

# COACHELLA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT ANNUAL REVIEW 2021-22



Water Quality Report provides details about CVWD's drinking water

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CVWD's seven areas of service

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Your water is our promise.

    | [CVWD.org](http://CVWD.org)



**ESTABLISHED IN 1918**, Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) 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 8 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 District or view the meeting agenda on the website at [CVWD.org/BoardAgendas](http://CVWD.org/BoardAgendas).

**THE WATER QUALITY REPORT** on pages 2 – 5 is mailed to all bill payers who request it (payers within the District's domestic water boundary who request it in accordance with state law). The Annual Review is produced by CVWD's Communications staff.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
 John Powell Jr.  
 Board President | Division Three  
 Cástulo R. Estrada  
 Board Vice President | Division Five  
 John Aguilar | Division One  
 Anthony Bianco | Division Two  
 Peter Nelson | Division Four

**SENIOR ADMINISTRATION**  
 Jim Barrett  
 General Manager  
 Robert Cheng  
 Assistant General Manager  
 Dan Charlton  
 Assistant General Manager  
 Sylvia Bermudez  
 Clerk of the Board

**DEPARTMENT HEADS**  
 Steve Bigley  
 Director of Environmental Services  
 Scott Burritt  
 Director of Service & Communication  
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 Geoffrey Kiehl  
 Director of Finance  
 Luis Maciel  
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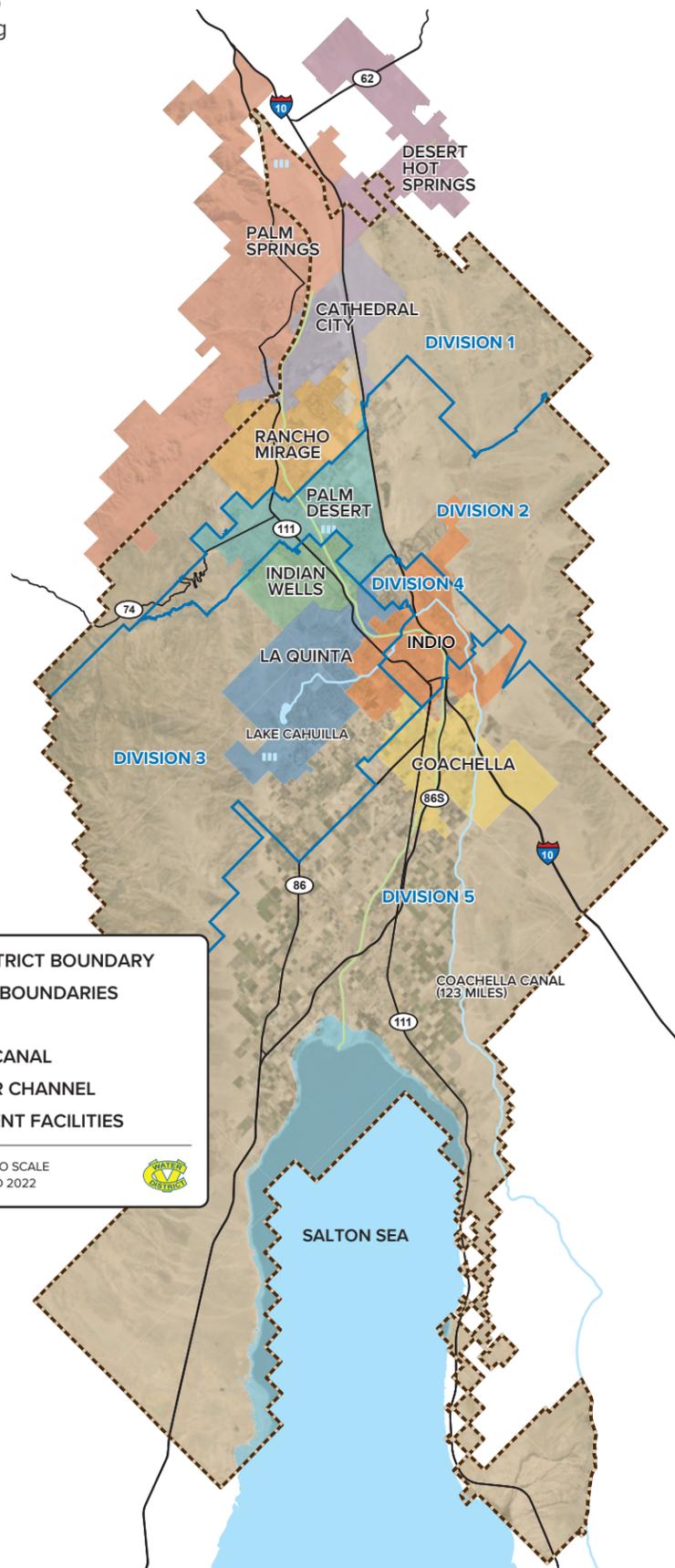
**MAIN SWITCHBOARD**  
 (760) 398-2651

