

THE METER READER

OCTOBER 2024

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

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 - Soil Amendments Class
 - Cuttings & Propagation Class
 - Winterizing Class



agenda

Board Meetings:

- Regular Board Meeting - 10.02.24 - 5:30 pm
- Regular Board Meeting - 10.16.24 - 5:30 pm

Committee Meetings:

- Special Finance Committee - 10.09.24 - 9:00 am
- Water Resources & Ops - Cancelled for Oct.

Classes & Events: *All classes are on ZOOM*

- Soil & Amendments Class: 10.09.24 - 6PM
- Native Plant Cuttings Propagation Class:
10.24.24 - 6PM
- Winterizing to Save Water: 11.07.24 - 6PM

Monthly Water Use

JUNE: 131.24 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!

»»» OCTOBER WATER SAVING TIP:

Embrace the Outdoors...

Take advantage of the cooler fall weather to enjoy outdoor activities that don't require excessive water use. Hiking, biking, community festivals and events, and other outdoor adventures are great ways to appreciate the season without adding to your water footprint.



»»» Curious Minds Want to Know

Enjoy the question of the month

Question:

I was told JBWD keeps "reserve funds" in the event of a major disaster. But what happens if the damages to our community water system are greater than the reserve funds?

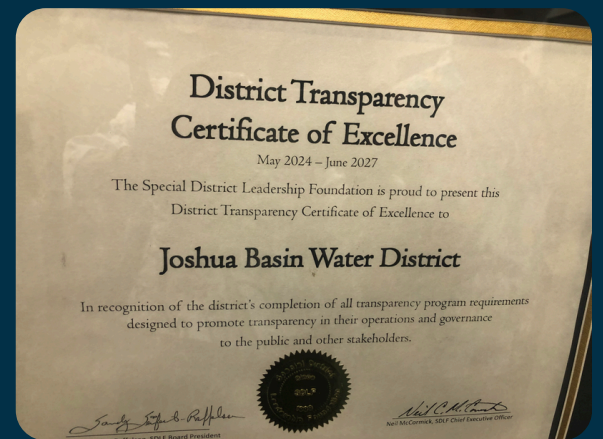
Answer:

That is a great question and an important one. The District does have emergency funds set aside, as well as a Hazard Mitigation Plan that requires extensive investigative planning of all resources and potential hazards and, it must be reviewed and approved by both the State of California and FEMA. The good news is, JBWD's Hazard Mitigation Plan has been approved, which now allows for supplemental government recovery funding in a disaster.



»»» IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

JBWD RECEIVED TRANSPARENCY AWARD from the Special District Leadership Foundation (presented in September 2024)



»»» JT FARMERS' MARKET

PROTECTING OUR GROUND WATER

Learn about simple (and free) ways to dispose of toxic items to prevent pollution of our precious ground water. Stop by our booth at the Joshua Tree Farmers Market **Saturdays in October, 8AM-1PM.**

Also, Trick or Treaters are welcome at the market booths the last Saturday of this month!

YOUR LEADERSHIP IN ACTION <<<



The Board of Directors met at a regular Board meeting on September 18 for an initial review of the Draft Strategic Plan. This plan serves as a compass to design a course of action addressing current and future needs involving water delivery for our community. More work and clarifications were requested before a final vote would be considered.

- The Board also received an update on the new Chromium-6 minimum contaminant levels and actions being taken by other state agencies impacted by this new law.
- Lastly, after a budget review presented by Director Roman, the Board voted 5-0 to accept the 4TH Fiscal Quarter Ending 06/30/24 Financial Report.

>>> CIRP UPDATE



The District initiated the Capital Improvement Replacement Program (CIRP) in 2019, showcasing a dedication to maintaining the District's infrastructure.

BELMONT UPDATE

The Belmont project is temporarily on hold while we finalize the necessary permits. We're making steady progress and are confident that once the paperwork is finalized, we'll be able to resume the project efficiently.



BELMONT

October 2024 Plant of the Month

Golden Toothed Aloe

Aloe nobilis

Plant Form: Succulent
Water Use: Very low
Mature Size: 1-2 ft. tall x 3-4 ft. wide
Exposure: Full sun, part sun, filtered sun
Bloom Time: Spring (Mar – May), Summer (June – Aug)
Native to: South Africa
Hardiness: Cold hardy to 20°F

Golden Toothed Aloe is a rosette-forming succulent that can create a mounded colony of close rosettes spreading up to 3-4 feet wide. Its fleshy leaves are bright green when grown in light shade, but turn orange when in full sun, making quite a display. Yellow to creamy white teeth line the edges of each leaf which glow when backlit. In summer, 2-foot-tall spikes of tubular orange flowers rise above the rosettes, attracting bees, hummingbirds, and butterflies to the show. In hot deserts, it needs afternoon shade to prevent burning the leaves. This vigorous succulent makes a unique small-scale groundcover, and looks great in beds and borders, rock gardens, succulent gardens, cactus gardens, and Mediterranean gardens. It is also happy in decorative containers.



