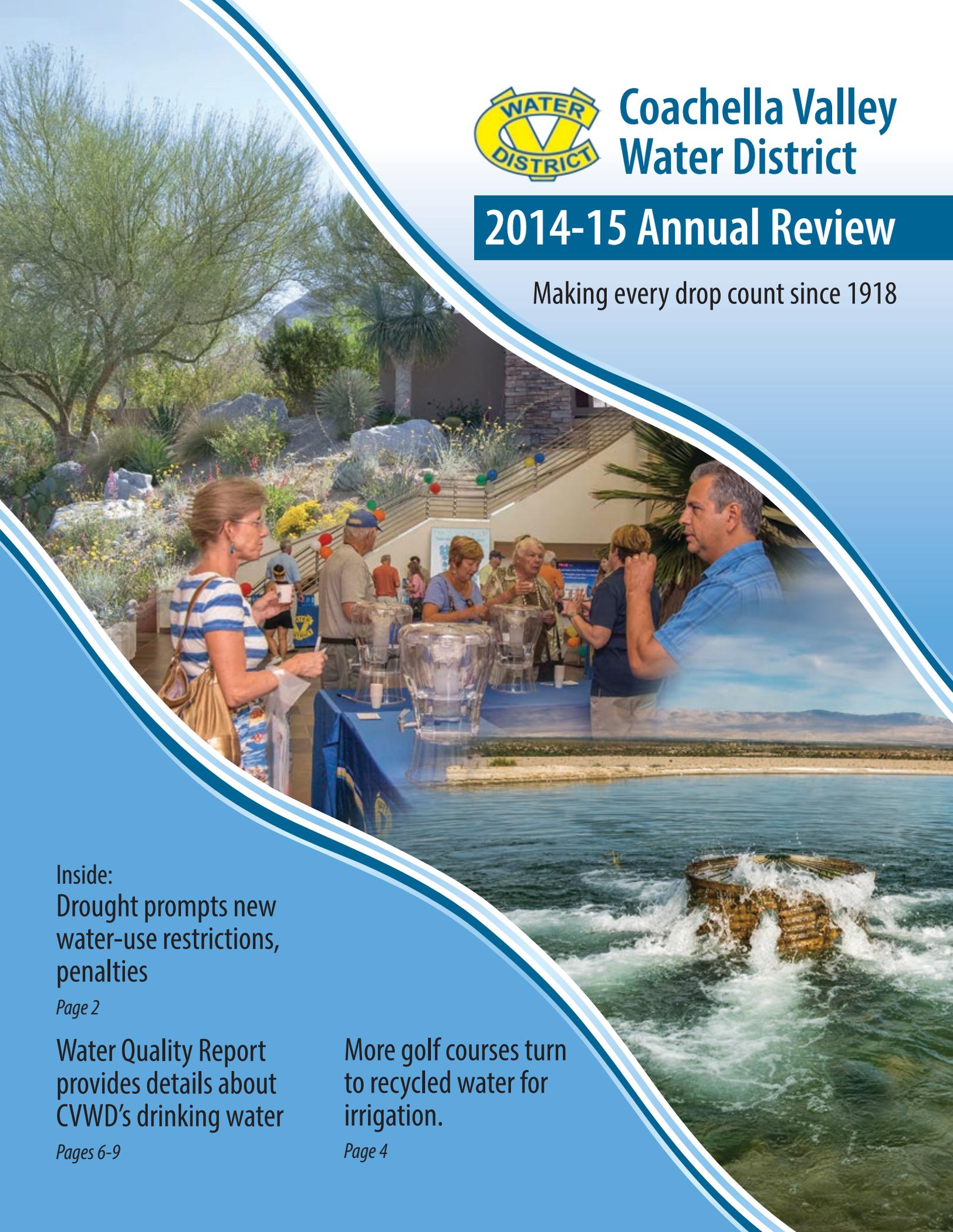




Coachella Valley Water District

2014-15 Annual Review

Making every drop count since 1918



Inside:
Drought prompts new
water-use restrictions,
penalties

Page 2

Water Quality Report
provides details about
CVWD's drinking water

Pages 6-9

More golf courses turn
to recycled water for
irrigation.

Page 4

Board of Directors

John Powell, Jr.
President, Division 3

Peter Nelson
Vice President, Division 4

G. Patrick O'Dowd
Director, Division 1

Ed Pack
Director, Division 2

Cástulo R. Estrada
Director, Division 5

Senior Administration

Jim Barrett
General Manager

Robert Cheng
Assistant General Manager

Julia Fernandez
Board Secretary

Directors

Raul Aguirre
Director of Service

Steve Bigley
Director of Environmental Services

Heather Engel
Director of Communication & Conservation

Dan Farris
Director of Operations

Kay Godbey
Director of Finance

Mark Johnson
Director of Engineering

Heidi Keeran
Director of Human Resources

Luis Maciel
Director of Information Systems

Javier Miranda
Director of Trades & Support

Contact Us

Payment Address
P.O. Box 5000
Coachella, CA 92236

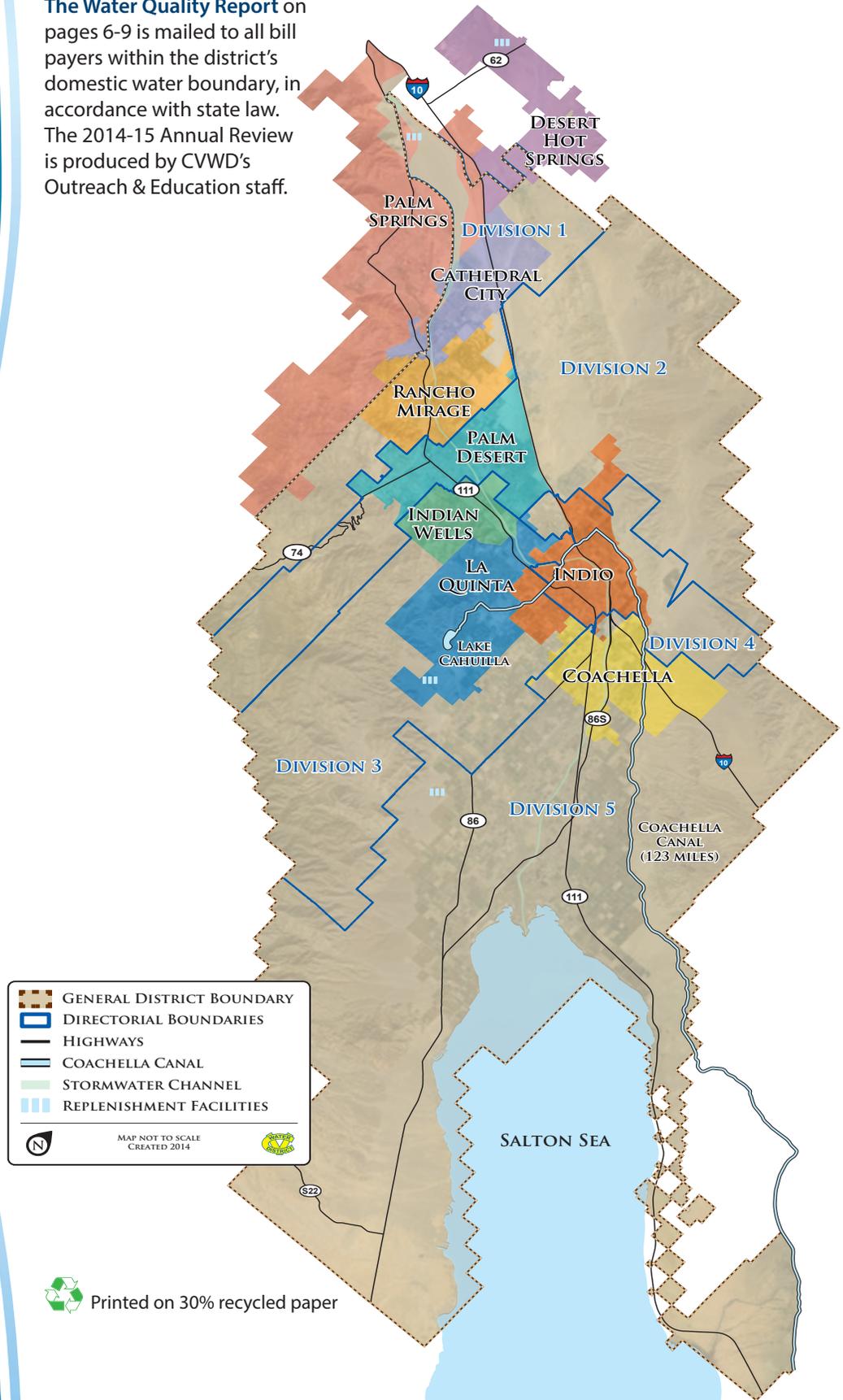
Correspondence Address
P.O. Box 1058
Coachella, CA 92236

Offices
75-515 & 75-525 Hovley Lane East
Palm Desert
51-501 Tyler Street
Coachella

Established in 1918, the Coachella Valley Water District is a government agency run by a five-member Board of Directors, elected to represent the five divisions within CVWD's service area. The directors serve four-year terms.