**CUSTOMER SERVICE**  
 (760) 391-9600

**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 St. | Coachella



A MESSAGE FROM CVWD'S  
**General Manager**



This past year has seen opportunities and challenges that confirm Coachella Valley Water District's recognized leadership in providing reliable and high quality water services to our customers.

**WE ANTICIPATED:** While drought continues to challenge our imported water supplies used for replenishment, CVWD took a head start on conservation actions. Gov. Gavin Newsom issued an executive order on March 28, 2022 asking water agencies to consider adopting Level 2 of their Water Shortage Contingency Plans. In response, on April 12, CVWD's Board of Directors approved steps to voluntarily increase domestic water conservation before statewide restrictions become mandatory.

**WE BUILT:** CVWD launched a two-year construction project that will protect homes and land in North Indio from regional flooding and no longer require area residents to obtain flood insurance. At \$110.2 million, the North Indio Regional Flood Control Project is the largest project in CVWD history. When completed, the project will allow for construction and connection of other stormwater facilities that will provide regional flood protection to Thousand Palms and north Cathedral City.

**WE COLLABORATED:** We continue our strong focus on helping underserved Eastern Valley residents that lack access to clean drinking water and sewer services. We received \$26 million in state and federal funding for construction of new water pipelines that will connect three disadvantaged communities to CVWD's domestic water system and provide critical backbone infrastructure of up to 35 future consolidations. Those projects earned praise from the State Water Resources Control Board for leadership "around achieving the human right to water in the state."

**WE INNOVATED:** Expanding our financing tools in the form of grants and low-cost loans supported by strong credit ratings helped us minimize rate increases while delivering the needed infrastructure for providing reliable services to our customers. CVWD was assigned an AA+ rating on \$35.4 million Drinking Water and Sewer System Revenue Notes to provide interim funding for certain capital improvements to the District's water system... a clear reflection of CVWD's financial stability and leadership.

**WE RESHAPED:** Due to the 2020 census, CVWD adopted a new division boundary map to allow for equal distribution of voters. Our facilities crews revamped our office and conference spaces to better fit our changing needs.

As we face more drought, we look forward to continuing the commitment and foresight of our founders in 1918 to maintain a secure water future for our customers.

Sincerely,

Jim Barrett



**MISSION STATEMENT**

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

**Front Cover Photos:** Environmental Services Aide **Alexandria De La Fuente** collects water samples. At the CVWD state-certified laboratory, Laboratory Aide **Emerson De Klotz** checks the water sample's temperature.

# This annual report communicates the results of CVWD's water quality monitoring. The State Water Resources Control Board Division of Drinking Water (DDW) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) require routine and comprehensive monitoring of CVWD's drinking water supply.

## CVWD'S COMMITMENT

Coachella Valley Water District is committed to delivering high quality drinking water. Water is delivered to customers from wells drilled into the Coachella Valley's groundwater basin.

Highly trained employees routinely monitor CVWD's public water systems and collect drinking water samples that are tested at CVWD'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 4 – 5, 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 that generally meets in public session at 8 am, on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month. Meeting locations rotate between CVWD's Coachella office at 51-501 Tyler St. and the Steve Robbins Administration Building at 75-515 Hovley Lane East in Palm Desert. Call CVWD to confirm meeting time, date and location.

## SENSITIVE POPULATIONS

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 Information Hotline 1-800-426-4791 or [epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water](http://epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water). Call Safe Drinking Water Information Hotline to obtain updated link if needed.

## NATURALLY OCCURRING ELEMENTS

### Arsenic

While all of CVWD's domestic water supply meets state and federal standards for arsenic, 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

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.