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.mojavewater.org/conservation/awac/

Photos © 2024 Robin Kobaly ~ Content © 2024 The Power of Plants (www.PowerofPlants.com)
Produced by The SummerTree Institute (www.SummerTree.org)

➤➤➤ GARDENING TIPS FOR YOUR DESERT-SMART LANDSCAPE:

- Water before 9AM or after 6PM.
- Continue to plant native, drought-tolerant, and other perennial plants and trees; fall plantings develop deep roots while soils are still warm
- Adjust irrigation timers as nights get longer and cooler. Simply making monthly changes to your irrigation schedule can save more water and money than any other thing you can do
- Fall annuals abound in nurseries but are mostly high water-use; consider using them only near entries, on patios, and in containers. Plant perennials and bulbs for lower maintenance and water use.

HISTORIC USES OF GOLDEN TOOTHED ALOE (*ALOE NOBILIS*)

- As with Aloe Vera, the succulent leaves of the Aloe Nobilis plant contain compounds used for a variety of medicinal purposes, such as topical treatments for burns and skin irritation. The same compounds may cause discomfort when ingested.
- The digestive system metabolizes the compounds, leading to increased mucus production and excess water in the colon. These issues may cause diarrhea and vomiting in adults or children.
- Ingesting Aloe Nobilis leaves may be **potentially fatal to cats**.



»»» Learn more by attending the **FREE “Great ShakeOut Event Saturday, October 19!**

This event will showcase the emergency entities, first responders, emergency support systems, fire and law forces, military and other organizations that work to support our communities in the Morongo Basin.

This year the event will be held on Saturday, October 19 and will be in the parking lot along the north side of the 29 Palms Highway, east of Jack-in-the-Box, from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

Get Ready to ShakeOut.

October 17, 2024



Register: ShakeOut.org

MEANWHILE...PRACTICE THIS:

In most situations, if you feel shaking or get an earthquake alert, immediately:

- **DROP** where you are, onto your hands and knees. This position protects you from being knocked down and reduces your chances of being hit by falling or flying objects.
- **COVER** your head and neck with one arm and hand. If a sturdy table or desk is nearby, crawl underneath, stay on your knees; bend over to protect vital organs.
- **HOLD ON** until the shaking stops. Under shelter: hold on to it with one hand; be ready to move with your shelter if it shifts.
- No shelter: hold on to your head and neck with both arms.
- See below for other options (especially for those using a cane, walker/rollator, or a wheelchair).



Help keep our ground water safe!

Follow these drug disposal options ...

Note: In the Morongo Basin, there is a safe & convenient drug drop-off receptacle in the Morongo Basin Sheriff's lobby. Available at no charge during business hours.



FDA U.S. FOOD & DRUG ADMINISTRATION

I need to get rid of this medication.

Drug Disposal Options

Do you have medicine you want to get rid of?

Do you have a drug take-back option readily available?

Check the [DEA website](#), as well as your local drugstore and police station for possible options.

NO

YES

Is it on the [FDA flush list](#)?

NO

Follow the [FDA instructions for disposing of medicine in the household trash](#).

YES

[Immediately flush your medicine in the toilet.](#) Scratch out all personal info on the bottle and recycle/throw it away.

Take your medicine to a drug take-back location.

Do this promptly for [FDA flush list](#) drugs!

www.fda.gov



WATER SAVING

Composting, Mulching and Soil Ammendments Class

Learn how to save water and enrich your own home garden with this FREE online course offered by the Mojave Water Agency.

This course will cover:

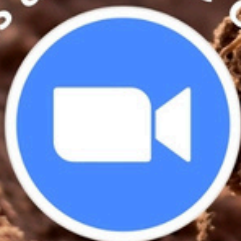
- ✓ Composting do's & dont's
- ✓ Mulching varieties
- ✓ Use of soil amendments
- ✓ Exploring product resources
- ✓ Defining enhancements

October 10 at 6:00 p.m.


Register Now



This is an online course



www.mojavewater.org 

760-218-2822 



NATIVE PLANTS



**Mojave
Water
Agency**



Cuttings & Propagation Class

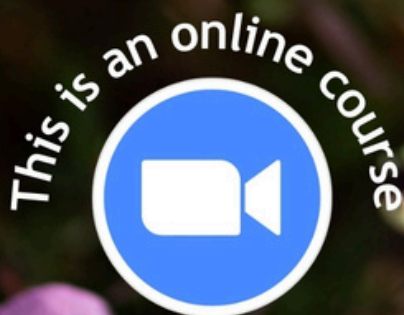
Don't have the patience to start native plants from seed? "Cuttings" are an alternative method of propagation for some native plants. Learn more in this FREE online course.

This course will cover:

- ✔ What is propagation?
- ✔ Different methods
- ✔ Identifying different plants
- ✔ How to grow from cuttings
- ✔ How to use specific tools


October 24 at 6:00 p.m.

Register Now

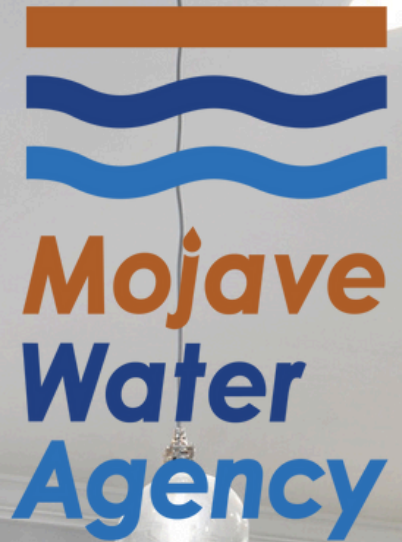


www.mojavewater.org 



760-218-2822 

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 



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