Board meetings are open to the public and generally held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 9 a.m. at district offices. The first meeting of the month is typically held in Palm Desert and the second is held in Coachella. To confirm meeting details, call the water district or view the meeting agenda on the website at www.cvwd.org

The Water Quality Report on pages 6-9 is mailed to all bill payers within the district's domestic water boundary, in accordance with state law. The 2014-15 Annual Review is produced by CVWD's Outreach & Education staff.



Printed on 30% recycled paper

Message from the General Manager

The big news this past year has been California's historic drought and all Californians have been asked and are now required to use less water. Here in the Coachella Valley, we're fortunate to have a massive groundwater aquifer, decades of imported and recycled water supplies, a groundwater replenishment program and long-term planning efforts that have contributed to a more reliable water supply than many other areas of the state.

Because previous calls by the State for conservation went largely unheeded, the State mandated in April 2015 that Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) reduce districtwide domestic water use by 36% or face fines of up to \$10,000 per day. CVWD customers have already reduced water use by 23% since 2007 and should be proud of that success. However, the state's new mandate compares 2015 water use to 2013. During that timeframe, water use has gone down approximately 4%, so we still have quite a bit to do.

In order to meet this target, CVWD is asking all customers to limit Tier 2 water use to 36% below your water budget or pay a new drought penalty. Half of our domestic water customers could pay penalties if they don't take immediate steps to reduce their use above the required Tier 2 reduction. These penalties will go into effect with July water bills and apply to water use above 64% of your Tier 2 budget and all use in Tiers 3, 4 and 5. The drought penalties are included on page 12 of this publication.

This approach was designed to reward customers who have already taken steps to save water. The penalties will remain in place until the State rescinds the emergency regulations and conservation mandates, which could be in February 2016.

CVWD also must enforce the state mandatory water-use restrictions, and has a few restrictions and recommendations of its own.

The good news amidst the drought is that **groundwater levels have improved** in the west valley and continue to rise in the east valley thanks to the successful implementation of the Coachella Valley Water Management Plan. Imported Colorado River water is sent to the Thomas E. Levy Groundwater Replenishment facility in South La Quinta, where it percolates into the aquifer. Monitoring indicates East Valley groundwater levels have risen an average 29 feet since the facility became operational in 2009.

The status of the aquifer is important to the viability of the entire Coachella Valley. While CVWD and Desert Water Agency (DWA) are charged with managing the groundwater, the water belongs to everyone in the valley and we must all take responsibility.

Another big challenge facing CVWD and its customers is the new state standard for chromium-6, a mineral that occurs naturally in areas of the Coachella Valley. CVWD has made significant progress this past year in developing plans to build treatment facilities necessary to comply with the regulation. You can read more details on page 13 of this publication.

Despite these challenges, rest assured that CVWD leadership and staff continue to strive for the highest level of customer service, meet the water-related needs of the community and maintain a sustainable water supply for generations to come.

Sincerely,



Jim Barrett
General Manager



CVWD Mission Statement

To meet the water-related needs of the people through dedicated employees, providing high quality water at a reasonable cost.



New website will help you connect with us

CVWD has launched a new website designed to improve customer service and highlight government transparency.

The website at www.cvwd.org makes key pieces of information, such as how to pay your bill, easy to find. The website provides a wealth of information on such subjects as the district's conservation programs, water-use restrictions during the drought and employment opportunities.

Stay connected!



Main switchboard
(760) 398-2651

Customer Service
(760) 391-9600

Fax
(760) 398-3711

Web sites
www.cvwd.org
www.waterfun4kids.org

CVWD has new water-use restrictions

Current water-use restrictions include:

- Application of water to outdoor landscaping during and within 48 hours after measureable rainfall is prohibited.
- Irrigation of ornamental turf on public street medians is prohibited.
- Broken sprinklers shall be repaired within 24 hours of notification and leaks will be repaired as soon as practical.
- The serving of drinking water other than upon request in eating or drinking establishments, including but not limited to restaurants, hotels, cafes, cafeterias, and bars, is prohibited.
- Hotels and motels shall provide guests with the option of choosing not to have towels and linens laundered daily.
- Applying water to outdoor landscapes in a manner that causes runoff such that water flows onto adjacent property, non-irrigated areas, private and public walkways, roadways, parking lots, or structures is prohibited.
- Applying water to any hard surface including, but not limited to, driveways, sidewalks, and asphalt is prohibited.

Refer to www.cvwd.org for a complete list.



The CVWD board listened to many comments from residents before adopting new water-use restrictions and drought penalties.

Statewide drought prompts drought penalty, water-use restrictions

California is coping with an historic drought. With an executive order on April 1 this year, Gov. Edmund G. Brown Jr. mandated that potable water use be reduced 25% by the end of February 2016.

The State Water Resources Control Board has since issued the most stringent water-use restrictions in California's history. Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) adopted those as its own and added additional measures to meet SWRCB's conservation target of 36% for the district's domestic water customers.

CVWD is working closely, too, with local municipalities and reaching out to businesses such as restaurants and hotels, landscapers, homeowners associations and others who can play a meaningful role in reducing the Coachella Valley's overall water consumption.

On May 12, CVWD's Board of Directors adopted drought penalties for domestic water customers who do not reduce their water use by 36% of their outdoor water budget. (See the rate summary on Page 12 for additional information.)

Unlike many other water districts, CVWD has opted not to restrict outdoor watering to certain days of the week, giving consumers more freedom to determine how to meet the 36% reduction.

Current water-use restrictions include prohibitions on: irrigating outdoor landscaping during and within 48 hours after measureable rainfall, irrigation of ornamental turf on public street medians, and applying water to outdoor landscapes in a manner that causes runoff such that water flows onto adjacent property. (See complete list in the side column of this page).

Exceptions to the restrictions are available when an immediate health, safety or sanitation need exists.

In addition, there are some recommended adjustments such as watering at night to reduce loss due to evaporation.

Those who ignore the new restrictions will receive a written warning for the first violation, a fine of \$50 for second violation, \$100 for third violation, and \$200 for fourth and subsequent violations. The fines will be added to the customer's water bill.

District emphasizes conservation resources, rebates and education

Conservation resources



The district hosts many conservation-related events throughout the year, including the annual Fix a Leak Workshop.

Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) has again committed significant fiscal resources to conservation as the district guides residents and businesses toward a 36% overall reduction in domestic water use.

Proven water-saving programs include turf buyback for homes, commercial customers and golf courses; continued installation of smart irrigation controllers; additional rebates for water-efficient toilets, sprinklers and specialized equipment for businesses such as restaurants; workshops for residents and professionals; public speaking, tours, publications and a vast array of other community outreach.

CVWD spent nearly \$3.2 million this fiscal year on conservation and rebate programs. This is the largest amount of money CVWD has ever dedicated to these programs, in part due to a record number of applications from valley residents, businesses and homeowner associations wanting to do their part to reduce water use.

The most successful program is the turf conversion program, which pays \$1 per square foot of grass removed. CVWD customers have removed more than 6 million square feet of grass through this program started in 2010.

CVWD has also had success with its program to investigate water-use restriction violations and other forms of water waste.

Residents can report water waste using an online form at www.cvwd.org or by calling the Water Waste Helpline at (888) 398-5008.

Since July 2014, staff has investigated nearly 400 reports to help valley residents eliminate water waste.

The district highlighted conservation at many public events and in presentations throughout the year. This year's Toast to Tap Water celebration included a drought information table and an art contest for children with the theme of the importance of conserving water.



CVWD has added a new searchable database of desert-friendly plants to its website.

