



Making every drop count since 1918.

Coachella Valley Water District 2011-12 Annual Review



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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
85-995 Avenue 52
Coachella

Main switchboard
(760) 398-2651

Job hot line
(760) 398-2661 ext. 2103

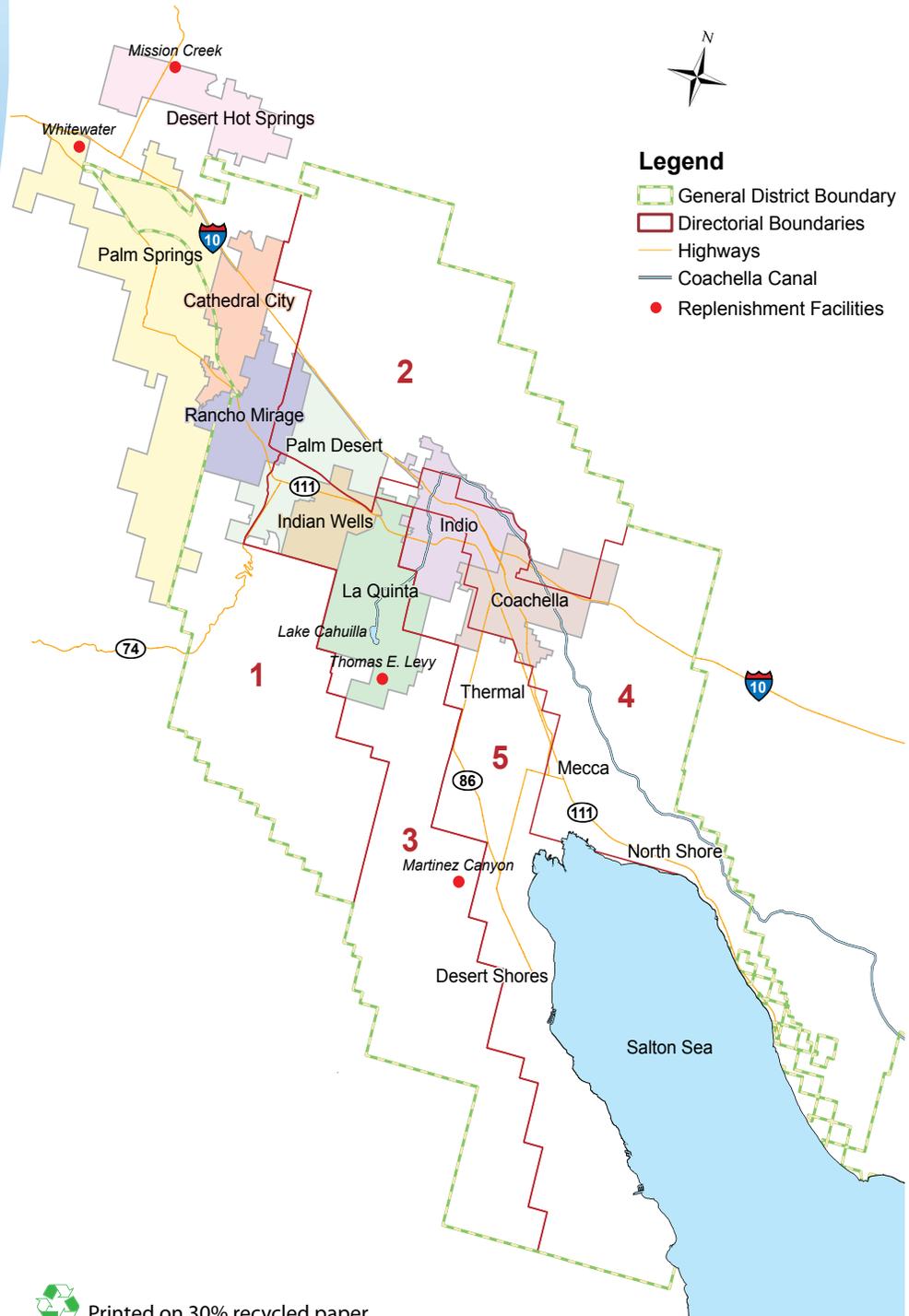
Fax
(760) 398-3711

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

Established in 1918, the Coachella Valley Water District is a government agency run by a five-member Board of Directors, elected at-large 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.

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 2011-12 Annual Review is produced by CVWD's Communication & Legislation staff. It costs approximately 53 cents per issue to print and mail.



Printed on 30% recycled paper

Message from the General Manager

Dear CVWD water user,

One silver lining in these hard economic times is our tendency to focus more on things of genuine and lasting value. Our tap water system is a perfect example.

Water from the tap is often taken for granted, in part because of the low cost. While \$1 will buy you one bottle of water at the store, it will buy you 7,000 glasses of water from your kitchen faucet, delivery included.

Tap water offers the added benefit of providing public health protection, fire protection, support for the economy and the quality of life we enjoy. It's truly the best deal around.

For the second year in a row, the water district's Board of Directors chose not to consider an increase in domestic or sanitation rates. This has required a lot of belt tightening at the district, but none worse than what many residents continue to face.

Many residents don't think about the factors that contribute to the cost of delivering high quality water to the homes and businesses in the valley. These factors include operation and maintenance of nearly 2,000 miles of pipeline, 100 wells and 60 reservoirs, water quality treatment and testing, rising energy costs and the need to invest in imported supplies to combat overdraft of local groundwater sources.

And, at CVWD, we do a lot more than provide high quality drinking water. We also provide Colorado River water to farmers and golf courses in the east valley, collect wastewater from homes and businesses and treat and recycle the water at six facilities throughout the valley. We are a stormwater protection agency and manage a groundwater replenishment program. All these areas of service are funded through rates collected in those areas.