## POTENTIAL CONTAMINANTS

### About Nitrate

Nitrate (as nitrogen) in drinking water at levels above 10 milligrams per liter (mg/L) is a health risk for infants younger than six months. 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 (as nitrogen) in drinking water levels above 10 milligrams per liter (mg/L) may also affect the ability of 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.

Wells that confirm with nitrate levels (as nitrogen) above 10 mg/L are removed from service.

### ABOUT LEAD

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.

### Responsibility

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

### Tip

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.

### Resource Information

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 Information Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or at [epa.gov/lead](http://epa.gov/lead).

As noted, all drinking water served by CVWD comes from groundwater wells. DDW requires water agencies to state: "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 byproducts 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.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations and California law 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 Information Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or the National Radon Hotline (1-800-767-7236)."

Additionally, the USEPA's health advisories tables are available at [epa.gov/dwstandardsregulations/2018-drinking-water-standards-and-advisory-tables](http://epa.gov/dwstandardsregulations/2018-drinking-water-standards-and-advisory-tables).

### DRINKING WATER SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENTS:

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

Groundwater from these CVWD wells is 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.

CVWD is committed to supplying high quality drinking water from CVWD's wells to our communities.

## 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 or ppm)

One mg/L is equivalent to 1 second in 11.5 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 or ppt)

One ng/L is equivalent to 1 second in 32,000 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 1 second in 21 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.

### ug/L – Micrograms per liter (parts per billion or ppm)

One ug/L is equivalent to 1 second in 32 years.

### uS/cm – Microsiemens per centimeter

# CVWD 2022 Domestic Water Quality Summary

(Covering the reporting period January - December 2021)

DETECTED PARAMETER, UNITS	PHG or (MCLG)	MCL <sup>(1)</sup>	COVE COMMUNITIES <sup>(2)</sup> RANGE (AVERAGE)	ID NO. 8 <sup>(3)</sup> RANGE (AVERAGE)	MCL VIOLATION? (YES/NO)	MAJOR SOURCE(S)
Arsenic, µg/L	0.004	10	ND-8.0 (ND)		No	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium, mg/L	2	1	ND-0.1 (ND)		No	Erosion of natural deposits
Chloride, mg/L	N/A	500;600 <sup>1,4</sup>	6.6-250 (23)	11-27 (15)	No	Leaching from natural deposits
Chlorine (as Cl <sub>2</sub> ), mg/L <sup>(5)</sup>	MRDLG=4	MRDL=4.0	ND-2.7 (0.55)	ND-1.4 (0.83)	No	Result of drinking water chlorination
Chromium, µg/L	(100)	50	ND-24 (ND)	13-23 (17)	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Chromium-6, µg/L <sup>(7)</sup>	0.02	N/A	ND-22 (8.5)	14-23 (18)	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Copper, mg/L <sup>(8)</sup> [homes tested/sites exceeding AL]	0.3	AL=1.3	0.11 [55/0]	0.14 [21/0]	No	Internal corrosion of household plumbing
Dibromochloropropane (DBCP), ng/L	3	200	ND-50 (ND)		No	Leaching of banned nematocide which may still be present in soils
Fluoride, mg/L	1	2.0	ND-1.0 (0.6)	0.4-0.6 (0.5)	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha Particle Activity (excluding Uranium), pCi/L	(0)	15	ND-6.8 (ND)	ND-4.6 (ND)	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5), µg/L <sup>(6,9)</sup>	N/A	60		ND-2.5 (2.5)	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Hardness (as CaCO <sub>3</sub> ), mg/L		N/A	7.6-320 (120)	72-220 (140)	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (as Nitrogen), mg/L	10	10	ND-9.0 (1.4)	0.4-1.4 (0.8)	No	Leaching of fertilizer, animal wastes or natural deposits
Odor as threshold, units	N/A	3 <sup>(1)</sup>	ND-2 (ND)		No	Naturally occurring organic materials
pH, units		N/A	7.5-9.1 (8.1)	7.7-8.1 (8.0)	No	Physical characteristic
Radium 228, pCi/L	0.019	5		ND-1.2 (ND)	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Selenium, µg/L	30	50	ND-5.1 (ND)		No	Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium, mg/L		N/A	18-160 (32)	54-84 (69)	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Specific Conductance, µS/cm	N/A	1,600;2,200 <sup>1,4</sup>	240-1,400 (410)	530-870 (640)	No	Substances that form ions when in water
Sulfate, mg/L	N/A	500;600 <sup>1,4</sup>	ND-260 (52)	140-250 (180)	No	Leaching from natural deposits
Total Coliform Bacteria, positive samples/month	(0)	5% or 1 <sup>(10, 11)</sup>	ND-0.7% (ND)		No	Naturally present in the environment
Total Dissolved Solids, mg/L	N/A	1,000;1,500 <sup>1,4</sup>	130-810 (250)	340-570 (420)	No	Leaching from natural deposits
Total Trihalomethanes, µg/L <sup>(9)</sup>	N/A	80	ND-14 (13)	1.1-20 (20)	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Turbidity, NTU	N/A	5 <sup>(1)</sup>	ND-1.8 (ND)	ND-0.1 (ND)	No	Leaching from natural deposits
Uranium, pCi/L	0.43	20	ND-13 (4.8)	N/A (6.1)	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Zinc, mg/L	N/A	5.0 <sup>(1)</sup>	ND-0.4 (ND)		No	Leaching from natural deposits
<b>2020 UNREGULATED CONTAMINANT MONITORING<sup>(12)</sup></b>						
Bromide, µg/L <sup>(13)</sup>		N/A	25-160 (58)		No	Erosion of natural deposits
Germanium, µg/L <sup>(13)</sup>		N/A	ND-0.35 (ND)		No	Erosion of natural deposits
Haloacetic Acids (HAA6Br), µg/L <sup>(13, 14)</sup>		N/A	ND-9.4 (1.7)		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA9), µg/L <sup>(13, 15)</sup>		N/A	ND-18 (2.9)		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Manganese, µg/L	N/A	50 <sup>(1)</sup>	ND-1.6 (ND)		No	Erosion of natural deposits