The database is ideal for selecting plants that grow successfully in the Coachella Valley. Since up to 80 percent of residential water in the Coachella Valley is used to irrigate landscapes, growing water-conserving plants goes a long way in saving water. More than 330 plants with over 800 photos are shown and described, listed in alphabetical order by their scientific (botanical) name.

The database can be searched by plant type. In addition, a custom search allows you to find plants to fulfill a specific need, such as water use, plant height or width, flower color, bloom season and more.

The database also includes a section outlining the basics of what a plant needs to grow successfully in your yard.

The plant database can be accessed from the CVWD website, www.cvwd.org.

Recycled Water facts

CVWD owns and operates six wastewater reclamation plants capable of treating 18 million gallons of wastewater for recycled water use per day.

Three of the district's six wastewater reclamation plants deliver nonpotable water to 21 customers, mostly golf courses, for irrigation.

Colorado River water from the Coachella Canal supplements the recycled water supply at the wastewater reclamation plants as irrigation demands exceed the recycled water treatment capacity.

52 courses valleywide receive recycled water, Colorado River water, or a blend.

20,054 af — Amount of Colorado River water delivered for golf course irrigation in the east valley in 2014.

15,302 af — Amount of recycled and/or canal water delivered for golf course irrigation in the mid-valley in 2014.

Is recycled water regulated? Yes. The treatment, delivery and use of recycled water is strictly regulated by state agencies.

What are the benefits of recycled water? Using recycled water for irrigation reduces demand on our precious aquifer. In addition, the supply of wastewater isn't affected by drought.

af = acre-feet; 1 acre-foot equals 325,851 gallons;



Additional golf courses turn to recycled water for irrigation

Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) continues to work with golf courses across the Coachella Valley to expand the nonpotable water supply and relieve courses from relying on groundwater for irrigation.

Currently, 52 golf courses valleywide use recycled water, Colorado River water or a blend of the two sources, depending on their location.

By the end of 2015, the delivery system in the mid-valley is expected to be expanded to provide blended nonpotable water to Desert Falls Country Club, Avondale Country Club and two courses at Palm Valley Country Club. Colorado River water will be delivered off the Coachella Canal to La Quinta Country Club and two courses at La Quinta Resort. This will bring the total number of golf courses using nonpotable water in the valley to 59.

After the connections in 2015 are completed, the long-term plans call for 36 additional golf courses to switch from groundwater to the nonpotable supply.

Using nonpotable water for golf course irrigation benefits the entire Coachella Valley and the aquifer by leaving water in the ground for drinking water and other domestic water uses. This process is referred to as in-lieu recharge.

Expanding the nonpotable system is part of CVWD's Strategic Plan and a key component of the Coachella Valley Water Management Plan, which outlines a strategy for eliminating overdraft of the aquifer in 2021.

Other components of eliminating overdraft include conservation and groundwater replenishment with imported water. CVWD replenishes the aquifer at two facilities in the west valley and one in the east valley, making nonpotable in-lieu recharge efforts especially important in the mid-valley.

In 2014, nearly 35,000 acre-feet of nonpotable water was delivered to golf courses in lieu of groundwater.

In the area of conservation, CVWD representatives meet regularly with leaders from the local golf course industry through the Golf and Water Task Force.

That group has pledged to meet or exceed the Water Management Plan goal for golf courses to reduce water use by 10% by maximizing water conservation, education and outreach efforts.

CVWD launched its first turf rebate program for golf courses in 2015, thanks to a state grant. Eighteen courses will be removing more than 100 acres of grass, and CVWD is pursuing additional grant funding to expand the program.

HOAs, other large landscape customers embrace new look



A recently converted front landscape in Palm Valley HOA features beautiful flowering plants and trees.

The Coachella Valley's Homeowner Associations and managers of other large landscaped developments are embracing desert-friendly landscaping that conserves water and saves money over time. Many are using rebates from Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) to make the conversion more cost-effective.

An example is Palm Valley HOA, which over the past few years has converted medians, common areas, side patio areas and pool surroundings to desert-friendly landscaping. The result is a mix of decomposed granite, river rock and colorful flowering plants.

CVWD rebates helped defray the cost of the conversion, with the rebates ranging from about \$9,000 to more than \$73,000 per year for the project.

In partnering with the association's homeowners, Palm Valley has completed 450 unit areas along with walkways, driveways and golf course side patio areas. A total of 43 pools have been converted to desert-friendly landscaping with only 5 more to go, which are planned for completion this year.

The association also has retrofitted in-between driveways with drought

tolerant plants, replaced irrigation and added decomposed granite and river rock. This has eliminated water spray onto the driveways and cars and again reduced water consumption. This project began the last quarter of 2014 and was completed in March of 2015.

Another example is Monterey Country Club association, which has reduced water consumption by almost half in the past several years by converting turf areas to desert-friendly landscaping.

In 2014, the Monterey Country Club Association board of directors approved and spent more than \$150,000 for turf removal renovations. They received rebates from the Coachella Valley Water District totaling more than \$43,000. There is also an additional rebate of about \$12,000 remaining for additional turf removal areas completed in 2014.

The association also will receive rebates for the new irrigation controllers installed to date totaling more than \$82,000. The rebate on the controllers is anticipated to be approximately forty percent or about \$33,000 from local agencies.

Groundwater facts

Aquifer overdraft occurs when more water is used over a period of years than can be replaced by natural or artificial means.

311,485 af* — Amount of reported groundwater used in the Coachella Valley in 2014. All drinking water supplied by CVWD comes from the aquifer.

43,888 af — Amount of imported water replenished by CVWD and DWA in 2014

63,000 af — Average annual amount of water naturally replenished by rain and snow melt

3.26 million af — Water replenished by CVWD and DWA since 1973

39 million af — Estimated capacity of Coachella Valley's groundwater basin (first 1,000 feet)

3 — Number of groundwater replenishment facilities in the Coachella Valley.

**af = acre-feet; 1 acre-foot equals 325,851 gallons*

Conservation tips

◆ Check your toilet for leaks and fix them. A running toilet can waste more than 200 gallons of water per day

◆ Use a water-efficient showerhead. They can save you up to 750 gallons per month.

◆ Water your landscaping in the early morning or evening hours to minimize loss through evaporation, especially when temperatures are high.

For more detailed information:

To receive a summary of the district's source water assessments or additional water quality data or clarification, call the district's Water Quality Section at (760) 398-2651.

Complete copies of source water assessments may be viewed at the Coachella Valley Water District, 51-501 Tyler St., Coachella, CA 92236.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien. También puede llamar al distrito de agua al número de teléfono (760) 398-2651.

For answers to common drinking water questions

CVWD's brochure, *Tap Water You Can Trust*, answers common questions about tap water including fluoridation, water softening and more.

Order this free publication using the postcard inside this annual review or online at www.cvwd.org



2015 Domestic Water Quality Report

Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) is committed to delivering high quality drinking water that meets stringent government standards. This annual report documents that water served to all CVWD water users (obtained from wells drilled into the Coachella Valley's vast groundwater basin) meets State Water Resources Control Board Division of Drinking Water (DDW) and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) drinking water quality standards.

Highly trained CVWD employees monitor the water systems and collect drinking water samples that are tested at the district's state-certified laboratory. A few specialized tests are performed by other certified laboratories. In addition to the detected constituents listed in the table on pages 8-9, CVWD's Water Quality staff monitors for more than 100 other regulated and unregulated chemicals that are not detected during this monitoring.

CVWD is governed by a locally elected, five-member board of directors who normally meet in public session at 9 a.m., on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month. Meeting locations rotate between the district's Coachella office at 51-501 Tyler Street and the Steve Robbins Administration Building at 75-515 Hovley Lane East in Palm Desert. Call the district to confirm meeting time, date and location.

The following report is written and provided in accordance with DDW requirements:

While all of CVWD's domestic water supply meets state and federal standards, drinking water supplied to some service areas does contain low levels of naturally occurring arsenic. The arsenic standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. USEPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems. All drinking water delivered by CVWD last year, complied with the 10 microgram per liter (ug/L) maximum contaminant level (MCL).

Radon is a naturally occurring, radioactive gas — a byproduct of uranium — that originates underground but is found in the air. Radon moves from the ground into homes primarily through cracks and holes in their foundations. While most radon enters the home through soil, radon from tap water typically is less than two percent of the radon in indoor air.