When you consider the critical needs addressed by these different water-related services, the value far outweighs the cost.

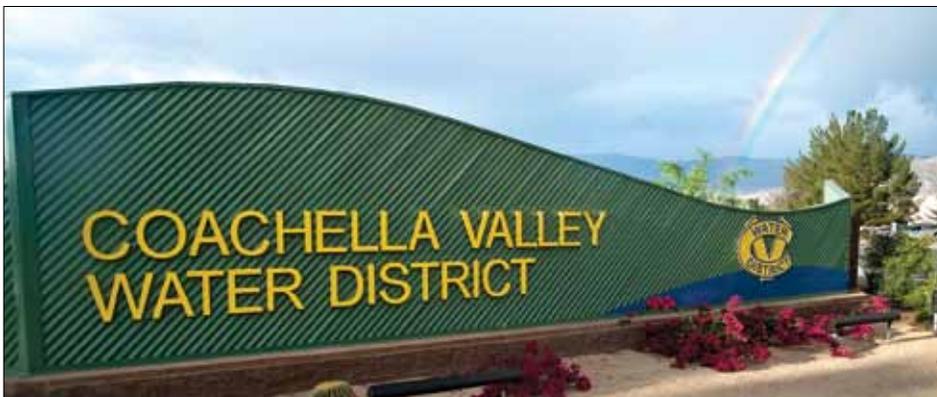
In the past, water suppliers have often thought of themselves as the "silent service," because much of what occurs in these different water-related services is out of sight and out of mind. The truth is that we are proud to provide these valuable services to our community without fanfare and we strive to do so in a professional, efficient and economical manner.

Tap water is more than a product, it's a service that delivers public health, fire protection, support for the economy and quality of life for an average of \$1 to \$2 a day. It will always be one of the best values you can find.

Sincerely,



Steve Robbins,
General Manager-Chief Engineer



CVWD Mission Statement

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

Improving Customer Service

We made a couple changes recently in our continuing effort to provide fast and friendly customer service.

New website

CVWD launched a newly designed website in December 2011 that features online bill payment options, frequently requested forms and water conservation tips, among other useful information.

The website, at www.cvwd.org, highlights content that district customers most frequently seek out to help you find information simpler and faster.

Easier payment options

You can now pay your water bill and manage your account with the Coachella Valley Water District 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

CVWD provides access to your account by telephone and the Internet to make it easier for you to pay your bill. Or, you can still talk to one of our knowledgeable customer service representatives during normal business hours.

Groundwater facts

The Coachella Valley is blessed with a natural groundwater basin. In the early days of the valley, the aquifer was so full you needed only to dig a shallow hole to find water.

Today, our aquifer is in a state of overdraft, meaning more water is used each year than can be replaced by natural or artificial means.

The district is protecting its imported water supply to eliminate overdraft by expanding its replenishment program.

342,025 af — Amount of groundwater used in the Coachella Valley in 2011. All CVWD's drinking water comes from the aquifer.

290,869 af — Amount of imported water replenished by CVWD and DWA in 2011

62,000 af — Average annual amount of water naturally replenished by rain and snow melt

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

5.3 million af — Estimated cumulative overdraft

39 million af — Estimated capacity of Coachella Valley's groundwater basin

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

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

Imported water, rain replenish Coachella Valley's aquifer

For the second year in a row, the amount of water naturally and artificially replenished into the Coachella Valley groundwater basin was greater than what was used by homes and businesses, helping to close the gap on the overdrafted aquifer.

Collaborative efforts by Coachella Valley Water District and Desert Water Agency resulted in 290,869 acre-feet of



imported water being returned to aquifer in 2011. An additional estimated amount of water from rain capture and snow melt also replenished the aquifer.

Last year was the first time since 1986 that the combined amount of replenished natural flows and imported water was greater than what was taken out. The amount replenished can vary greatly based on drought conditions, regulatory restrictions and other factors.

The amount of groundwater used valleywide in 2011 is estimated at 342,025, which is approximately 3,000 acre-feet less than what was used in 2010.

CVWD and DWA are State Water Contractors and replenish the aquifer at facilities near Whitewater and Desert Hot Springs. CVWD solely operates a separate replenishment facility and small pilot facility, both in the east valley.

The district's groundwater replenishment program is partially funded by the Replenishment Assessment Charge, or RAC, which is paid by all large water users with private wells that pump more than 25 acre-feet of groundwater per year. CVWD is the largest RAC payer.

Year	Natural replenishment estimated avg.	Artificial replenishment actual	Total replenishment	Valleywide pumped *	Difference
2011	62,000	290,869	352,869	342,025	10,844
2010	62,000	298,941	360,941	345,136	15,805
2009	62,000	82,849	144,849	373,869	(229,020)
2008	62,000	15,984	77,984	395,207	(317,223)
2007	62,000	22,795	84,795	396,331	(311,536)
2006	62,000	121,508	183,508	349,990	(166,482)
2005	62,000	195,020	257,020	395,920	(138,900)
2004	62,000	22,258	84,258	388,275	(304,017)
2003	62,000	2,614	64,614	412,846	(348,232)
2002	62,000	40,528	102,528	389,566	(287,038)
10-year Average	62,000	109,337	171,337	378,917	(207,580)

* Excludes well pumpers of less than 25 acre-feet annually within CVWD's area of benefit and well pumpers of less than 10 acre-feet annually in DWA's area of benefit.

All numbers in 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.

Conservation programs help valley residents increase water efficiency

To date, more than 426,000 gallons of water have been saved through Coachella Valley Water District's toilet rebate program, which was launched last year.

