



SEPTEMBER 2022

**JUNE 2022 Residential Gallons Per Capita
Water Use: 67.5**

Note: Water savings data reflects water use three months in the past. Also, "gallons per capita" is the standard of "measure" for tracking water conservation efforts. The State will determine how much water per person per day will be targeted soon.

Keep saving, Joshua Tree!



OUR MISSION STATEMENT:
To provide, protect, and maintain
Joshua Tree's water - our vital
community resource.

□ **Save Water Now...It will Save
you Later** □

In honor of the Labor Day Holiday the District Office will be closed for all Customer Service assistance (phone/email/or in-person appointments). In the event of a District waterline emergency, please call (760) 366-8438, 24 hours a day--our crews are on stand-by working hard to save our water!

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Upcoming Events and Meetings:

Regular Board of Directors meetings:

- Wednesday, September 7 - canceled



SEPTEMBER WATER SAVING TIP:

The "Water-Energy Nexus"

Did you know that fast flowing water generates electricity? This is called "hydro electricity"--and much of our power comes to us this way. So, water generates our electricity, but conversely,

- Wednesday, September 21, 5:30 PM *Virtual/Zoom or in person*

Designing a Drip Irrigation System Course:

- Wednesday/Thursday, September 14/15 (two nights total) 6-8:30 PM *Virtual/Zoom only* (See info below)

Citizen's Advisory Council

- Wednesday, September 13, 6 PM *virtual/Zoom or in person*

For Agendas, Zoom links, and other calendar items visit: www.jbwd.com

it takes electricity to pump water to our homes. This is called the *Water-Energy Nexus*. It is safe to say, if you conserve one, you are conserving the other.

Keep that in mind as our fall season brings shorter daylight hours. Turn off lights when not in use. Remember your power use when it comes to increased loads of laundry and when using a dishwasher: try to run only full loads.

Not only can this impact your power and water bills, but you'll be saving water as well!

DEBUT: INSPIRING DISTRICT OFFICE MURAL

It has been said that, "Rain in the desert is a gift..." and that's just how JBWD's staff, Board Members and all who enter the Administration Building feel about this *original* spectacular mural that was painted entirely by Hannah Campbell (a JTNP award winning artist). Hannah is a full-time Joshua Tree resident, local elementary school teacher and a member of the JBWD Citizens Advisory Council. *Thank you, Hannah!*



Hannah Campbell's "The Desert Aquifer"



**SEPTEMBER IS
NATIONAL EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS MONTH
"WATER FOR EMERGENCIES"
*What you need to know***



Water for Emergencies

Tape this sheet to the inside of a closet or cupboard door for when you need it!

Take the time NOW to review and restock your emergency water supply. Store a minimum of one gallon per person per day for 3 days. Store more if possible. You'll need water for drinking, for preparing food, for hygiene, and for your pets.

- ▶ For emergency supply, commercially bottled water is recommended.
- ▶ If you are preparing your own containers, you can purchase food-grade water containers from camping supply stores.
- ▶ If you want to re-use containers, two-liter plastic soft drink bottles are a good choice.
- ▶ Don't use containers that have been used for milk or fruit juice.
- ▶ Don't use glass containers—they are heavy and may break.
- ▶ Clean the plastic containers with dishwashing soap and water and rinse well.
- ▶ Then sanitize the bottles with a mix of 1 teaspoon unscented regular liquid household bleach to 1 quart of water; swish the bottles, then rinse thoroughly.
- ▶ Fill to the top with tap water and tightly twist on the original cap—avoid touching the inside of the cap before putting it on.
- ▶ Write the date on the container. Store in a cool dark place. Do not store directly on concrete (leaching chemicals destroy plastic).
- ▶ The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) recommends replacing water every six months (if not using commercially bottled water.) Observe / disinfect water in commercially packaged bottles if past their expiration date.
- ▶ If stored water is warm, cloudy, or has debris floating within, consider disinfecting the stored water to prevent illness.

Extra Water Sources:

Use: Water heater water, water in water pipes, or ice cubes in freezer.

Don't Use: Water from toilet tanks or bowls, swimming pools or spas, or water beds.

Remember: If you don't know if your tap water is safe in a disaster, play it safe and disinfect it automatically until you've been reassured it is safe to drink by the authorities.



HOW TO DISINFECT WATER

#1 Boil water to make it safe.

This is the preferred method to assure that the water is safe to drink. Boiling water will kill most types of disease-causing organisms that may be present. First, boil the water for one minute. Let it cool, then store in clean containers with covers.

#2 Disinfect with bleach (use *fresh*, unscented, regular household bleach from a new bottle). Add 1/8 teaspoonful (8 drops) for each gallon of clear water, or 1/4 teaspoonful (16 drops) per gallon of cloudy water. Stir well. Let it stand for 30 minutes before you use it. A chlorine-like taste and odor will result at first, indicating disinfection has taken place.