The USEPA has determined that breathing radon gas increases an individual's chances of developing lung cancer, and has proposed an MCL of 300 picoCuries per liter (pCi/L) for radon in drinking water. This proposed standard is

far less than the 4,000 pCi/L in water that is equivalent to the radon level found in outdoor air. The radon level in CVWD wells ranges from none detected to 460 pCi/L, significantly lower than that found in the air you breathe.

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 45 milligrams per liter (mg/L) is a health risk for infants younger than six months old. High nitrate levels in drinking water can interfere with the capacity of the infant's blood to carry oxygen, resulting in serious illness; symptoms include shortness of breath and blueness of skin. Nitrate levels above 45 mg/L may also affect the ability of the blood to carry oxygen in other individuals, such as pregnant women and those with certain enzyme deficiencies. If you are caring for an infant, or you are pregnant, you should ask for advice from your health care provider.

Nitrate levels in CVWD wells range from no detection to 40 mg/L, which is below the maximum contaminant level.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing.

CVWD is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in

customer plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds before using water for drinking or cooking. You can capture this flushed water in a container and use it for watering plants. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

As noted, all drinking water served by CVWD comes from wells. DDW requires water agencies to state, however, “the sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.”

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, that can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides that may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, that are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants that can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, USEPA and DDW prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems.

USEPA and DDW regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health. “Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the USEPA’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or the National Safety Council Radon Hotline (1-800-767-7236).”

Drinking Water Source Water Assessments:

CVWD has conducted source water assessments that provide information about the vulnerability of district wells to contamination. In 2002, CVWD completed a comprehensive source water assessment that evaluated all groundwater wells supplying the district’s six public water systems. An assessment is performed on each new well added to CVWD’s system.

Groundwater from these CVWD wells are considered vulnerable to activities associated with urban and agricultural uses.

Urban land uses include the following activities: known contaminant plumes, dry cleaners, underground storage tanks, septic systems, automobile gas stations (including historic), automobile repair shops, historic waste dumps/landfills, illegal/unauthorized dumping, sewer collection systems and utility stations’ maintenance areas.

Agricultural land uses include the following activities: irrigation/agricultural wells, irrigated crops, pesticide/fertilizer/petroleum and transfer areas.

The following activities have been associated with detected contaminants: known contaminant plumes, dry cleaners and irrigated crops.

Drinking water supplied by CVWD’s wells to our communities complies with state and federal drinking water quality standards.

“Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

USEPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* (a microbial pathogen found in surface water throughout the United States) and other microbial contaminants are available from the **Safe Drinking Water Hotline**

1-800-426-4791
or **www.epa.gov/drink/**”

— DDW

Some tips for enjoying tap water

Some people think they don’t like the taste of tap water. For most people, tap water tastes best when it is cold. Fill a pitcher or any covered container with tap water and place it in the refrigerator. That way you will have a ready supply of cold drinking water.

A slight smell or taste of chlorine is normal. An easy way to reduce the chlorine smell is to let water sit in a glass for a few minutes. Then put it in a covered container and let it chill in the refrigerator.

Definitions & Abbreviations

AL or Regulatory Action Level — The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

MCL or Maximum Contaminant Level — The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCLs are set as close to public health goals or maximum contaminant level goals as economically and technologically feasible. Secondary MCLs are set to protect the odor, taste and appearance of drinking water.

MCLG or Maximum Contaminant Level Goal — Level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

mg/L — Milligrams per liter (parts per million). One mg/L is equivalent to 1 second in 11.6 days.

MRDL or Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level — The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

MRDLG or Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal — The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

N/A — Not applicable. The government has not set a Public Health Goal, Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or Maximum Contaminant Level for this substance.

ND — None detected

ng/L — Nanograms per liter (parts per trillion). One ng/L is equivalent to 1 second in 31,700 years.

NL or Notification Level — Health based advisory level established by the DDW for chemicals in drinking water that lack maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) as stated by DDW.

NTU — Nephelometric turbidity units (measurement of suspended material)

pCi/L — picoCuries per liter. For uranium, one pCi/L is equivalent to one second in 21.1 years.

PDWS or Primary Drinking Water Standard — MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirement.

PHG or Public Health Goal — Level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. Public Health Goals are set by the California Environmental Protection Agency.

Secondary Drinking Water Standard — Based on aesthetics, these secondary maximum contaminant levels have monitoring and reporting requirements specified in regulations.

ug/L — Micrograms per liter (parts per billion). One ug/L is equivalent to 1 second in 31.7 years.

uS/cm — Microsiemens per centimeter

CVWD 2015 Domestic Water Quality Summary

(Covering the reporting period January - December 2014)

CVWD analyzed more than 18,000 water samples last year to ensure that your drinking water meets federal and state standards. Every year, CVWD is required to analyze a select number of these samples for more than 100 regulated and unregulated substances.

This table lists those substances that were detected in CVWD's three service areas. Gray boxes indicate no substance was detected or existing data is no longer reportable. The data on the chart, which summarizes results of the most recent monitoring completed between 2006 and 2014, shows that CVWD continues to deliver

drinking water that meets state and federal water quality standards.

To read this table: First, determine in which service area you live (columns 4-6). Then move down the column, comparing the detection level of each chemical or other contaminant with the Public Health Goal, Maximum Contaminant Level Goal and Maximum Contaminant Level (columns 2-3).

For example, if you live in La Quinta and want to know the level of fluoride detected in your service area, you would look down the Cove Communities column and stop at the fluoride row. The average fluoride level in that

service area is 0.6 mg/L with the range of results varying between 0.1 mg/L and 1.0 mg/L.

Compare these values to the Maximum Contaminant Level in Column 3. Fluoride levels in this water comply with the Maximum Contaminant Level of 2.0 mg/L. The range can show a level above the Maximum Contaminant Level and still comply with the drinking water standard when compliance is based on average levels found in each water source.

Detected parameter, units	PHG or (MCLG)	MCL ⁽¹⁾	Cove Communities ⁽²⁾ Range (Average)	Indio Hills, Sky Valley & areas adjacent to Desert Hot Springs (ID 8) Range (Average)	Desert Shores, Salton Sea Beach & Salton City (ID 11) Range (Average)	MCL Violation (Yes/No)	Major source(s)
Arsenic, ug/L	0.004	10	ND-17 ⁽³⁾ (ND)			NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Chloride, mg/L	N/A ⁽⁴⁾		7.2-110 (19)	10-26 (16)	250-460 (330)	NO	Leaching from natural deposits
Chlorine (as Cl ₂), mg/L ⁽⁵⁾	MRDLG 4	MRDL 4.0	ND-3.5 (0.3)	0.2-0.7 (0.4)	ND-1.3 (0.4)	NO	Result of drinking water chlorination
Chromium, ug/L	(100)	50	ND-25 (ND)	15-25 (19)		NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Chromium-6, ug/L	0.02	10 ⁽⁷⁾	ND-21 ⁽¹²⁾ (8.7)	9.1-23 ⁽¹²⁾ (16)		NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Copper, mg/L ⁽⁸⁾ [homes tested/ sites exceeding AL]	0.3	AL=1.3	0.11 [51/0]	0.14 [22/0]	0.18 [21/0]	NO	Internal corrosion of household plumbing
Copper, mg/L	N/A	1.0 ⁽¹⁾	ND-0.4 (ND)			NO	Leaching from natural deposits
Dibromochloropropane (DBCP), ng/L	1.7	200	ND-67(ND)			NO	Leaching of banned nematocide which may still be in soils
Fluoride, mg/L	1	2.0	0.1-1.0 (0.6)	0.5-0.7 (0.6)	0.6-1.6 (1.3)	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross alpha particle activity, pCi/L	(Zero)	15	ND-11 (ND)	ND-7.3(5.1)	ND-4.6 (ND)	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Haloacetic Acids, ug/L ⁽⁵⁾	N/A	60	(ND-5.1) 2.6	ND-2.0 (2.0) ⁽¹¹⁾		NO	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Hardness (as CaCO ₃), mg/L	N/A		11-300 (110)	66-210 (140)	210-400 (290)	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Iron, ug/L	None	300 ⁽¹⁾	ND-230 (ND)			NO	Leaching from natural deposits
Nitrate (as NO ₃), mg/L	45	45	ND-40 (6.3)	ND-9.6 (3.4)	5.6-13 (9.9)	NO	Leaching of fertilizer, animal wastes or natural deposits
Odor as threshold, units	None	3 ⁽¹⁾	ND-1.0 (ND)			NO	Naturally occurring organic materials
pH, units	N/A		7.2-8.4 (8.1)	8.0-8.2 (8.2)	7.3-8.0 (7.7)	NO	Physical characteristic
Sodium, mg/L	N/A		17-120 (30)	58-89 (74)	220-290 (250)	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Specific conductance, uS/cm	N/A ⁽⁴⁾		230-1,100 (390)	530-830 (640)	1,500-2,500 (1,900)	NO	Substances that form ions when in water
Sulfate, mg/L	N/A ⁽⁴⁾		ND-270 (47)	150-240 (180)	220-330 (290)	NO	Leaching from natural deposits
Tetrachloroethylene (PCE),ug/L	0.06	5	ND-0.5(ND)			NO	Discharge from dry cleaners and auto shops
Total Coliform bacteria, positive samples/month	(0)	more than 5% ⁽⁹⁾ or more than 1 ⁽¹⁰⁾	ND-1% (ND)			NO	Naturally present in the environment
Total dissolved solids, mg/L	N/A ⁽⁴⁾		130-680 (240)	330-540 (410)	920-1,500 (1,100)	NO	Leaching from natural deposits
Total trihalomethanes, ug/L ⁽⁵⁾	N/A	80	ND-14 (12)	4.0-12 (12) ⁽¹¹⁾	5.6-8.5 (8.5) ⁽¹¹⁾	NO	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Turbidity, NTU	N/A	5 ⁽¹⁾	ND-0.8 (ND)	ND-0.3 (ND)		NO	Leaching from natural deposits
Uranium, pCi/L	0.43	20	ND-15 (4.3)	1.9-4.1 (3.3)	2.4-2.9 (2.6)	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Vanadium, ug/L ⁽⁶⁾	N/A	NL=50	ND-32 (16)	10-28 (19)	24	NO	Erosion of natural deposits