The toilet rebate program pays eligible customers up to \$100 to replace an old toilet with a newer, more efficient one. Rebates continue to be offered to all eligible CVWD customers, with a limit of one toilet replacement per household.

Old toilets must have been manufactured prior to 1992 and consume more than 3 gallons of water per flush. Customers are responsible for installing the new toilet and must provide the district with a sales receipt and proof of recycling.

New program

A new indoor water conservation kit program will further help reduce indoor water waste and improve household fixture efficiency.

The kits include a kitchen swivel aerator, two bathroom sink aerators, a water flow testing bag, leak detection tablets and a water-efficient shower head. Kits are limited to one per household.

Landscape programs

The landscape rebate program

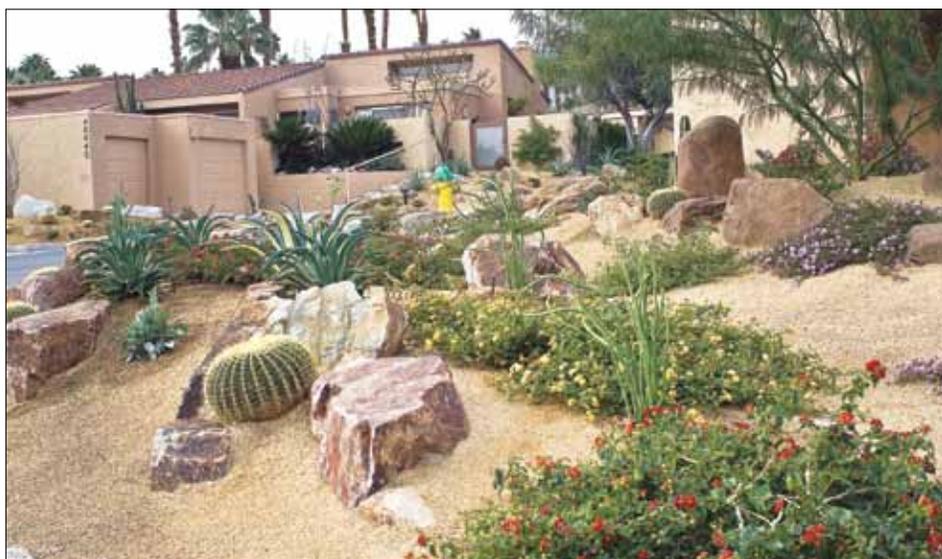
continues to be overwhelmingly successful, paying qualifying participants \$1 for each square foot of grass replaced, up to \$1,000 for home owners and \$10,000 for large landscape projects, such as those managed by cities or homeowner associations.

More than 740,000 square feet of grass has been converted to desert-friendly landscaping under the program since 2007.

A separate program offers rebates to customers who replace inefficient spray nozzles with water-saving smart nozzles. Home owners can receive up to \$2.50 per nozzle for up to 80 nozzles; large landscape customers can qualify for up to 400 nozzles per project.

Smart irrigation controllers continue to be offered at a discounted price, including programming and installation for residential customers.

All of CVWD's rebate and discount programs have specific eligibility requirements and maximum refund amounts. Funds for some programs are limited and offered on a first-come, first-served basis. For program details, eligibility requirements and applications, visit www.cvwd.org or call (760) 398-2651.



Ironwood Country Club in Palm Desert recently converted one of its homeowner associations from turf to desert-friendly landscaping. The country club also replaced all its sprinklers with water-saving new generation nozzles. Both projects were completed through CVWD's landscape rebate program.

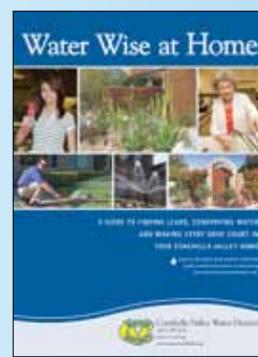
Conservation by the numbers

1.5 billion— Estimated gallons of water saved through the residential and large landscape smart controller programs.

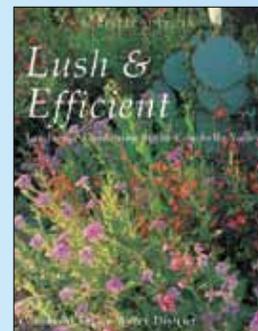
742,000 — Square feet of grass converted to desert-friendly landscaping through CVWD's rebate program.

212 million— Estimated gallons of water saved through the landscape conversion program.

426,800 — Estimated gallons of water saved during first year of CVWD's toilet rebate program.



This free, 12-page guide will help you find hidden and wasteful leaks inside and outside your home.



At 160 pages, *Lush & Efficient Landscape Gardening in the Coachella Valley* is packed with photos and information on hundreds of desert-friendly plants and trees. Cost is \$15 and includes an interactive CD-ROM.

Order either publication using the postcard inside this *Annual Review*.

Recycled Water facts

The Coachella Valley Water District owns and operates six wastewater reclamation plants that receive a combined average of 18 million gallons of wastewater per day.

At three of the district's six wastewater reclamation plants, the treated water is delivered to 16 customers, mostly golf courses, for irrigation.

9,622 af — Amount of recycled water delivered for irrigation in 2011.

12,776 af — Amount of blended recycled water and Colorado River water delivered for irrigation in 2011.

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

Award winning work — The California Water Environment Association's regional chapter named CVWD's largest plant as Plant of the Year. Other awards were given for Collection System, Plant Operator, Supervisor and Collection System Person of the Year.

The public education program that allows hundreds of area school children and adult groups to tour the plant each year earned the Public Education Award (large project) for the entire state.

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



A 24-inch diameter, 7,500-foot-long pipe was installed along El Dorado Drive in Palm Desert and tunneled under Interstate 10 to connect the Classic Club Golf Course to the water district's non-potable water supply. The project was completed in fall 2011. The pipeline will be able to accommodate additional golf courses in the future.

