

**September is National
Emergency
Preparedness Month--
Are you ready for a
water emergency?**

THE METER READER

SEPTEMBER 2024

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

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agenda

Board Meetings:

- Regular Board Meeting - 09.04.24 - 5:30 pm
- Regular Board Meeting - 09.18.24 - 5:30 pm

Committee Meetings:

- Special Finance Committee - **09.09.24** - 9:00 am
- Water Resources & Ops - Cancelled for Sept.

Classes & Events: *All classes are on ZOOM*

- Soil & Amendments Class: 10.09.24 - 6PM
- Native Plant Cuttings Propagation Class:
10.24.24 - 6PM
- US Water Alliance Meet & Greet at the Farmers
Market - 10.28.24
- Winterizing to Save Water: 11.07.24 - 6PM

Monthly Water Use

JUNE: 113.19 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!

»»» SEPTEMBER WATER SAVING TIPS:

For a refreshing drink, keep a container of tap water in the refrigerator instead of running the tap waiting for it to cool down. This helps conserve water and ensures you always have chilled water ready. Remember to use a clean, safe drinking bottle when storing water in the fridge.



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

Question:

How long does it typically take for a "Boil Water Order" to be lifted after it's issued?

Answer:

Lifting a boil water notice is not based on a specific timeframe but rather on ensuring the water is safe. After a boil order or similar advisory is issued, water providers must conduct frequent testing at multiple points within the system. The water must be free of contaminants for at least 36 consecutive hours before the notice can be lifted. This process may vary in length depending on the type and extent of contamination. For example, ongoing challenges like earthquake aftershocks causing further pipe damage can prolong the duration of the boil order. The safety of the water supply is the priority in determining when it is safe to lift the notice, as emphasized by the State Water Resources Control Board.



»»» IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

The Citizen's Advisory Council met in August to give input on the District's "Strategic Plan" update and expressed their views from the public's perspective for water issues impacting our community.



»»» JT FARMERS' MARKET

WATER FOR EMERGENCIES

Although our lifestyles may differ, we all have one thing in common: the need for water! This month, we're featuring a display on emergency water storage options, highlighting the benefits and considerations of each choice. Stop by our booth at the Joshua Tree Farmers Market the **first three Saturdays in September, 8AM-1PM.**

YOUR LEADERSHIP IN ACTION <<<



During the August 7, 2024, Board of Directors meeting, General Manager Johnson presented three grants awarded JBWD totaling \$26,040 for the Fiscal Year 2024-2025. All three were approved for acceptance. The grants include the following:

- Storm Water Exhibit/Gabion Wall - Funded by: Mojave Water Agency
- Conservation Media Campaign - Funded by: Mojave Water Agency
- Wellness Grant - Funded by: ACWA/JPIA

>>> CIRP UPDATE



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

JULY 2024 ACTIVITY

The Belmont II pipeline project began:

- Door hangers were distributed to customers included in this phase of the project.
- Road grading for the installation process started.
- Started bolting valves to tees for intersections and hydrant laterals.
- Identified old water mains and services to avoid damaging underground pipes during excavation.
- Installation of new CPVC lines to the analyzers.



September 2024 Plant of the Month

Mediterranean Fan Palm European Fan Palm

Chamaerops humilis

Plant Form: Palm, shrub, tree
Water Use: Low, moderate
Mature Size: 6-15 ft. tall x 6-20 ft. wide
Exposure: Full sun, part shade
Bloom Time: Spring (Mar – May),
Native to: Europe, Northern Africa
Hardiness: Cold hardy to 10°F

Mediterranean Fan Palm is among the hardiest palms, able to survive triple-digit heat and cold down to 10 degrees F, with exceptional tolerance to wind and drought. This bushy, evergreen palm forms either a single stem or becomes multi-trunked in age, growing up to 8 trunks. While slow-growing, it is prized for its use in small yards, its low maintenance, and drought tolerance. Its fan-shaped leaves grow up to 2 feet long, held at the ends of 3-4 foot-long, spiny petiole stalks, so take care when trimming off old leaves. This attractive plant can anchor either decorative containers or tubs, or provide the focal point of a pool or spa, but is just as happy to create the background ambiance for either. This low-litter, dwarf palm works beautifully as either an accent or focal point, as a background planting, barrier, privacy screen, windbreak, border, or as a tidy companion to pools, spas, patios, and Mediterranean gardens.



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)

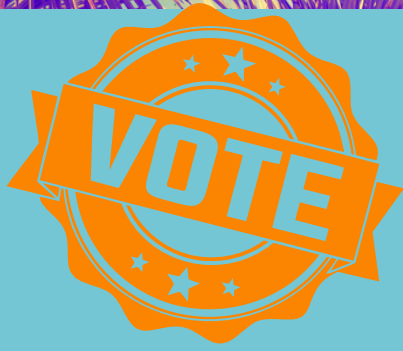


GARDENING TIPS FOR YOUR DESERT-SMART LANDSCAPE:

- Water before 9AM or after 6PM. Water one less day a week to reduce your water bill
- Walk irrigation lines to check for clogs, leaks, and breaks
- Deadhead spent flowers, trim off dead flowering stems (save seeds for replanting)
- Continue deep watering trees and shrubs once a month
- Keep adding to mulches to conserve water, keep soil and roots cool, and reduce frequency of watering

HISTORIC USES OF MEDITERRANEAN / EUROPEAN FAN PALM

The husk (higa) is eaten in southern Spain, the fruits in Morocco and the young suckers in Italy. In Algeria, the spadices and the heart of the palm are used to treat several disorders of the digestive tract, whereas the leaves are used in Morocco and Algeria for the treatment of diabetes, and the fruits used in several countries as an astringent agent due to their bitterness.