Notes: (1) Values with this footnote have fixed Secondary MCLs, remaining values are Primary MCLs unless identified otherwise.

(2) Includes the communities of Rancho Mirage, Thousand Palms, Palm Desert, Indian Wells, La Quinta, Mecca, Bombay Beach, North Shore, Hot Mineral Spa, and portions of Bermuda Dunes, Cathedral City, Indio, Oasis, Riverside County, Thermal and Valerie Jean.

(3) Although an individual sample may exceed the MCL, compliance is based on a running annual average.

(4) This constituent is monitored for aesthetics such as taste and odor. No fixed consumer acceptance contaminant level has been established for this constituent.

(5) The reported average represents the highest running annual average based on distribution system monitoring.

(6) Unregulated contaminants are those for which USEPA and DDW have not established drinking water standards.

The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist both regulatory agencies in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted.

(7) California's Chromium-6 drinking water MCL became effective on July 1, 2014; regulatory monitoring shall begin no later than January 1, 2015.

(8) The reported values are 90th percentile levels for samples collected from faucets in water user homes.

(9) Systems that collect 40 or more samples per month (Cove Communities)

(10) Systems that collect less than 40 samples per month. (ID 8, ID 11)

(11) Annual monitoring results.

(12) Results provided include voluntary monitoring performed prior to the effective date of the Chromium-6 (Cr6) MCL; initial regulatory monitoring for Cr6 will be completed in 2015.

Gray boxes in table indicates all results were ND or no reportable data

Tribal lawsuit against districts headed to trial

A federal judge ruled in March that a lawsuit by the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians against the Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) and Desert Water Agency (DWA) will go to trial to determine if the Tribe has a reserved right to groundwater.

The court ruled that the Tribe does not have an aboriginal right to the groundwater in the Coachella Valley, but left for a trial to determine whether the Tribe has reserved rights, in the valley's groundwater basin, and how that right may be quantified.

CVWD and DWA filed a petition to appeal the finding that the Tribe may have a federal reserved right to the groundwater. The appellate court has agreed to review that issue,

The district has argued that the water beneath the Coachella Valley belongs to everyone, not just special interests.

As the largest water agency in the Coachella Valley, nearly 100 wells, 60 reservoirs and almost 2,000 miles of pipeline are needed to deliver in excess of 100,000 acre-feet of domestic water to a population of more than 300,000 residents and several thousand commercial customers. CVWD and DWA cooperate in the operation of three groundwater replenishment facilities, and utilize imported Colorado River water to reduce overdraft of the aquifer.

CVWD has not allowed the litigation to interfere with its role as manager of the region's groundwater, and there have not been and will not be any interruptions in the delivery of water and related services to its customers.

Additional information about is available at <http://www.cvwd.org/news/lawsuit.php>.

Domestic water pipeline and sewer projects in rural areas remain priority



Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) continues to make a priority of expanding and improving domestic water and sewer infrastructure to provide service to rural areas of the Coachella Valley.

The district works with federal, state and county partners to extend these services. In recent years, these projects have assisted in the expansion of facilities in unincorporated areas of the county.

One recent project involved replacing aging infrastructure in Sky Valley, including an 18" pipeline and reservoirs in an unincorporated area of the county. The size of the new reservoirs and additional infrastructure will be increased to provide much needed additional storage to help meet the peak demands and fire flow for the Sky Valley Pressure Zone in the Indio Hills area.

CVWD also this year received two United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development grants for \$4.8 million and \$2.1 million to extend water and sewer services for the San Cristobal/Los Vinedos Farm Labor Housing project and the San Antonio Del Desierto (St. Anthony's) mobile home park in Mecca.

Another important project was the sewer rehab project in Palm Desert, which was completed on schedule. CVWD hired

CDM Smith to replace the sewer line after extensive deterioration was discovered in August. Some 1,400 feet of sewer pipe underneath Cook Street was replaced and approximately 3 miles of sewer pipe was refurbished on Cook Street, 42nd Avenue, Corporate Way, Hovley Lane East, Portola, Hovley Lane West and Monterey Avenue.

CVWD currently is applying for state revolving loan money for three key projects: the East Valley Water Supply project, the Highway 86 Transmission Main and Pump Station Project and the Chromium-6 Treatment Project.

The East Valley Water Supply Project will provide additional safe, reliable water supplies and storage to areas with deficient private water systems and marginal domestic water infrastructure in the eastern Coachella Valley.

The Highway 86 Water Transmission Main and Pump Station Project will provide additional water supply and improved water quality to the service area that includes communities along the west shore of the Salton Sea.

The Chromium-6 Treatment Project will include design and construction of ion exchange treatment facilities to treat wells with chromium-6 levels above the new state standard. (See additional information on chromium-6, page 13).

Completion of headworks projects aides wastewater efficiency

Work has been completed on new headworks at two of the district's wastewater reclamation plants. Here, a tour examines the massive scale of one of the headworks.



Headworks improvements projects at two wastewater reclamation plants at the Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) are improving the efficiency of wastewater treatment.

The purpose of the headworks facility is to remove inorganic material including grit from the incoming wastewater.

W. M. Lyles Co. constructed both projects, in Thermal and North Indio. Each facility is virtually identical in terms of materials and equipment.

Each new headworks is removing 15 tons of debris per month. This is material that was going into the plant that was affecting process efficiency as well as frequency of equipment maintenance and number of unplanned process shutdowns.

The completion of the two headworks projects was celebrated this year with a tour of both facilities for members of the Desert Valley Builders Association and the American Public Works Association.

Keep medications out of the water system

Everything CVWD customers flush down their toilets and rinse down drains travels to a wastewater reclamation plant and, in some cases, is treated and sent to golf courses for irrigation use. Not all compounds and drugs are removed with this treatment process and trace amounts can still be detected.

While there is no evidence that trace amounts from medications pose a risk to human health, it's prudent to control what we put into the wastewater system. Limiting what you put down the drain is the easiest way to start!

What you can do to help

Throw medicines in the trash after grinding them up and mixing with an undesirable substance, such as coffee grounds or kitty litter, so they are unrecognizable to children or anyone intentionally searching your trash.

Keep fats, oils and grease out of your pipes

Improperly disposed fats, oils and grease are a common cause of sewer overflows and backups both in the home and throughout the sewer system.

Additionally, they cause expensive damage to CVWD's wastewater reclamation facilities.

What you can do to help

Never put grease down sink drains or garbage disposals.

Scrape hardened grease into the trash can for proper disposal.

Paying your bill

Pay online with a credit card

Customers can now view bills and pay them online using a credit card. Visit the Manage My Account section of the website at www.cvwd.org/service/payment.php.