Recycled water program expands

More golf courses and other large landscape customers will be able to use non-potable water for irrigation as the district continues to expand access to the Mid-Valley Pipeline project.

"We've been encouraging the use of non-potable water for large landscape irrigation in the Coachella Valley since 1969," said Olivia Bennett, non-potable water operations manager. "The Mid-Valley Pipeline project has increased the ability of golf courses and other users to have access to non-potable water. This in turn, reduces groundwater pumping by thousands of acre-feet per year, reducing demand on our aquifer."

The district recently approved a non-potable water agreement with the City of Indian Wells to allow the Indian Wells Golf Resort to connect its two golf courses to the Mid-Valley pipeline and to use 1,995 acre-feet per year of canal water for irrigation.

The district also approved the connection of the Classic Club in Palm Desert to the Mid-Valley Pipeline project, allowing it to use a blend of canal water and recycled water for irrigation.

Once connected, the Classic Club will use about 1,000 acre-feet from the

non-potable water delivery system for the golf course and landscape irrigation.

The Mid-Valley pipeline begins at Madison Street in Indio where the Coachella Canal crosses the Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel and ends at the district's largest wastewater treatment plant in Palm Desert.

The pipeline ensures there is enough non-potable water available for current and future customers by augmenting the recycled water supply with canal water when the recycled water supply runs out.

In 2011, the amount of recycled water from the district's treatment plants totaled 9,622 acre-feet, up from 8,969 acre-feet in 2010. The total non-potable water use, which includes both recycled water and canal water, totaled 12,776 acre-feet, up from 12,144 acre-feet in 2010.

The district will continue to encourage the use of non-potable water for irrigation purposes.

"This is an exciting time for the Non-potable Water Program," Bennett said. "With the Mid-Valley Pipeline project, we are capable of expanding the program to serve up to 50 golf courses in the Mid-Valley area."

Stormwater protection projects moving forward

Coachella Valley Water District recently took over the lead role for the Thousand Palms Flood Control Project, allowing the district to finally move forward with completing the design of the project. CVWD and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers have been jointly working on the project since 1994.

The project involves the construction of a series of levees and channels to protect 9,500 residents living on 2,800 acres of land from alluvial flooding.

Lack of federal funding has stalled the nearly completed design phase of the project. By taking over the lead role, CVWD can move forward with the design without federal funding. CVWD has funded \$793,500 of the \$3.2 million expended to date.

An additional \$1.5 million has been authorized to finish the design and environmental work. Unlike water and sewer services, stormwater protection is not funded through rates or fees, but rather through property tax.

Thousand Palms is one of several areas designated as “unprotected,”

including North Cathedral City, North Indio, the Salton City area and most of the rural eastern Coachella Valley.

Below are some of the other stormwater protection projects in the works:

- An Eastern Coachella Valley Stormwater Master Plan that outlines the areas needing protection is being developed. A time line has not yet been established for when work will be completed.

- A North Indio Flood Control Master Plan is being developed. The plan includes the review of design work started in 2003, which is now 90 percent complete and scheduled to be completed in the 2012-13 fiscal year.

- A detailed hydraulic analysis of the Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel from Coachella to the Salton Sea is nearly 70 percent complete. The objective is to update the hydraulic model, identify any levee breach and inundation areas and develop revised flood insurance rate maps for the City of Coachella and Riverside County.

Did you know?

Coachella Valley Water District provides regional flood control across nearly 600 square miles within the Coachella Valley.

The district’s goal is to ensure safe conveyance of floodwater through its stormwater system. Rain coming down directly onto a city or an unincorporated area is the responsibility of either the city or county.

The district’s stormwater system is composed of 134 miles of flood protection facilities throughout the Coachella Valley.

The backbone 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.

This main channel was built to withstand a Standard Project Flood, or approximately 82,000 cubic feet per second of water flow. This is greater than a 100-Year Flood.

It is not uncommon for development, such as golf courses or roads, to 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 carry stormwater away from mountains, homes and businesses.



As part of Palm Desert High School’s campus expansion, the slopes along the Whitewater River Stormwater Channel were lined with concrete. This provides added flood protection to the school in the event of heavy water flow down the channel. Many portions of the channel are lined with concrete, sometimes hidden underneath golf courses, landscaping or other material to prevent erosion and provide added protection.

For answers to common drinking water questions



CVWD's new 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*.

For more detailed information:

To receive a summary of the district's source water assessments, or for 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, 85-995 Avenue 52, 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.

2012 Domestic Water Quality Report

Coachella Valley Water District is committed to delivering high quality drinking water that meets stringent government standards. This annual report documents that the water served to all CVWD water users (obtained from wells drilled into the Coachella Valley's vast groundwater basin) meets state (California Department of Public Health) and federal (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency) drinking water quality standards.

CVWD is tasked with ensuring that drinking water standards are met. Highly trained 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 Avenue 52 & Highway 111 and the Palm Desert Administration Building at 75-515 Hovley Lane East. Call the district to confirm meeting time, date and location.



The following report is written and provided in accordance with California Department of Public Health 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. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 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 complies 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 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) has determined

that breathing radon gas increases an individual's chances of developing lung cancer, and has proposed a 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 district 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 district wells ranges from no detection to 39 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.

Coachella Valley Water District is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in 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. The California Department of Public Health 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 run off 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 the state Department of Public Health (Department) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems.”

Department 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-SOS-RADON).”

Drinking Water Source Water Assessments:

The district 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 district 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.