ELECTIONS



4 BOARD SEATS OPEN

- Member of the Board of Directors, Division 2, 2-year term
 - This position is currently held by Director David Fick, uncontested this election term.
- Member of the Board of Directors, Division 3, 4-year term
 - This position is currently held by incumbent Director Jane Jarlsberg and will be running against candidate Ryan Cherlin.
- Member of the Board of Directors, Division 4, 4-year term
 - This position is currently held by President Tom Floen, uncontested this election term.
- Member of the Board of Directors, Division 5, 4-year term
 - This position is currently held by incumbent Vice-President Stacy Doolittle and will be running against candidate Debbi Truncale.

Did you know?

Joshua Basin Water District is the ONLY Joshua Tree local government entity where we vote for our leadership. We are truly community "owned."

Remember:

Voting really does matter! As a small district, some of our past elections were decided by just 3 votes!



US Water Alliance

The US Water Alliance ("the Alliance") is a national nonprofit dedicated to building a sustainable water future for all. The Alliance believes in a One Water approach to water stewardship that emphasizes innovation, inclusivity, and innovation. In 2023, the Alliance became a national Environmental Finance Center (EFC). As an EFC, the Alliance provides free technical assistance to communities, helping them to access federal funds for drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure improvements.

The Alliance has been providing technical assistance to JBWD since January 2024 and is committed to supporting a sustainable water future for JBWD and its community. As part of this support, the Alliance technical assistance team will be hosting a pop-up engagement event at the Joshua Basin Water District booth at the Joshua Tree Farmer's Market on Saturday, September 28th. The Alliance team aims to meet and greet community members, learn what you love about where you live, and understand your water priorities. Come say "Hi!"



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, preparing food, hygiene, and 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.
- Sanitize the bottles with a mix of 1 teaspoon unscented regular liquid 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, disinfect 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 and told 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 in the Desert

Open 2-6PM Daily, September 7-23.

This unique free family-friendly experience offers breathtaking images captured in all mediums accompanied by the artist's own inspirational narrative!

GREATER JOSHUA TREE 2ND ANNUAL ART EXPO

JURIED ART EXHIBITION+COMPETITION

AT THE JOSHUA TREE GALLERY OF CONTEMPORARY ART

LOCATED IN THE YUCCA VALLEY VISUAL + PERFORMING ARTS CENTER | 58325 CA-62

SEP **\$1,500 in**
Cash Prizes

6-22 2024

"WATER IN THE DESERT"

FREE PUBLIC

GALA SEP 6
6-9 PM



FEATURING THE FINE ART OF —

SHAWNTA AKINS | THOMAS ALBAN | DEBORAH AMMAR | JAMES BOWDEN | BILL LEIGH BREWER
ELAINE BRON | HANNAH CAMPBELL | MATT CAUTHRON | JANIS COMMENTZ | KRISTIN CZECH
SHARON DAVIS | PETRA DEETER | SUNRISE ENDO-MARKEY | LUCY GONZALEZ | MARK HANNAH
AMY HARPER | TERRY HASTINGS | CHERYL HUNTER | KATHY JONES | BRET LANGFORD
EDWIN LIEW-FERGUSON | WILLIAM MAKUTA | CYNTHIA MERINO | KATHY MILLER | MITCH MILLER
COLLEEN MORAN | TAMI ROLEFF | JENNIFER RUGGIERO | DR. PUSHPA SAH | SHIELA SASEK
LAURIE SCHAFER | ESTHER SHAW | SAHBA SHERE | KARIN SKIBA | GILLYAN THORBURN | TOBIAS TOVERA
CHER TOWNSEND | JUAN VARELA | JULIETTE VOS | KRISTA WARGO | STEVEN WYBENGA



JTGOCA.COM



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

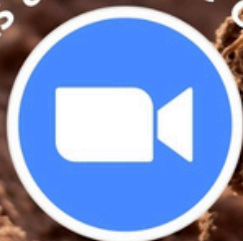
October 10 at 6:00 p.m.

Register Now



760-218-2822 

This is an online course



www.mojavewater.org 



NATIVE PLANTS



**Mojave
Water
Agency**



Cuttings & Propagation Class

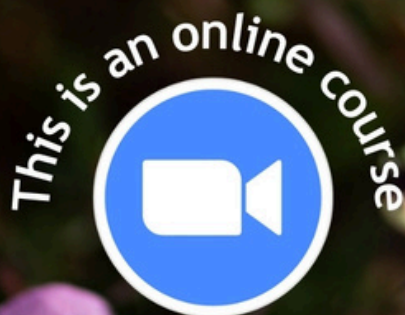
Don't have the patience to start native plants from seed? "Cuttings" are an alternative method of propagation for some native plants. Learn more in this FREE online course.

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

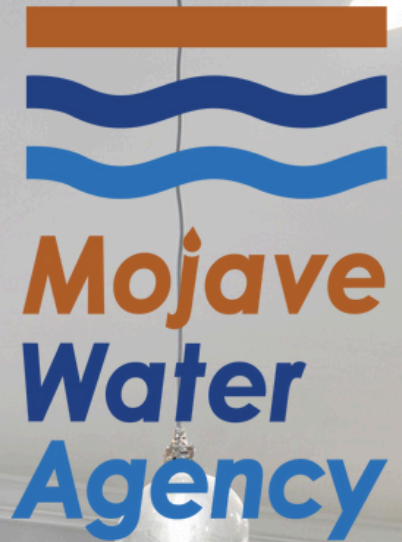


www.mojavewater.org 



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 

760-218-2822 