Automatic electronic payment

The district also offers the convenience of having your monthly payment automatically deducted from your checking account. Simply complete an Automatic Payment Service Form, available at either office or on our website at www.cvwd.org/service/payment.php.

Electronic notification when bill is due

Save paper by enrolling in our electronic notification program and be notified by e-mail when your new bill is available to view online.

Pay by phone

Using what is known as an interactive voice response (IVR) system, you can make a payment and review account information over the phone. You will need your 12-digit account number, located in the upper right-hand corner of your paper billing statement. Call (760) 391-9600

Pay by mail

Mailed payments should be sent to P.O. Box 5000, Coachella, CA 92236.

Pay in person

Drop boxes are available at offices in Palm Desert (75-525 Hovley Lane East) and Coachella (51-501 Tyler Street). The Palm Desert drop box is open 24 hours a day.

Rate Summary

As of July 1, 2014⁽¹⁾

Domestic Water Base Rate		
Area of service	Monthly charge per 100 cubic feet	Monthly charge 3/4" meter
Rate Area 1 — Majority of the district, except areas noted below	\$1.12	\$7.00
Rate Area 2 — Includes Sky Valley & Indio Hills	\$1.35	\$7.50
Rate Area 3 — Includes east Salton Sea areas of North Shore and Bombay Beach	\$1.64	\$7.50
Rate Area 4 — Includes Salton City, Desert Beach and Desert Shores	\$1.42	\$7.50
Rate Area 5 — Areas outside boundaries of the district, but served by the improvement district	\$1.69	\$17.50
Tiers		
Tier 1: Excellent	90% Base Rate	Customers pay the tier rate for all water used within that tier.
Tier 2: Efficient	Base Rate	
Tier 3: Inefficient	Base Rate x 1.5	
Tier 4: Wasteful	Base Rate x 2	
Tier 5: Excessive	Base Rate x 4	

Drought penalties & your water bill

On May 12, 2015, CVWD Board of Directors approved a drought penalty for all domestic water customers who are not doing their part to help CVWD save 36% by reducing their water use. Starting in June (reflected in your July bill) those who do not meet the conservation target will be penalized.

In order to meet state conservation goals, CVWD is asking all customers to limit Tier 2 water use. Your Water Budget can be found on your monthly bill.

TIER 1	TIER 2
There are no penalties for customers who remain in Tier 1, which was designed to cover all indoor water use. \$1.01 per ccf*	Customers are being asked to limit their Tier 2 water use to 36% below their water budget. Customers who achieve 36% savings (stay within the first 64%) will not incur a penalty.
	Tier 2 water use up to 64% \$1.12 per ccf* Tier 2 water use above 64% \$1.12 + \$2.51* penalty per ccf

Customers using water in Tiers 3,4 and 5 will pay the standard rate for water used in each tier plus a penalty.

TIER 3	TIER 4	TIER 5
Inefficient: \$1.68 + \$3.34 penalty per ccf* 105% - 150% of water budget	Excessive: \$2.24 + \$5.01 penalty per ccf* 151% - 250% of water budget	Wasteful: \$4.48 + \$10.03 penalty per ccf* 250% or more of water budget

	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4	Tier 5
		Up to 64%	Above 64%			
Standard Rate (per ccf)*	\$1.01	\$1.12	\$1.12	\$1.68	\$2.24	\$4.48
Drought Penalty (per ccf)			+\$2.51	+\$3.34	+\$5.01	+\$10.03

⁽¹⁾ This table represents water rates for the 2014-15 fiscal year. At the time this publication was printed, the water district's Board of Directors had not yet approved the 2015-16 budget.

For confirmation of current rates, call CVWD at (760) 398-2651 or visit www.cvwd.org/service/rates.php.

* Drought penalties are for Area 1. See www.cvwd.org for all areas.

ccf = 1 billing unit, 100 cubic feet or 748 gallons

District moves forward on compliance plan for chromium-6



The Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) is committed to meeting all water quality regulations and communicating openly and transparently with customers and community partners. The new chromium-6 standard, first announced in April of 2014, makes California the first state to develop a regulation specifically for chromium-6.

Chromium-6 is found in Coachella Valley groundwater as a naturally-occurring mineral and is being regulated for potential health impacts resulting from many years of consumption at high levels. There is no immediate health risk. Tap water can still be used for drinking, cooking, and all other needs.

CVWD has been monitoring for chromium-6 since 2001 and monitors drinking water thousands of times each year. The district began official quarterly monitoring in 2015 to determine compliance with the new drinking water standard. Past monitoring shows chromium-6 levels in wells serving this water system range from less than 1 to 22 parts per billion (ppb) and about

30 percent of these wells are expected to have levels above California's new standard of 10 ppb.

CVWD has done extensive pilot studies and operates facilities that have demonstrated success removing chromium-6. As a result of the new standard, CVWD will likely need to treat about 30 percent of its wells. The district is currently designing treatment facilities as part of its compliance plan. Construction of these facilities will most likely be completed within 5 years. You will be updated of the progress being made along the way.

There will be significant construction throughout the district service area. As a direct result of the compliance costs, CVWD customers could see monthly bills increase by approximately \$30 – \$50 in coming years. Rates will likely be increased gradually over time. Customers will have an opportunity to weigh in before the Board of Directors considers any rate increases. The district is soliciting grants and looking for solutions to keep costs as low as possible.

CVWD recognized for certification program

Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) and its Engineering Department this year received a prestigious award from the San Diego chapter of the national Construction Management Association of America (CMAA) in connection with CVWD's work to provide training and certification to its engineers administering construction projects.

To become a certified construction manager, an engineer must complete 24 hours of training and pass a four-hour exam. In the first phase of the certification program, 11 CVWD engineers were certified. The program requires continuing education to maintain the certification.

Budget presentation praised

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United State and Canada (GFOA) awarded CVWD its Distinguished Budget Presentation award for the district's 2014-15 fiscal year budget.

This is the third year in a row that CVWD has received the Distinguished Budget Presentation award. In order to qualify, CVWD had to satisfy nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation. These guidelines are designed to assess how well an entity's budget serves as a policy document, financial plan, operations guide and communication device.

The document can be viewed online at www.cvwd.org



California agriculture

In 2013, the most recent year for which a full crop year report is available, California's 77,900 farms and ranches received \$46.4 billion for their output.

California's agricultural abundance includes more than 400 commodities. The state produces nearly half of US-grown fruits, nuts and vegetables. Across the nation, US consumers regularly purchase several crops produced solely in California.

California's top-ten valued commodities for 2013 are:

Milk — \$7.6 billion

Almonds — \$5.8 billion

Grapes — \$5.6 billion

Cattle, Calves — \$3.05 billion

Strawberries — \$2.2 billion

Walnuts — \$1.8 billion

Lettuce — \$1.7 billion

Hay — \$1.6 billion

Tomatoes — \$1.2 billion

Nursery plants— \$1.2 billion

Source: California Department of Food & Agriculture



Crop Report

(Covering the reporting period January - December 2014)

Crop production on Coachella Valley land irrigated with Colorado River water

Value of year's production: \$730,487,227

Total acreage irrigated (includes double cropping & planted but non-bearing: 66,431)