Chromium-6 in tap water

There’s been some talk in the media recently about chromium-6 in tap water. CVWD’s tap water does contain this form of chromium, which comes from naturally occurring minerals dissolved in local groundwater at levels that meet all state and federal drinking water standards.

While conflicting scientific studies exist for whether chromium-6 poses a health risk when consumed in low levels, CVWD encourages its water users to not overreact and consider the following facts:

- The current national standard for all forms of chromium in tap water and bottled water is 100 parts per billion (ppb). One ppb is equivalent to a single drop in 10,000 gallons.
- California’s current drinking water standard is twice as strict at 50 ppb.
- CVWD’s drinking water averages 9 ppb of chromium-6.
- Experts used by federal agencies to review health risks have identified recent rodent studies that indicate chromium-6 is unlikely to pose a health risk when consumed in the low levels found in tap water.
- California risk assessors have been encouraged to consider this new research before regulators adopt a new standard specific to chromium-6 sometime in 2014.
- CVWD is co-funding a nationally supported study to test various technologies to remove chromium-6 from water, in the event a standard is set below levels found in the valley’s groundwater.

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

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

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 2012 Domestic Water Quality Summary

(Covering the reporting period January - December 2011)

CVWD analyzed more than 18,000 water samples last year to ensure that your drinking water meets the state and federal standards. Every year, the district 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 the district's four 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 2003 and 2011, 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 4-7). 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 0.2 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.

1 Detected parameter, units	2 PHG or (MCLG)	3 Primary or (secondary) MCL	4 Cove Communities ^(1,9) Range (Average)	5 Indio Hills, Sky Valley & areas around Desert Hot Springs Range (Average)	6 Mecca, Bombay Beach, North Shore & Hot Mineral Spa Range (Average)	7 Desert Shores, Salton Sea Beach & Salton City Range (Average)	8 Major Source(s)
Aluminum, ug/L	600	1,000 (200)	ND-140 (ND)				Erosion of natural deposits
Arsenic, ug/L	0.004	10	ND-8.0 (ND)		ND-9.4 (5.4) ⁽⁷⁾		Erosion of natural deposits
Chloride, mg/L	N/A	(500, 600) ⁽⁸⁾	6.5-120 (17)	13-25 (18)	39-55 (45)	230-350 (290)	Leaching from natural deposits
Chlorine (as Cl ₂), mg/L ⁽³⁾	MRDLG 4	MRDL 4.0	ND-3.2 (0.3)	ND-1.0 (0.4)	ND-1.5 (0.4)	ND-1.5 (0.3)	Result of drinking water chlorination
Chromium, ug/L	(100)	50	ND-25 (ND)	16-19 (17)			Erosion of natural deposits
Chromium-6, ug/L ⁽²⁾	0.02	N/A	ND-21 (8.7)	9.1-19 (15)			Erosion of natural deposits
Copper, mg/L ⁽⁴⁾ [homes tested/ sites exceeding AL]	0.3	AL=1.3	0.12 [53/ 0]	0.14 [21/ 0]		0.11 [23/ 0]	Internal corrosion of household plumbing
Copper, mg/L	N/A	(1.0)	ND-0.2 (ND)				Leaching from natural deposits
Fluoride, mg/L	1	2.0	0.2-1.0 (0.6)	0.4-0.8 (0.6)	0.9-1.2 (1.0)	0.7-1.5 (1.1)	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross alpha particle activity, pCi/L	(0)	15	ND-14 (3.6)	3.5-14 (7.5)	ND-3.0 (ND)	ND-3.9 (ND)	Erosion of natural deposits
Hardness (as CaCO ₃), mg/L	N/A	N/A	17-300 (120)	120-200 (170)	15-19 (18)	200-290 (250)	Erosion of natural deposits
Iron, ug/L	N/A	(300)	ND-230 (ND)				Leaching from natural deposits
Foaming Agents (MBAS), mg/L	N/A	(0.5)	ND-0.09 (ND)				Municipal and industrial waste discharges
Nitrate (as NO ₃), mg/L	45	45	ND-39 (7.0)	2.4-6.3 (4.8)		4.3-9.3 (7.5)	Leaching of fertilizer, animal waste, natural deposits
pH, units	N/A	N/A	7.0-9.0 (7.8)	7.6-8.0 (7.8)	8.1-9.0 (8.7)	7.5-7.8 (7.6)	Physical characteristic
Sodium, mg/L	N/A	N/A	17-130 (29)	57-86 (69)	43-53 (48)	230-260 (240)	Erosion of natural deposits
Specific conductance, uS/cm	N/A	(1,600, 2,200) ⁽⁸⁾	240-1,100 (380)	570-820 (680)	260-290 (280)	1,600-2,100 (1,800)	Substances that form ions when in water
Sulfate, mg/L	N/A	(500, 600) ⁽⁸⁾	ND-280 (41)	150-220 (170)	0.8-3.0 (2.1)	210-280 (250)	Leaching from natural deposits
Total Coliform bacteria, positive samples/month	(0)	more than 5% ⁽⁵⁾ or more than 1 ⁽⁶⁾	ND-1% (ND)				Naturally present in the environment
Total dissolved solids, mg/L	N/A	(1,000, 1,500) ⁽⁸⁾	140-700 (230)	360-540 (440)	140-150 (150)	900-1,300 (1,000)	Leaching from natural deposits
Total trihalomethanes, ug/L ⁽³⁾	N/A	80	1.2-6.3 (4.5)	19	1.6	3.9	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Turbidity, NTU	N/A	(5)	ND-2.6 (ND)			ND-0.6 (0.2)	Leaching from natural deposits
Uranium, pCi/L	0.43	20	ND-12 (4.0)	5.4-11 (7.5)	2.0	2.4-4.2 (3.0)	Erosion of natural deposits
Vanadium, ug/L ⁽²⁾	N/A	NL=50	ND-39 (15)	9.8-26 (15)		24	Erosion of natural deposits

Footnotes: (1) Includes the communities of Rancho Mirage, Thousand Palms, Palm Desert, Indian Wells, La Quinta and portions of Bermuda Dunes, Cathedral City, Indio, Oasis, Riverside County, Thermal and Valerie Jean.

