any soils, including clay. Use this well-behaved, native clumping grass instead of the invasive Fountain Grass, and tuck cuttings into flower arrangements for magical texture. Prune vigorously in spring to remove spent flower spikes and dormant foliage, but avoid cutting back during the hot summer months. 'Regal Mist' is a popular cultivar grown from cuttings to ensure consistent color. Use as an accent or border, along driveways, by patios, in mass plantings for drama, or on slopes for erosion control or bank stabilization.



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/

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Produced by The SummerTree Institute (www.SummerTree.org)



GARDENING TIPS FOR YOUR DESERT-SMART LANDSCAPE:

- Water after 9AM or before 6PM.
- Continue planting even with cooler temperatures, though root growth will be slower
- Plant seeds for spring and summer blooms. Use western drought-hardy wildflowers
- Irrigate frequently during Santa Ana winds, which pull moisture from plants and soil
- Give one last deep watering for trees and grapevines, but discontinue feeding them
- Irrigate newly planted fall landscape deeply once or twice a month prior to cold-weather dormancy

HISTORIC USES OF PINK MUHLY GRASS

MUHLENBERGIA CAPILLARIS

No historical uses were found medicinally or otherwise. However, this gorgeous grass has 3 primary uses: Ornamental, Erosion Control, and Wildlife Habitat/Cover. It is also heralded as being rabbit and deer resistant. The best news is that, per the ASPCA, Pink Muhly Grass is not listed as being toxic to dogs, nor any other mammals.

»»» SIGNS OF A FROZEN PIPE AND HOW TO THAW IT

Some signs of a burst pipe are easy to spot, while others are more subtle. You might hear strange noises when you turn on the water or notice dripping sounds behind your walls. Other less obvious signs include unexpectedly high water bills and unusually low water pressure.

Common symptoms of a burst pipe include:

Unusual Noises When Turning on Water: Do you hear an unusual noise when turning on your pipes? Do you hear bubbling, whistling, banging, or clanking? Do your pipes make a funny noise when you turn on the sink or flush the toilet? Unusual noises in your plumbing system could come from a burst pipe or other serious issue.

Unexplained Odors: Does your washing machine have a funny smell as it fills with water? Do you smell unknown scents when turning on your water? Unusual odors could be a sign of a burst pipe issue or other plumbing problem.

Visible Water Damage or Discoloration in Ceilings & Walls: If you have water damage or discoloration in your ceilings and walls, then you could be dealing with a burst pipe or other water damage. Look for discolored areas that gradually become larger, for example, as they could indicate a growing water leak.

Unusually High Water Bill: Has your water bill suddenly jumped for no apparent reason? It could be a sign of a serious plumbing problem.

Bulging Walls & Ceilings: If your walls and ceilings are starting to bulge, then it could be a sign of a burst pipe.

Low Water Pressure: If your water pressure has suddenly dropped, then it could be a sign of a burst pipe or other plumbing problem.

Give pipes a helping hand
If pipes run through cabinets or vanities, open the doors to let warmer room temperatures flow in.

Keep water working
Keep water moving through the pipes by allowing a small trickle of water to run. The cost of the extra water is typically lower than the cost of repairing a broken pipe.

BUT IF YOUR PIPES DO FREEZE:

Shut off the water immediately
Don't attempt to thaw pipes without turning

Thaw pipes with warm air
You can melt the frozen water in the pipe by warming the air around it with a hair dryer or space heater. Be sure not to leave space

Be careful turning water back on
Once pipes are thawed, slowly turn the water back on and check pipes and joints for any cracks or leaks



KITCHEN WATER SAVING TIPS

For many, November gathers family and friends around the kitchen table for companionship, memories, and great food! Here are just a few tips on ways you can easily save on water use in the kitchen without diminishing a fabulous home-cooked banquet. Bon Appétit!

BEST WAYS TO CONSERVE WATER IN THE KITCHEN



01.



Instead of running water while washing or peeling fruits and vegetables, use a large bowl.

02.



Thaw frozen food in the refrigerator, rather than under running water.

03.



When washing dishes by hand, don't let the water run.

04.



When cooking, use only the amount of water requires; this reduces the amount of water wasted when straining.

05.



Never run the dishwasher without a full load. This practice will save water.

06.



If your sink faucet is leaking, make sure to fix it right away.

07.



Install water saving aerators and save unwanted water wastage while cleaning.

www.neoakruthi.com

IMAGINE A DAY WITHOUT WATER...

A portion of a message from the US Water Alliance

“...Unfortunately, many communities in the path of storms this season did not have to imagine a day—or weeks—without water services. With more stories about unprecedented weather events and their direct impact on access to safe water and sanitation making the headlines, we are reminded of the powerful and deeply personal role that water plays in our lives.”

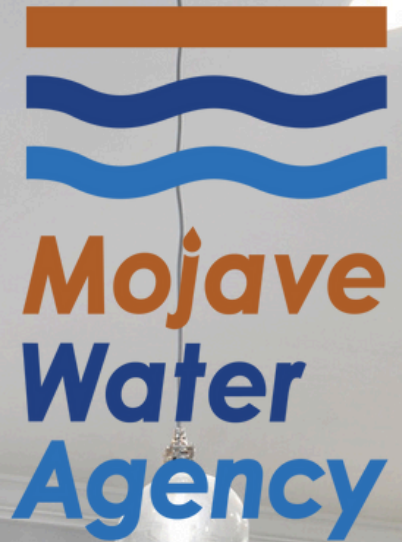


**Can you imagine a day in
your life without water?**

**A message from your local water providers:
Joshua Basin Water District, Hi-Desert Water District,
Bighorn Desert-View Water Agency, Mojave Water
Agency, and 29 Palms Water District**

While the Morongo Basin Community may not have to endure hurricane seasons, we do have to prepare for water emergencies that can be caused by earthquakes and wildfires. We urge you to be emergency water prepared, before the tap water stops. Don't wait. Store emergency water now!

SAVE WATER



Join the Mojave Water Agency for a seasonal workshop on how to save water (and energy) throughout the cold winter months. This online course is FREE and open to the public.



This course will cover:

- ✓ Water-saving tips and benefits
- ✓ How to protect your landscape
- ✓ How to insulate pipes
- ✓ Methods to conserve energy
- ✓ Money saving materials

November 7 at 6:00 p.m.

Register Now



www.mojavewater.org 

760-218-2822 