**TO READ THIS TABLE:** First, determine your service area by referring to footnotes 2 and 3 on the opposite page. Then move down the corresponding column, comparing the detection level of each chemical or other contaminant with the Public Health Goal (PHG), Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) and MCL.

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 not detected and 1.0 mg/L.

Compare these values to the MCL in the third column. Fluoride levels in this water comply with the MCL of 2.0 mg/L. The range can show a level above the MCL and still comply with the drinking water standard when compliance is based on average levels found in each water source or water system.

**WHAT'S IN MY WATER?** CVWD analyzed more than 17,000 water samples last year to monitor the water quality of drinking water delivered to its customers. 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 two service areas. Brown boxes indicate the substance was not detected (ND), existing data is no longer reportable or there is no available data. The data on the chart summarizes results of the most recent monitoring completed between 2012 and 2021. CVWD did not have any Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) violations in 2021.

## FOOTNOTES:

- (1) Values with this footnote have fixed Secondary MCLs, remaining values are Primary MCLs unless identified otherwise.
- (2) Cove Communities 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, Valerie Jean, Desert Shores, Salton Sea Beach and Salton City.
- (3) ID No. 8 includes the communities of Indio Hills, Sky Valley; and select areas within and adjacent to Desert Hot Springs.
- (4) This constituent is monitored for aesthetics such as taste and odor. A fixed consumer acceptance contaminant level has not been established for this constituent.
- (5) The reported average represents the highest running annual average based on distribution monitoring.
- (6) Results from 2020 unregulated contaminant monitoring rule (UCMR4) testing for five Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) are included in Cove Community data. CVWD performed this monitoring at select CVWD domestic facilities in Cove Communities.
- (7) California's Chromium-6 drinking water MCL became effective on July 1, 2014. The Cr6 MCL was invalidated and withdrawn in 2017.
- (8) The reported values are 90th percentile levels for samples collected from faucets in water user homes.
- (9) The reported average represents the highest locational running annual average (LRAA) based on distribution system monitoring.
- (10) Systems that collect 40 or more samples per month (Cove Communities): 5.0% of monthly samples are positive. Systems that collect less than 40 samples per month (ID No. 8): 1 positive monthly sample.
- (11) All water systems are required to comply with the California Total Coliform Rule and the Federal Revised Total Coliform Rule. The USEPA anticipates greater public health protection as the new rule requires water systems that are vulnerable to microbial contamination to identify and fix problems.
- (12) In 2020, USEPA required unregulated contaminant monitoring (identified as UCMR4) for select CVWD domestic facilities in Cove Communities.
- (13) 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 further regulation is warranted.
- (14) Results from 2020 unregulated contaminant monitoring rule (UCMR4) testing for six Haloacetic Acids (HAA6). CVWD performed this monitoring at select CVWD domestic facilities in Cove Communities.
- (15) Results from 2020 unregulated contaminant monitoring rule (UCMR4) testing for nine Haloacetic Acids (HAA9). CVWD performed this monitoring at select CVWD domestic facilities in Cove Communities.