(2) Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA and the California Department of Public Health 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.

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

(4) Reported values are 90th percentile levels for samples collected from faucets in water user homes.

(5) Systems that collect 40 or more samples per month.

(6) Systems that collect less than 40 samples per month.

(7) Although an individual sample may exceed the MCL, compliance is based on a running annual average. The average reported is the highest running annual average for distributed water.

(8) Values listed are the upper and short-term consumer acceptance contaminant levels.

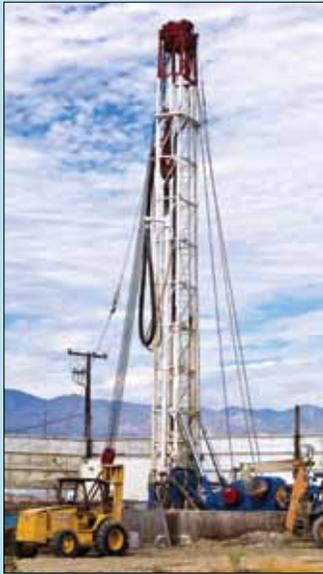
(9) In 2011, the Thermal, Valerie Jean and Oasis service area was consolidated into the Cove Communities service area.

“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/safewater.** —California Department of Public Health

Domestic water system

The Coachella Valley Water District's domestic water system serves more than 108,000 homes and businesses throughout the Coachella Valley.



102 — Number of CVWD wells pumping water from the aquifer to reservoirs.

1,000 to 1,300 feet — Average depth of a CVWD well.

59 — Number of reservoirs holding water until it flows to your home or business.

134 million gallons — Storage capacity of the reservoirs. The district's largest reservoir near Lake Cahuilla holds 12 million gallons.

1,986 — Miles of delivery pipes in the system.



CVWD crews replaced more than 7,000 feet of deteriorating water pipelines and 17 fire hydrants in Sky Valley to help prevent leaks and improve reliability of water delivery and fire protection.

Infrastructure projects improve drinking water service

The district worked this year to improve domestic water infrastructure throughout the Coachella Valley with an emphasis on improving access in rural areas to safe drinking water and crucial fire protection.

Salton City

About 3,100 Salton City residents have more than double the amount of domestic water storage after the construction by the district of a new 2.5-million-gallon reservoir.

The area had been dependent on a 1-million-gallon reservoir for its storage needs. During hotter months the amount the district had been able to keep in reserve — a crucial component of fire fighting capabilities — dropped to less than desired levels.

The \$1.7 million project was completed in December. The original reservoir will remain available as a backup for about a year before being taken off line and refurbished.

Sky Valley

The district replaced the existing domestic water distribution pipelines in Sky Valley, removing pipeline that was 53

years old, deteriorated and leaking. The project included the installation of about 7,083 feet of 8-inch ductile iron domestic water pipelines, 80 service lines, and 17 fire hydrants.

The \$915,000 project reduces the maintenance costs of repairing leaks on the deteriorating pipelines. The new pipelines also improve domestic water service and fire protection and increase the reliability of water delivery to customers in the predominately rural area.

Desert Hot Springs

A damaged and unreliable domestic water well in Desert Hot Springs was shut down and a new well drilled to serve the Sky Valley area.

The new well, which is 1,040 feet deep, will go into operation in July 2012. District crews constructed the well's pumping plant and provided additional engineering and inspection services.

Mecca

Approximately 3,500 feet of aging domestic water pipes were replaced in connection with a Riverside County street improvement project.

Grants help fund sewer and domestic water projects

Families living in a mobile home park in an unincorporated area of eastern Riverside County will have access to safe drinking water and sanitary sewer services, as a result of a joint project by Desert Empire Homes, Inc., Coachella Valley Water District and County of Riverside Redevelopment Agency.

The project was funded largely by grants from U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development's Water and Waste Disposal Program.

The \$6.3 million project will provide water and sewer infrastructure extensions and connections from systems operated by CVWD to the Mountain View Estates Mobile Home Park in Thermal.

The county's redevelopment agency had been working to relocate residents from the existing Desert Mobile Home Park, known as Duroville, to Mountain View Estates. The new park currently

has 157 mobile homes and is expected to expand by nearly 400 mobile home lots.

Most of the mobile home parks in the lower Coachella Valley have aging septic systems and individual wells that provide drinking water that does not meet government water quality standards.

All drinking water provided by CVWD meets state and federal water quality standards.

Thermal

Earlier this year, CVWD completed work with the county Economic Development Agency to provide water and sewer to the new Thermal Sheriff's Station and Thermal Fire Station.

EDA paid for most of the \$12.4 million in water and sewer work with the district contributing additional funds to upsize the sewer to provide for future growth in the area.



In spring 2012, a new Riverside County Sheriff's station and fire station opened in Thermal. CVWD and Riverside County's Economic Development Agency partnered to provide sewer and water to the area to accommodate the new buildings and future growth.

Keep medications out of the water system

Everything CVWD customers flush down their toilets and rinse down drains travels to a wastewater treatment plant and, in some cases, is reclaimed and sent to golf courses for irrigation use. Not all compounds and drugs are removed from 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 greases out of your pipes

Improperly disposed fats, oils and greases 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 (85-995 Avenue 52). The Palm Desert drop box is open 24 hours a day.

