

DWA News

DESERT WATER SUMMER 2019

Let's make every drop count!

WHITEWATER RIVER: STAY OUT, STAY SAFE

Summer is here and temperatures are pushing families to cool down however they can. The Whitewater River draws locals and visitors alike. The Whitewater Preserve – the only legal area to enter the river – is closed this summer due to the damage it sustained during winter storms. Don't make the mistake of trying to enter the river outside of the Preserve. It is extremely dangerous. There are many No Trespassing signs along the riverbanks. Law enforcement and private security have been contracted to patrol and cite trespassers. Last year, a father and son tragically died after entering the river. Desert Water Agency and our partners created a public service announcement that you may see on TV or online urging people to stay out and stay safe. It just isn't worth your life. The water moves very swiftly and has slippery rocks just beneath the water's surface. Use swimming pools, splash pads or even sprinklers watering grass as an alternative to cool down.



WATER QUALITY REPORT NOW AVAILABLE

How is the quality? Is it safe to drink? We're fortunate to have such a high quality source of water beneath us in this underground aquifer. Our team works around the clock to deliver water to our customers while planning for a sustainable future. DWA tests more than 2,000 water samples a year to determine the presence of certain minerals and constituents. California has

some of the strictest drinking water standards in the world and the annual Water Quality Report is our way of providing information to our customers. All our customers should have received a notice in the mail with the report's web address – www.dwa.org/wqr. It is also available in our lobby, or if you would like a copy mailed to you, call (760) 323-4971 extension 183.



HIGHER RATES PAVE WAY FOR PROJECTS

Desert Water Agency's Board of Directors recently adopted a planned rate increase that went into effect on July 1. Starting in August, you'll notice that your bill reflects a higher rate for your monthly charge and for each unit of water you use. Details are available at www.dwa.org/rates.

The increase was part of a 2016 study to assess the agency's financial stability. Since the rate increase plan was adopted, the funds have helped pay for aggressive pipeline replacement in our aging system. Those who live in neighborhoods with older pipes know the constant inconvenience it causes. We appreciate the community's role in helping us address this challenge. See the reverse side for details on this year's pipeline replacements.

INFUSED WATER WEDNESDAY



To help keep customers cool and refreshed over the hot summer months, we kicked off #InfusedWaterWednesday. Each Wednesday during the summer we'll have refreshing infused water in our lobby. Stop by and quench your thirst. Infused water is a healthy alternative to sugary and caffeinated drinks. Recipes at www.dwa.org/recipes.



FAQ

How do I know I have a leak?

Many leaks can go unnoticed – both inside and in the yard. You can check your water meter to see if you have a leak. If the blue indicator dial is moving and no water is running in the home or yard, you may have a leak. A bill much higher than the same month the previous year is another indicator of a possible leak. Desert Water Agency has partnered with a variety of businesses to offer discounted leak detection – one new partnership allows Desert Water Agency customers to buy a smart leak detection device called Flume for \$149 (normally \$199). The device attaches to your water meter and sends your smart phone a notification if there is a suspected leak. For more details and other leak detection savings and tips, visit www.dwa.org/checkforleaks.



BEWARE: THIEVES TARGET DESERT PLANTS



Plant pilfering, specifically cactus theft, is a sticky issue in neighborhoods and homeowners' associations.

PSPD has fielded at least 11 reports of stolen plants in 2019. Most are occurring in the south end of the city, said Lt. William Hutchinson.

Cactus is a popular and expensive native plant that can be appealing to a thief looking to turn around and sell it for profit. Newly planted landscaping is especially vulnerable since it is easier to remove.

Tips on how to help prevent/handle plant theft:

- Install lighting and motion-sensor security lights for your garden and landscaping
- Check if your homeowner's policy covers landscape/garden theft. If not, find out how much it would cost for additional coverage
- Keep expensive plants out of the public eye to minimize temptation

If you experience or witness a plant theft, please notify the police. It makes a difference. One arrest has been made in connection with a recent plant theft.

FIND US ON INSTAGRAM!



WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT WHAT WE'RE DOING?

The public is welcome at our board meetings on the first and third Tuesday of the month, beginning at 8 a.m., at 1200 S. Gene Autry Trail, Palm Springs. For the latest meeting schedule, please visit our website: www.dwa.org.

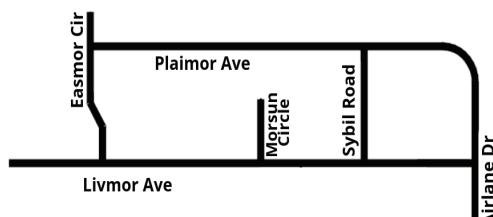
COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES ON BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Joseph K. Stuart: President
- Kristin Bloomer: Vice President
- Craig Ewing: Secretary/Treasurer
- Patricia G. Oygar: Director
- James Cioffi: Director

PIPELINE UPGRADES

In early July, we plan to begin our 2019 Pipeline Replacement Project to replace some of our older pipes with significant leak problems. Three neighborhoods will be targeted for pipeline replacement. Affected residents will be notified prior to the work. We appreciate your patience as we work to update our system. For more details go to: www.dwa/pipelines.

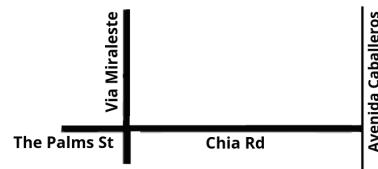
AREA 1: SUNMOR



AREA 2: OLD LAS PALMAS



AREA 3: EL MIRADOR



CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information, please contact: DWA Outreach & Conservation Manager Ashley Metzger at 760-323-4971 ext. 184, or Ashley@dwa.org. For more information on DWA's conservation programs, please visit: www.dwa.org/rebates.



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