## MORE INFORMATION:

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

Complete copies of source water assessments may be viewed at CVWD's office at 75-525 Hovley Lane East, Palm Desert, CA 92211.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien. También puede llamar al CVWD al número de teléfono (760) 398-2651 ó vaya a [cvwd.org/CCR/Spanish2022](http://cvwd.org/CCR/Spanish2022).

Note: Above statement fulfills California Code of Regulations' requirement in section 64481(l).

# CVWD SEVEN AREAS OF SERVICE

## AGRICULTURAL IRRIGATION



Date Palms



Grapes

Agriculture is the **second largest contributor to the local economy**, nearing one billion dollars annually. Top crops are dates, citrus, grapes and bell peppers.

CVWD **irrigates 62,648 acres of farmland** in part **with 260,000 acre-feet of Colorado River** water delivered via the 123.5-mile long Coachella Canal, a branch of the All-American Canal. The canal water is delivered through a 500-mile underground system.

**More than 60% of area farms use drip or other micro-irrigation.** Valley farms are among the most efficient agricultural water users in the state.

### Agricultural Drainage System:

- CVWD's underground tile drainage system carries natural saline groundwater and percolated agricultural irrigation water from farmland to the Salton Sea. This system has nearly **2,500 miles** of on-farm and district-maintained drains.
- Serves more than **37,000 acres** of farmland.
- To learn more about Agricultural Irrigation and Drainage and the Coachella Canal, visit [CVWD.org/AgIrrigation](http://CVWD.org/AgIrrigation).

## SEWER SERVICE OR WASTEWATER

Most CVWD domestic water customers also receive sewer services from the District. Our system **treats nearly 6.3 billion gallons of wastewater yearly**. The District has the capacity to increase its wastewater treatment as the Coachella Valley's population grows.

About 3 billion gallons of collected wastewater is recycled for irrigation on golf courses and other large landscapes. To ensure sewer services for our customers, CVWD **cleans 232 miles of sewer lines** every year and **inspects 69.5 miles of sewer lines** by video per year to prevent leaks and spills. In addition, crews **inspect 3,500 manholes** every year.

To help keep sewer systems flowing, please **DO NOT FLUSH** these items or put them down the drain:



FATS, OILS, GREASE



"FLUSHABLE" WIPES, COTTON PADS & SWABS, FACIAL TISSUES



PAPER TOWELS



COFFEE GRINDS & EGGSHELLS



MEDICATIONS



HOUSEHOLD CHEMICALS, PAINT, CEMENT, STUCCO OR POOL GROUT

Learn more at <http://www.cvwd.org/163/Wastewater-Treatment>.



CVWD State-certified Water Quality Lab

## DOMESTIC WATER

CVWD is the largest provider of drinking water in the Coachella Valley. That water comes from wells drilled into natural aquifers in the **District's service area of 1,000 square miles stretching from Palm Springs to Salton Sea communities**.

That groundwater requires no or minimal treatment to meet state and federal water quality standards. Employees collected more than 17,000 water samples last year to test for more than 100 regulated and unregulated substances. Some tests were performed at the District's state-certified laboratory while others were sent to contracted laboratories.

Domestic rates paid by customers offset the costs of providing customer service, operating wells and reservoirs, maintaining pipelines and replenishing aquifers. As a public water provider, CVWD can only charge its customers for the costs associated with providing water service. The District cannot earn a profit.

Learn more at [CVWD.org/DomesticWater](http://CVWD.org/DomesticWater).