Rate Summary

As of July 1, 2011⁽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	

Residential Sanitation

Area of service	Monthly charge per dwelling unit
Service Area 80 (includes ID 53, 54, 57, the cities of Palm Desert, Cathedral City, Rancho Mirage and City of Indian Wells)	\$24.50
Service Area 81 (includes area along I-10 from Thousand Palms to Indio)	\$27.65
Service Area 41 (bounded generally by Jackson, Calhoun and Avenues 52 and 56)	\$28.05
La Quinta, PGA West and Mecca	\$29.05
Bombay Beach	\$31.85
North Shore Beach	\$32.40

Irrigation Water

User category	Charge per acre-foot
Agriculture	\$27.45
Golf courses & other non-agriculture	\$37.15
Groundwater recharge	\$74.00
Construction	\$140.00
Quagga mussel mitigation surcharge	\$5.75
Gate charge, per day	\$11.50

⁽¹⁾ This table represents water rates for the 2011-12 fiscal year. At the time this publication was printed, the water district's Board of Directors had not yet approved the 2012-13 rate structure, pending public meetings. For confirmation of the most up-to-date rates, call CVWD at (760) 398-2651 or visit www.cvwd.org/service/rates.php.

Comparative Condensed Balance Sheet

Assets	June 30, 2011	June 30, 2010
Current assets:		
Cash and investments	\$264,757,846	\$201,555,763
Accounts receivable, inventory, prepaid expenses & other	34,762,840	43,268,761
	<u>299,520,686</u>	<u>244,824,524</u>
Property, plant & equipment:		
Participating Equity -		
All-American Canal & distribution system	34,874,505	34,874,505
State Water Project	75,032,524	152,688,182
Land, facilities & equipment	<u>1,505,831,061</u>	<u>1,307,973,903</u>
	1,615,738,090	1,495,536,590
Accumulated amortization & depreciation	(481,046,307)	(441,714,265)
Construction work in progress	44,529,463	13,120,345
	<u>1,179,221,246</u>	<u>1,066,942,670</u>
Assets restricted for development & other purposes	<u>5,594,405</u>	<u>153,476,898</u>
Total Assets	\$1,544,336,337	\$1,465,244,092
Liabilities & Equity		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$13,276,584	\$6,647,504
Customer advances & deposits	3,347,920	3,766,733
Accrued salaries, interest, deferral & other expenses	<u>5,334,415</u>	<u>7,632,454</u>
	<u>21,958,919</u>	<u>18,046,691</u>
Long-term liabilities:		
State Water Project & other	8,833,064	5,405,191
Bonds payable & certificates of participation	<u>1,706,289</u>	<u>9,965,000</u>
	<u>10,539,353</u>	<u>15,370,191</u>
Total liabilities	<u>32,498,272</u>	<u>33,416,882</u>
⁽¹⁾ Taxpayers' equity in assets	<u>1,511,838,065</u>	<u>1,431,827,210</u>
Total Liabilities & Equity	\$1,544,336,337	\$1,465,244,092

⁽¹⁾ Includes the taxpayers' equity in canal and irrigation distribution facilities, wells and reservoirs, treatment plants and stormwater facilities. This value includes facilities paid for by others and donated to the district. The value has been reduced by any outstanding debt (liabilities).

⁽²⁾ Represents the consolidation of the General and Fleet Funds into the statements for Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) reporting purposes.

Condensed Statement of Revenues & Expenses

Fiscal year ended June 30, 2011

	Canal Water	Domestic	Sanitation	Stormwater	Recharge	Other ⁽²⁾	Total
Revenues							
Water sales	\$10,856,327	\$70,188,162	\$159,614	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$81,204,103
Service charges	1,131,077	950,273	36,990,449	0	17,633,740	0	56,705,539
Availability charges	1,474,835	661,883	127,943	0	0	0	2,264,661
Taxes	1,930,564	218,436	1,263,935	13,697,192	45,202,943	10,958,856	73,271,926
Interest	236,118	547,658	3,176,869	1,036,928	1,114,100	681,656	6,793,329
Other revenues	8,831,664	482,394	5,862,610	3,078,494	(111,459)	12,153,053	30,296,756
Total	\$24,460,585	\$73,048,806	\$47,581,420	\$17,812,614	\$63,839,324	\$23,793,565	\$250,536,314
Expenses							
Operation & maintenance	\$13,790,706	\$49,522,394	\$24,223,102	\$5,709,434	\$32,634,770	\$1,842,414	\$127,722,820
General & administration	2,623,219	9,403,850	4,060,878	730,267	282,000	1,101,130	18,201,344
Other	747,580	3,015,447	1,909,397	174,767	0	4,636,569	10,483,760
Depreciation	802,273	13,772,120	11,095,870	2,335,008	420,458	11,735,849	40,161,578
Reserves	6,496,807	(2,665,005)	6,292,173	8,863,138	30,502,096	4,477,603	53,966,812
Total	\$24,460,585	\$73,048,806	\$47,581,420	\$17,812,614	\$63,839,324	\$23,793,565	\$250,536,314

Project would extend and improve canal system

Coachella Valley Water District is researching the possibility of extending the Coachella Canal system to landowners in Oasis who currently don't have access to canal water.

The project, which includes new pipelines, pump stations, a reservoir in lieu of the existing Oasis Tower and two additional elevated reservoirs, would also provide more reliable service to those in the region who already have access.

Under the proposed expansion plan, slightly more than 6,500 acres of land inside and adjacent to Improvement District 1 (ID1) would gain access to canal water.

Total cost is preliminarily estimated at \$25.5 million. Therefore, an assessment district is the most likely funding mechanism for capital improvements.

A significant majority of affected property owners would need to support the project before the Board of Directors moves forward.