#3. Water Disinfection tablets may be used by following the manufacturer's instructions.

WATER SAVING: REGROWING FOOD FROM SCRAPS

For those who love to eat what they grow, growing from seed may be rewarding for some, but truth be known, it takes more time, more money, and far more water to realize the same results than if you were to jump start the growing process by growing from "scraps." Check it out:

15 Foods You Can Regrow from Scraps

Don't throw away those old potatoes! There are lots of foods you can regrow from scraps - it's easy, free, and you don't need a lot of space to keep fresh produce ready all year long!



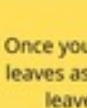
Green Onion

Plant the bulbs in a pot or container garden so that the top of the stalk pokes out of the dirt



Onion

Save the bottom piece of the onion that contains the roots! This one piece of onion can be used to re-grow two or more onions



Kale

Once your kale plants are mature, clip off leaves as needed, starting with the larger leaves at the bottom of the stem



Sweet Potato

Sweet potatoes are grown a little differently than regular potatoes. To regrow sweet potatoes, you plant the sprouts, or "slips"



Leeks

Save bulbs with at least an inch or two of the stalk. Plant the bulbs in the ground with the stalk peeking out



Ginger

Plant a piece of ginger root in a pot with soil, water, and wait for it to sprout

Basil

Cut the stem, keeping a few leaves attached. Place in a jar of water to generate roots, then you can move to a planter



Mint

Mint is a fairly easy plant to grow and spreads quickly on its own. You can regrow mint cuttings as you would basil



Garlic

Simply bury the cloves under about an inch of soil and keep watered. The garlic is ready to harvest when it starts to turn yellow



Rosemary

Cut a 3" piece from a mature plant. Strip the leaves from the bottom half of the cutting and plant that end in soil



Potatoes

Cut a sprouting potato so that each chunk has an eye and a sprout. Plant with the eye facing up and cover with a few inches of dirt



Cilantro

Like basil, cilantro can be regrown from cuttings. Once you have a mature cilantro plant, you can cut leaves as needed



Romaine Lettuce

You can plant the bottom end of a head of Romaine in soil, water, and it will start to regrow leaves

Celery

Celery can be regrown by saving the base and placing in a cup of water until leaves sprout. Then transfer the celery plant to a pot with soil

Bok Choy

Bok Choy can be regrown just like romaine lettuce!



thesoccermomblog.com

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT:

□ This summer, the Mojave Water Agency awarded Joshua Basin Water District, Hi-Desert Water District, and Bighorn Desert-View Water Agency a combined grant to collectively communicate the importance of water conservation during our drought-- which is impacting not just our desert area-- but the entire state, along with most of the western US region.



□ Promoting water saving messages via various media outlets to locals and our countless tourists can be effective, but pricey; hence the need for a grant. To create a solid basin-wide message campaign, Twentynine Palms Water District joined in, as well!

□ It goes without saying, that your water providers are all working hard to save our water!



FREE FALL WATER WISE GARDENING CLASSES

Mark your calendars!

DESIGNING A DRIP IRRIGATION SYSTEM:*

September 14 & 15, Wednesday/Thursday (5hr. course) 6-8:30 PM each night --Virtual/ZOOM

Learn how to plan for and implement your own water saving drip irrigation system that ultimately saves time and water.

DESERT EDIBLE GARDENING:*

October 4 & 6, Tuesday/Thursday: (5hr. course) 6-8:30 PM each night--Virtual/ZOOM

Successful vegetable gardening in the desert requires a tool bag full of tips, tricks and knowledge. This course will show you how.

PROPAGATION OF NATIVE PLANT CUTTINGS:*

October 18, Tuesday: 6:00-8:00 PM-- Virtual/ZOOM

Can't wait to start from seeds? Some native plants will grow from just taking "cuttings"--learn how--it's easy!

"WINTERIZING" TO SAVE WATER:*

November 15, Tuesday: 6:00-8:00PM--Virtual/ZOOM

Water lines age over the years, and freezing weather can spell disaster for new and old pipes, alike. It only takes pennies and some effort to winterize and save water and potential damage. This is a must course for homeowners.

Pre registration required before the course date: send an email with your name, phone number, and the desired courses to: [Kathleen Radnich](mailto:Kathleen.Radnich@twentyninepalms.com)

CURIOUS MINDS WANT TO KNOW:

Often, at our Farmers' Market booth or on social media, we get good questions that others may be asking. Here's more of a sample:

Q: We hear periodically the importance of having an emergency water supply on hand in the event the tap water flow is interrupted.

Wouldn't the District be required to provide bottled water if their system fails?