## STORMWATER PROTECTION & FLOOD CONTROL

While the Coachella Valley desert region averages about 3 inches of rain per year, the surrounding mountains are subject to higher rainfall rates. That can result in unpredictable, damaging flash flooding throughout the Valley.

Through storm channels that carry floodwaters from Palm Springs to the Salton Sea **CVWD protects 590 square miles from flooding**. The channels convey floodwaters from rain and snow melt from mountain runoff, and local drainage from counties, cities and development.

Along with the channels, a number of dikes and levees collect flowing floodwater as it pours from mountains onto the valley floor. Most of these are located in the Cove Communities.

Many valley streets were built to cross washes, which are part of the valley's stormwater channel system. Some cities have invested in bridges to replace streets that crossed through a wash.

CVWD is responsible for most flood control facilities, but responsibility for streets, bridges, and related infrastructure rests with other levels of government such as counties and cities.



North Indio Regional Flood Control Project

## NONPOTABLE & RECYCLED WATER

Increasing the supply and use of nonpotable water is a key component of CVWD's long-range water management plans that emphasize conservation, groundwater replenishment and using recycled and imported water for golf and farm irrigation and large landscapes.

CVWD collects wastewater from homes and businesses for high-level treatment at a water reclamation plant. About **3 billion gallons of wastewater are recycled every year** using a process that filters solids, organic materials, chemicals and germs. At two of the District's five wastewater reclamation plants, the treated water is clean enough for human contact (not consumption), groundwater replenishment or outdoor irrigation.

### By the Numbers Inside CVWD boundaries

**17.5** GOLF COURSES

use a nonpotable blend of **recycled water and Colorado River water** for irrigation.

**36** GOLF COURSES

use all **Colorado River water** from the Coachella Canal

**40.5** ADDITIONAL golf courses plan

to **switch** from groundwater to nonpotable water in the future.

**43,554** acre-feet of nonpotable water

was **used in 2021** making the same amount of groundwater available for drinking and other potable purposes.

# CONSERVATION

CVWD's decades of water management have led to successful increases in groundwater levels. Local water-efficient practices remain a priority regardless of state or nationwide water levels.

Since 2002, CVWD has developed several long-term planning documents that guide managing valley water resources, among them a five-year drought risk assessment and a water shortage contingency plan.

## CVWD and customers have championed conservation practices:

CVWD has invested more than  
**\$4.5 million**  
 to fund rebate and incentive programs that support permanent reductions in water use since July 2020

Customers saved over  
**4.3 BILLION GALLONS OF WATER**  
 in 2021 and **reduced water use by 12%** compared to 2013

Customers have converted  
**20.2 MILLION SQUARE-FEET OF GRASS**  
 to desert-friendly landscaping, **saving about 24,745 acre-feet of water** since 2009

HOA and commercial customers have **converted to drip irrigation systems** on more than  
**1.2 million square-feet**  
 of irrigated landscape since 2017

More than  
**13,000 CUSTOMERS**  
 have received rebates for outdoor conservation programs.

In addition, **Coachella Valley farmers are among the most efficient in the agricultural industry** thanks to their widespread use of **micro-irrigation** and efficient **irrigation scheduling**.

# GROUNDWATER REPLENISHMENT & IMPORTED WATER

CVWD has worked for decades to eliminate groundwater overdraft through a successful replenishment program and by implementing water management practices that protect supplies for future generations.

## Three CVWD initiatives have been most effective in improving groundwater conditions:

- Budget-based, tiered water rates
- Colorado River water use through the Mid-Valley Pipeline
- Aquifer replenishment

By 2027, CVWD's supply of Colorado River water will be 459,000 acre-feet annually. Together Desert Water Agency (DWA) and CVWD are contracted to receive 194,100 acre-feet per year of State Water Project (SWP) water. The SWP water is received via an exchange of Colorado River water with Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. This exchange saves CVWD and DWA from building an estimated \$1.6 billion pipeline to receive SWP water from Northern California.