Average gross value per acre: \$11,705

Crop	Acreage	Yield in tons	Value per acre	Total value
Fruit	24,367	214,602	\$13,539	\$329,914,208
Dates	7,765	18,092	\$4,660	\$36,184,900
Figs	158	1,327	\$7,700	\$1,216,600
Grapes - (table)	7,802	61,967	\$16,900	\$131,852,825
Grapefruit	807	12,265	\$9,593	\$7,741,244
Lemons & Limes	3,887	59,821	\$24,138	\$93,824,406
Mangos	117	1,207	\$18,567	\$2,172,339
Olives	86	650	\$9,723	\$836,190
Oranges & Tangerines	2,241	15,754	\$7,232	\$16,205,904
Peaches	119	589	\$17,100	\$2,034,900
Strawberries	614	13,631	\$42,550	\$26,125,700
Watermelon	771	29,298	\$15,200	\$11,719,200
Vegetables	26,510	659,768	\$9,906	\$262,617,860
Artichoke	638	5,136	\$11,550	\$7,368,900
Basil	235	4,771	\$6,090	\$1,431,150
Green Bean	1,170	7,371	\$9,900	\$11,583,000
Bok Choy	244	3,221	\$9,200	\$2,244,800
Broccoli	942	6,500	\$5,700	\$5,369,400
Cabbage	30	225	\$5,550	\$166,500
Carrots	3,930	125,760	\$5,536	\$21,756,480
Cauliflower	1,008	8,114	\$8,050	\$8,114,400
Celery	748	23,562	\$11,813	\$8,835,750
Sweet Corn	1,259	11,331	\$4,800	\$6,043,200
Eggplant	246	4,305	\$21,875	\$5,381,250
Kale	58	1,520	\$8,892	\$515,736
Lettuce	3,234	51,841	\$8,665	\$28,023,774
Okra	1,117	4,636	\$4,150	\$4,635,550
Onion - Dry	115	4,456	\$16,275	\$1,871,625
Onion - Green	205	7,893	\$6,600	\$1,353,000
Oriental Vegetables	2,112	23,654	\$9,200	\$19,430,400
Peppers (bell & chili)	4,661	94,386	\$19,575	\$91,239,075
Potatoes	1,636	39,264	\$7,200	\$11,779,200
Radish	344	6,773	\$7,031	\$2,418,750
Spice	1,168	23,710	\$6,090	\$7,113,120
Spinach	853	14,714	\$11,500	\$9,809,500
Squash	303	181,800	\$7,500	\$2,272,500
Tomatoes	254	4,826	\$15,200	\$3,860,800
Forage	2,199	5,408	\$717	\$1,575,880
Alfalfa hay	607	4,856	\$2,080	\$1,262,560
Irrigated pasture ⁽¹⁾	1,500	--	\$150	\$225,000
Sudan grass	92	552	\$960	\$88,320
Nursery	1,516	--	\$21,045	\$31,903,462
Duck Ponds	762	2	\$48	\$36,881
Fish Farms	165	1,056	\$29,708	\$4,901,825
Golf Courses	6,007	630,735	\$13,339	\$80,128,574
Polo Fields	473	49,665	\$13,339	\$6,309,442
Turf Grass	982	103,110	\$13,339	\$13,099,094

All financial figures are rounded off to the nearest dollar. Crop categories are as established by the Bureau of Reclamation.

⁽¹⁾Yield is in animal units per month (AUM)

Stormwater improvements continue to protect Coachella Valley

The Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) is responsible for regional flood protection for the Coachella Valley within its boundary.

CVWD has existing regional stormwater facilities that provide flood protection to developed portions of the Coachella Valley with dense population. Local drainage is the responsibility of the cities and county and flows may be routed into CVWD's regional facilities.

Over the past several years, CVWD has been preparing several stormwater master plans to address the remaining portions of the Coachella Valley. These plans will require extensive capital to construct the improvements and will be built and funded over time as development occurs.

Thousand Palms Flood Control Project — This project will protect more than 2,800 acres of land while providing long-term sand supply for an endangered fringe-toed lizard. The design and environmental documentation is more than 80% complete and the hydraulic studies have been submitted to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for review and approval.

North Indio Regional Flood Control Channel and the East Side Dike — This project will collect flood flows from the outlets of the Sun City Palm Desert stormwater channels and convey them to the Sun City Shadow Hills channels and ultimately to the Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel. The project is currently at the 90% design phase.

Oasis Area Stormwater Master Plan — CVWD has completed the master plan for the Oasis area which will provide protection from alluvial fan and valley floor drainage flooding sources. The document will help to strategically guide future CVWD and developer improvements in the area.

Mecca/North Shore Area Stormwater Master Plan — CVWD has completed the master plan for Mecca/North Shore area which will provide flood protection from various flooding sources. The document recommends new facilities and upgrades to existing stormwater facilities to convey regional flows and drainage below the East Side Dike to the Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel or the Salton Sea.



Did you know?

For much of its history, protection of life and property through regional stormwater facilities has been an important part of the Coachella Valley Water District.

A stormwater district predated CVWD by about five years but was assimilated by the water district in the mid-1930s.

CVWD's regional stormwater system is composed of 134 miles of flood protection facilities throughout the Coachella Valley.

The backbone of CVWD's flood protection is the 49-mile stormwater channel that conveys rain and snow melt from Whitewater to the Salton Sea. This channel, often referred to as "the wash," is actually the Whitewater River's riverbed. It isn't often thought of as a riverbed, because it's dry most days of the year.

This channel is named the Whitewater River Stormwater Channel to the west of Washington Street and the Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel to the east.

Occasionally, golf courses or roads, may be built within storm protection facilities. However, developers and cities do so knowing that they are building in a river bed and that the facility's main purpose is to protect life and property from flood flows.

Responding to a boil order notice:

Bottled water

In the unlikely event that CVWD's water system is compromised, you could be advised to not use tap water. Your first choice for replacing tap water for drinking and cooking should be bottled water. Everyone should include in their emergency supply kit a 7-day supply of bottled water (at least 1 gallon of water per person per day, plus extra water for pets). You can purchase commercially bottled water or store your own.

Boiled water

If you don't have bottled water, you should use boiled tap water. Boiling water will kill most types of disease-causing organisms. If the water is unusually cloudy, murky or colored, filter it first through a clean cloth or allow it to settle and draw off the clear water for boiling. Then, bring to a rolling boil and leave for one minute.

Bleached water

If you are unable to boil water, your next best choice is to disinfect it with household bleach. Bleach will kill some (but not all) types of disease-causing organisms.

If the water is unusually cloudy, murky or colored, filter it first through a clean cloth or allow it to settle and draw off the clear water for disinfection.

Then, add 1/8 teaspoon (or 8 drops) of regular, unscented liquid household bleach for each gallon of water, stir well and let it stand for 30 minutes before using. Store disinfected water in clean containers with covers.

Never use scented, powdered or swimming pool bleach. These products may contain dangerous amounts of chemicals not intended for consumption. A faint chlorine smell is normal.

Emergency Preparedness & Drinking Water

How do I know if my tap water can be used for drinking and cooking?

In the event of a disaster, CVWD may issue a boil water notice as a precautionary measure if water quality is in doubt. CVWD will inspect and test the water system. If the test results are unacceptable, a boil water notice will be issued and remain in place until the problem is located and solved, and the water system tests are acceptable. Notification will be made through the media or direct contact and door hangers. CVWD's web site (www.cvwd.org) and posted fliers in public spaces may also be used.

Is boiled tap water always safe to use?

It is possible that following a natural disaster, you will be notified that the tap water will need to be boiled before use for drinking and cooking. However, it is possible for tap water to be contaminated with a chemical that is not safe to consume even after boiling and may even be a risk during bathing. In this unlikely event, you will receive specific notification to not use the tap water for any purpose.

Your first choice for replacing tap water for drinking and cooking should be bottled water. Everyone should include in their emergency supply kit a 7-day supply of bottled water (at least 1 gallon of water per person per day, plus extra water for pets). Your next best choice is to disinfect the tap water with household bleach.

Can I use the water inside my water heater?

While bottled water is preferred, the water in your water heater can be used for drinking and cooking, provided that the water heater remains upright and you turn off the main water valve to your home immediately after the disaster occurs. To access this water, turn off the heating element and open the drain faucet at the bottom of the water heater. To start the water flowing, close the water intake valve at the top of the tank and open a hot water faucet in the home.

When CVWD announces that you can resume normal use of your tap water, don't forget to refill the water heater before turning on the heating element.

Turn off sprinklers

A disaster may result in reduced water pressure and limited water supply, caused by leaks in the distribution system or by wells temporarily out of service. If this happens, it will be important to restrict water use to drinking, cooking and other emergency purposes, such as fire suppression.

Please turn off your irrigation sprinklers so you aren't wasting what may be a limited supply on non-essential uses.



CVWD's brochure, *Emergency Preparedness & Drinking Water*, is an excellent reference for preparing and responding to an emergency. It is printed in both English and Spanish.

A free copy can be printed from the website at www.cvwd.org/news/publications.php. You also can order a copy by using the postcard inside this *Annual Review*.

In the event of a natural disaster, such as an earthquake or severe flooding, Coachella Valley Water District's water delivery system could be compromised and you could be advised to not use tap water for any purpose or to boil the water before using it for drinking and cooking. Store this brochure with your emergency preparedness supplies to help guide you during such an event.

By the Numbers

(covering the reporting period January - December 2014)

Coachella Valley Water District is a local government agency formed in 1918 by the registered voters within the district.

