



COACHELLA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

# Groundwater Replenishment

## GROUNDWATER REPLENISHMENT

The Coachella Valley relies on the local groundwater basin for drinking water, but limited rainfall and snowmelt aren't enough to replenish what's pumped out. Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) has been working for decades to protect the groundwater basin from overdraft through successful groundwater replenishment programs and by implementing water management practices that safeguard supplies for future generations. CVWD partners with the Desert Water Agency (DWA) to import water and replenish it at the Whitewater and Mission Creek Groundwater Replenishment Facilities.

## SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT (SGMA)

The approved SGMA Annual Report for the Indio subbasin indicates that implementing long-term water management plans, which include projects and actions, has resulted in increased groundwater levels and sustainable basin management:

- Colorado River water use through the Mid-Valley Pipeline project since 2006 to reduce groundwater pumping.
- Budget-based, tiered water rates in place since 2009 that have contributed to conservation.
- Aquifer replenishment at four facilities since two additional CVWD facilities were built in 2009 and 2019.

## WATER SOURCES

■ **Colorado River Water (CRW)** via the 123.5-mile Coachella Canal. CVWD's federal contracted supply of CRW in 2025 is 419,000 acre-feet.

■ **State Water Project (SWP)** water (from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta) is exchanged "bucket for bucket" for Colorado River water with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD). The exchanged water is delivered to CVWD and DWA via the Colorado River Aqueduct as there is not a direct connection to the SWP system. CVWD's total SWP allocation is 138,350 acre-feet, and DWA's is 55,750. In 2025, CVWD and DWA will only receive 50 percent of those allocations. Each year, the state determines the amount of water to be delivered based on weather conditions, hydrology, and reservoir storage levels.

■ **Natural run off** from local mountain streams slowly seeps into the underground aquifer, but only about 52,000 acre-feet of water are replenished naturally each year.

**Your water is our promise**

## REPLENISHMENT FACILITIES

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

## REPLENISHMENT BY THE NUMBERS

- **5.1 million acre-feet** of imported water has been replenished into the aquifer at four facilities since 1973.
- **3 million acre-feet** of water is enough to serve the water needs for 6 million families of four in one year.
- **316,243 acre-feet** was replenished at the four replenishment facilities in 2024.
- **Nearly 100%** of the Coachella Valley's domestic water supply is groundwater.
- **400,000 people** in the Coachella Valley use groundwater.
- **7,000 local businesses** use groundwater.