## Four sites replenish water:

- Whitewater River Groundwater Replenishment Facility
- Mission Creek Groundwater Replenishment Facility
- Thomas E. Levy Groundwater Replenishment Facility
- Palm Desert Replenishment Facility, Phase I

## By the Numbers

**4.5 MILLION ACRE-FEET**  
 of **imported water** has been **replenished** into the aquifer since 1973.

**63,610 ACRE-FEET**  
**was replenished** in 2021.

**3 MILLION acre-feet of water** is enough to serve the water needs of **six million families of four in one year**.

# 2021 BY THE NUMBERS

MG: Million gallons | MGD: Million gallons per day | AF: Acre feet

**568 full-time & 2 part-time**  
 employees budgeted as of  
 6/30/2022

**\$72,319,598,665**  
 Combined assessed valuation for  
 property within the CVWD service  
 boundaries as of 6/30/2022

## AGRICULTURAL DRAINAGE

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



Bell peppers - Coachella, CA

## BLENDED, MVP, RECYCLED WATER<sup>2</sup>

### SERVICE INFORMATION

Active Accounts	24
Average Daily Flow	18 MGD

### SYSTEM INFORMATION

Wastewater Reclamation Plants	2
Total Daily Tertiary Capacity	17.5 MGD
Distribution Piping System	31 Miles

## CANAL WATER

### SERVICE INFORMATION

Irrigable Acres for Service	76,970
Active Accounts	1,311
Total Water Delivered	338,147 AF
Average Daily Demand	920 AF
Maximum Daily Demand	1,513 AF

### SYSTEM INFORMATION

Reservoirs	2
Storage Capacity	1,361 AF
Distribution System	485 Miles
Pumping Plants	16
Length of Canal	123 Miles

<sup>1</sup> The number of active service connections excludes fire service.

<sup>2</sup> **Blended:** Recycled water blended with Colorado River water  
**MVP:** Colorado River water accessed from the Mid-Valley Pipeline  
**Recycled:** Reclaimed wastewater from Wastewater Reclamation Plants 7 and 10

## DOMESTIC (DRINKING) WATER SERVICE INFORMATION

Population Served	270,000
Active Accounts <sup>1</sup>	112,180
Average Daily Demand	83.5 MGD
Total Water Delivered	93,548 AF

### SYSTEM INFORMATION

Active Wells	96
Total Daily Well Pumping Capacity	242 MGD
Distribution Reservoirs	65
Storage Capacity	155.2 MG
Distribution Piping System	2,032 Miles

## GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT

In cooperation with Desert Water Agency

Replenishment facilities	4
Replenishment from imported water	63,610 AF
Imported supply since 1973 through 2021	4,508,530 AF

## STORMWATER PROTECTION

SERVICE AREA 381,479 ACRES

### SYSTEM INFORMATION

Stormwater Channels	18
Length of Whitewater River/Coachella Stormwater Channel	50 Miles
Length of all Regional Flood Protection Facilities	169 Miles

## WASTEWATER

### SERVICE INFORMATION

Population Served	240,000
Active Accounts	98,351
Average Daily Flow	16.66 MGD

### SYSTEM INFORMATION

Wastewater Reclamation Plants	5
Total Daily Plant Capacity	33.1 MGD
Collection Piping System	1,162 Miles



## COACHELLA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

P.O. Box 1058  
Coachella, CA 92236

(760) 398-2651 | [cvwd.org](http://cvwd.org)



# PAYING YOUR BILL



**Customers can view bills and pay them online** using a credit card, checking account, savings account, PayPal, Venmo, Apple Pay or Google Pay. Visit the Pay My Bill section at [CVWD.org](http://CVWD.org).

### Automatic electronic payment

Your monthly bill can be automatically paid using any payment method. To submit your request online, please visit the Pay My Bill section at [CVWD.org](http://CVWD.org). Call Customer Service at (760) 391-9600 if you have any questions.

### Electronic notification when bill is due

Save paper by enrolling in our electronic notification program and get notified by e-mail when your new bill is available to view online. To submit your request online, please visit the Pay My Bill section at [CVWD.org](http://CVWD.org).

### Pay by phone

To pay by phone using any payment method, call the CVWD automated system 24/7 at (844) 309-5917 or (760) 391-9600. Customer Service Representatives are available to assist Monday – Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at (760) 391-9600.

### Pay by mail

Payments may be mailed to P.O. Box 5000, Coachella, CA 92236.

### Pay in person

Pay with a Customer Service Representative in Palm Desert and Coachella locations during business hours: 8am – 4pm

Palm Desert | 75-525 Hovley Lane East & Coachella | 51-501 Tyler St.  
Drop boxes are available 24 hours per day at both offices.