A: No. However, that does not mean JBWD, working with County Emergency Services, wouldn't attempt to call in bottled water supplies to help buy time while crews work to fix the system, but there are no guarantees. Our first and foremost priority is restoring our water system!

A disaster can fully impact a large region, and we may be only a small part of the impacted area--with many larger areas competing for the same water resources.

Best bet is to be prepared at home now with a back-up water supply and means to properly disinfect it before using it.



OUR SEPTEMBER FARMERS' MARKET BOOTH

"Water for Emergencies"

Earthquakes, power outtages, brush fires--let's face it, emergency disasters can and will strike without permission, and many times they have the ability to disrupt water systems.

While our teams are always ready to rescue our water lines--come what may--living in the desert we must all be prepared for a water emergency.

As lifestyles vary, preparing for a water emergency may look different for each of us. Stop by our Farmers' Market Booth Saturdays in September and find out what works best for you. Sometimes, several options work best, depending on how active you are, or on how many individuals (or pets) reside in your household. We'll help you get started.

Remember: *Save water now...it' will save you later!*

YOUR LEADERSHIP IN ACTION

Recent Board Action Items of Note:

At the August 17, 2022, Board meeting, a 4-0 vote was cast to accept the resolution to adopt the lengthy 2020 Urban Water Management Plan and the 2020 Water Shortage Contingency Plan, with four stated corrections.

Background:

This document serves as a guide or a "planning tool" only. It is revisited every five years for updates and is required by law. These plans were approved with minor revisions, which will be included in the finalized documents.

While we are in the process of finalizing the documents, you may still view the drafts on our website. The finalized documents will be uploaded in late September. <https://www.jbwd.com/uwmpwscp>

Capital Improvement and Replacement Program: "C.I.R.P." UPDATE

You're water dollar\$ at work!

With the Tilford Phase One Project area 100% completed, the C.I.R.P. crews began grading at C2-1 tanks for the D1-1 booster upgrade project.

Additionally, crews have been pushing to replace meters this past month and have installed 190 new meters from July 1 to August 17. Next up: the beginning of bolting pipe fittings for the Tilford Phase 2 Project.

Meanwhile, the old pipes keep calling...

The District had a total of 44 leaks from July through mid-August. Four of these were mainline leaks from old steel pipes and 40 service line leaks, mostly from older polyp (the black plastic 1" pipe).

This has a combined total of 789,000 gallons of water lost (however, much returns to our ground water).



Photo Caption: JBWD crews fixing a leak using a vacuum to excavate down so no other utilities in the

DESERT-SMART GARDENING TIPS FOR SEPTEMBER

September Watering Schedule: Before 9:00 AM --after 6:00 PM

This is the perfect time to evaluate your current landscape and reconsider a "water wise landscape" maker-over! If you have certain trees or other foliage that guzzle water, there are many similar native plants and water-wise plants eager to take their place and not just survive on less water...but thrive!

This month in your Desert-Smart Landscape:

Late September to mid-November starts the most important planting season of the year

- Plant native and drought-tolerant plants; warm soil helps new plants develop deep roots before the next summer season, reducing water needs during new plants' two-to-three year establishment period
- Fall opportunity to transplant yuccas from late September to October
- Reduce water to cacti and succulents to prepare them for winter rest and protect against frost damage
- Protect against wildfire as Santa Ana winds start; prune dead limbs, clean away brush, and clean leaves from gutters

Deer Grass

Muhlenbergia rigens

Plant Form: Ornamental grass

Water Use: Low

Mature Size: 2-6 ft. tall and wide

Exposure: Full sun, part sun

Bloom Time: Fall (September - November)

Native to: California, Arizona, Nevada, New Mexico, Texas, Northern Mexico

Hardiness: Cold Hardy to -10°F

Deer Grass is an adaptable, large bunch grass with blue-green foliage that softens desert landscapes wherever it is planted. Fast-growing, it typically reaches mature size in one or two years, with leaves reaching lengths of three feet, and flowering stalks reaching up to five feet. It is one of the most beautiful and easiest to grow of all the native California bunchgrasses. Once mature, it needs no supplemental water, but providing summer water will keep its foliage lush. Cut back in late winter for vigorous spring growth, or leave natural for wildlife cover. Deer Grass gets its common name not from deer preferring its foliage as a browse plant, but because deer like to lay on mounds of the grass. Native Americans prized this plant for the long stems of its inflorescence, which they used in their basketry. Deer Grass is versatile as an accent, grouped as a groundcover, in rock gardens, along walkways and roads, or to droop over walls.



September 2022 Plant of the Month

awac
Water-Conserve Today for Tomorrow

Alliance for Water
Awareness and Conservation

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

www.hdawac.org

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