Governing board: Five directors, representing five divisions and elected to four-year terms.

Fields of service: Domestic water supply, treatment and distribution; wastewater collection and treatment; recycled water distribution; regional stormwater/flood protection; irrigation water importation and distribution; irrigation drainage collection; groundwater management and promotion of water conservation.

Property valuation: Property within CVWD boundaries had a total combined assessed value in 2014 of \$53,353,605,210 as fixed by Riverside and Imperial County assessors and state officials. This figure is used to determine property tax funding for the district.

General Information

Employees	503
Total service area	639,857 acres

Domestic Water

Service information

Population served	318,217
Active accounts	108,599
Average daily demand	90.4 mgd
Total water delivered	101,302 af

System information

Active wells	96
Total well capacity	240 mgd
Distribution reservoirs	61
Storage capacity	135 mg
Distribution piping system	1,996 miles

Canal Water

Service information

Irrigable acres for service	76,354
Active accounts	1,224
Total water delivered	334,638 af
Average daily demand	917 af
Maximum daily demand	1,461 af

System information

Reservoirs	2
Storage capacity	1,301 af
Distribution system	485 miles
Pumping plants	16
Length of canal	123 miles

Agricultural Drainage

Total on-farm drains	2,298 miles
Acreage with farm drains	37,425
District open drains	21 miles
District pipe drains	166 miles

Wastewater

Service information

Population served	272,357
Active accounts	93,797
Average daily flow	17.21 mgd

System information

Wastewater reclamation plants	6
Total daily plant capacity	33.5 mgd
Collection piping system	1,129 miles

Non-potable Water*

Service information

Active accounts	46
Non-potable water deliveries	35,356 af

Wastewater System information

Wastewater reclamation plants producing recycled water	3
Total daily capacity	18 mgd
Distribution piping system	29.5 miles

Groundwater Management

(In cooperation with Desert Water Agency)

Replenishment facilities	3
Replenishment from imported water	43,912 af
Imported supply since 1973	3,271,210 af

Stormwater Protection

Service area	381,479 acres
--------------	---------------

System information

Number of stormwater channels	16
Length of Whitewater River/ Coachella Stormwater Channel	49 miles
Length of all regional flood protection facilities	134 miles

* Includes Colorado River water and/or recycled wastewater.

af = acre-feet. An acre-foot of water is equal to 325,851 gallons, or enough water to cover one acre of land one foot deep.

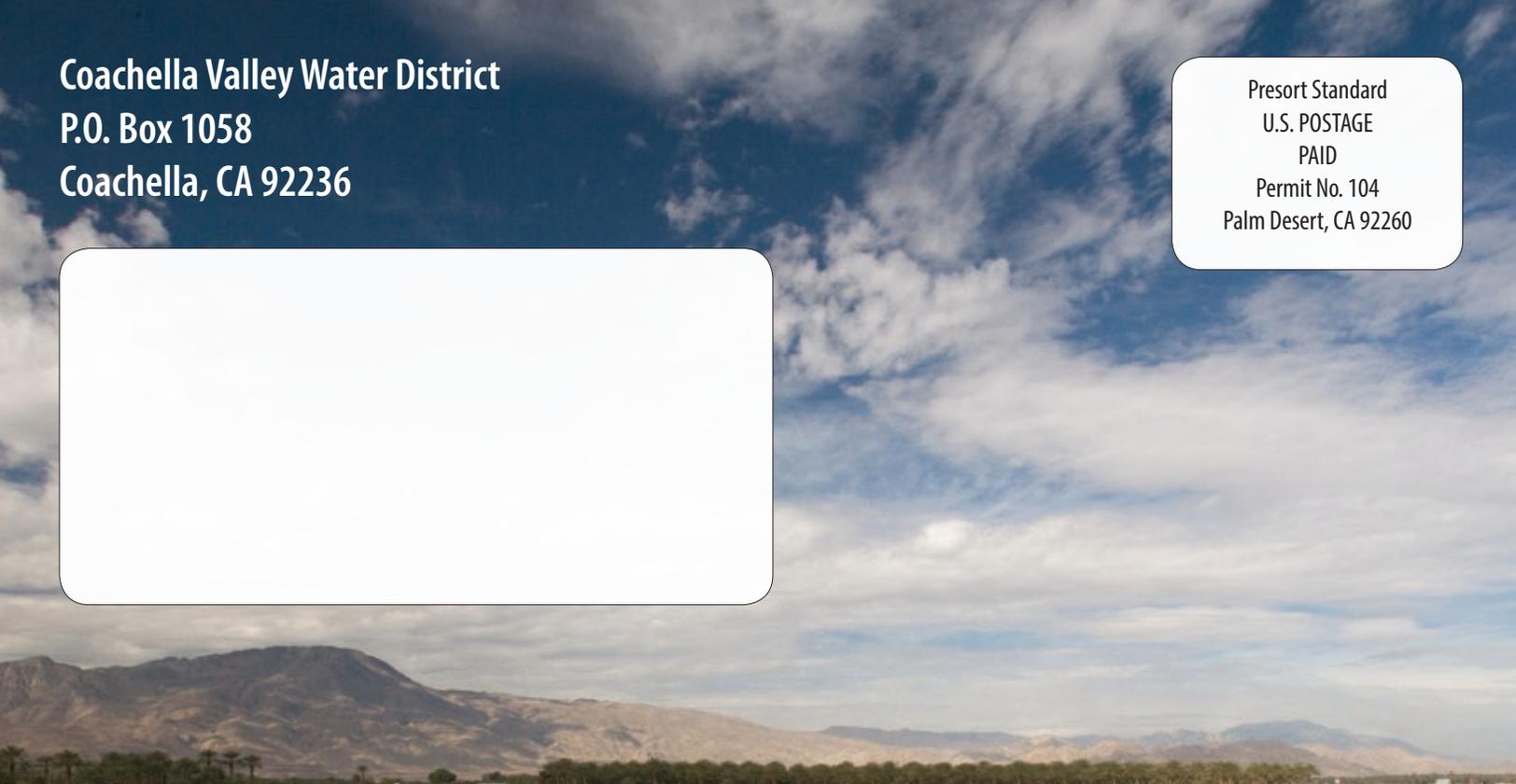
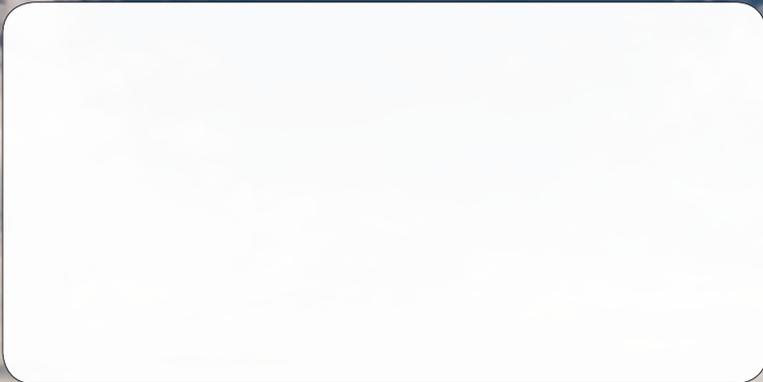
mgd = million gallons per day.

mg = million gallons.



Coachella Valley Water District
P.O. Box 1058
Coachella, CA 92236

Presort Standard
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 104
Palm Desert, CA 92260



Irrigation Guide

If you don't have a self-adjusting irrigation timer, use this guide to determine the approximate amount of water your turf grass needs each month. Gradually reduce the amount of water to find an adequate amount for your situation without being wasteful.

This guide has been adjusted for California's current drought conditions:

January

3 min/day spray heads & 7 min/day rotary

February

5 min/day spray heads & 13 min/day rotary

March

7 min/day spray heads & 18 min/day rotary

April

10 min/day spray heads & 22 min/day rotary

May

12 min/day spray heads & 27 min/day rotary

June

14 min/day spray heads & 30 min/day rotary

July

13 min/day spray heads & 30 min/day rotary

August

12 min/day spray heads & 27 min/day rotary

September

10 min/day spray heads & 22 min/day rotary

October

7 min/day spray heads & 14 min/day rotary

November

4 min/day spray heads & 10 min/day rotary

December

3 min/day spray heads & 6 min/day rotary

Drought penalties and water-use restrictions are now in effect. Please see page 2 and page 12 of this publication for additional information.