There has been positive feedback at public workshops so far, prompting CVWD to send a survey to gauge the true level of support.

Participants in the survey will receive estimated per-acre annual costs for an assessment district and the anticipated canal water rates.

Expansion of deliveries to these groups could reduce groundwater consumption by almost 20,000 acre-feet. Converting more farmland from using groundwater for irrigation to the use of imported Colorado River water is one of the goals stated in the *Coachella Valley Water Management Plan*.

Crop Report

(Covering the reporting period January - December 2011)

Crop production on Coachella Valley land irrigated with Colorado River water

Value of year's production: \$544,980,898

Total acreage irrigation (includes double cropping): 62,909

Average gross value per acre: \$8,663

Crop	Acreage	Yield in tons	Value per acre	Total value
Fruit	25,926	182,684	\$8,653	224,341,692
Dates ⁽¹⁾	8,795	25,325	\$5,599	\$43,229,570
Figs	155	1,782	\$10,316	\$1,598,903
Grapes (table) ⁽¹⁾	8,439	55,158	\$11,462	\$94,077,075
Grapefruit ⁽¹⁾	845	12,377	\$6,872	\$5,772,428
Lemons & Limes ⁽¹⁾	4,253	59,893	\$11,794	\$49,711,225
Mangos	138	1,587	\$10,316	\$1,423,539
Olives	84	966	\$10,316	\$866,502
Oranges & Tangerines ⁽¹⁾	2,762	18,419	\$6,219	\$15,777,390
Peaches ⁽¹⁾	66	221	\$11,587	\$428,734
Pumpkin	26	164	\$4,297	\$111,712
Strawberries	363	6,793	\$31,252	\$11,344,614
Vegetables	25,906	394,841	\$8,257	\$213,904,048
Artichokes	723	5,322	\$8,405	\$6,077,076
Beans	916	5,016	\$6,993	\$6,405,871
Broccoli	1,559	9,557	\$4,595	\$7,164,264
Carrots	1,992	83,664	\$6,510	\$12,967,920
Cauliflower	1,080	7,888	\$6,092	\$6,578,859
Celery	478	15,694	\$14,335	\$6,852,076
Corn (sweet)	2,747	21,701	\$3,476	\$9,548,572
Eggplant	262	2,497	\$8,729	\$2,289,621
Greens (kale & parsley)	176	1,109	\$4,297	\$756,202
Herbs & Spices	838	17,182	\$5,684	\$4,762,948
Lettuce	3,795	37,191	\$2,944	\$11,172,176
Melons	642	18,618	\$7,830	\$5,026,860
Okra	656	4,133	\$4,297	\$2,818,570
Onions (dry & green)	212	1,863	\$4,468	\$947,284
Oriental vegetables	1,913	16,643	\$7,821	\$14,962,147
Misc. vegetables	261	1,644	\$4,297	\$1,121,413
Peppers (bell & chili)	5,639	117,500	\$17,849	\$100,650,366
Potatoes	714	9,211	\$4,404	\$3,144,499
Radishes	324	5,546	\$4,487	\$1,454,052
Spinach	550	8,053	\$10,621	\$5,841,519
Squash	219	1,029	\$4,131	\$904,755
Tomatoes	210	3,780	\$11,700	\$2,457,000
Forage	2,720	20,910	\$479	\$1,302,664
Alfalfa hay	588	5,704	\$1,057	\$621,692
Sudan grass	831	3,823	\$635	\$527,519
Irrigated pasture ⁽²⁾	1,301	11,384	\$118	\$153,453
Nursery	1,575	--	\$19,353	\$30,481,432
Fish Farms	124	894	\$36,094	\$4,475,600
Golf Courses	5,393	652,553	\$10,585	\$57,085,336
Polo Fields	486	58,806	\$10,585	\$5,144,349
Turf Grass	779	94,259	\$10,585	\$8,245,777

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

⁽¹⁾ Includes acreage that is planted but not producing a harvestable crop.

⁽²⁾ Yield is in animal units per month (AUM)

Bay Delta Conservation Plan would protect state's water supply

California's water delivery system, including the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta, is the source of drinking water for 25 million Californians and irrigation water for 3.75 million acres of farmland. Locally, it provides replenishment water for the Coachella Valley's groundwater basin.

The system in the Delta relies on 100-year-old levees that are weak, poorly engineered and likely to collapse in the event of an earthquake. If that happens, sea water from the San Francisco Bay would rush into the Delta, turning freshwater into saltwater. The economic toll is estimated at \$40 billion in losses in water supplies, farm production, wages, jobs and downed utilities.

Coachella Valley Water District and Desert Water Agency combined hold the equivalent of the third largest entitlement to the State Water Project in California. This water is utilized effectively to maintain the aquifer's full ability to store water, prevent a decline in groundwater quality and minimize potential property damage due to subsidence.



The Delta is home to 750 species of wildlife and plants, as well as being the source of drinking water for 25 million Californians.



If an earthquake were to have the catastrophic geological impact on the Delta that experts fear, water would continue to flow from the taps in the Coachella Valley, but without this valuable source of water, groundwater replenishment efforts would stop and severely impact the local economy.

To avoid a doomsday in the Delta, public water agencies, including CVWD, have been working with state and federal agencies, environmental organizations and other stakeholders to develop a comprehensive plan that would protect California's water supply from this threat, protect local communities from flooding and devastation and restore the Delta's ailing ecosystem.

The plan, known as the Bay Delta Conservation Plan, has two vital goals: long-term water supply reliability for California and a healthy Delta ecosystem.

New infrastructure — either a tunnel or canal — would carry a carefully managed portion of the Delta's freshwater supply underneath or around the Delta, rather than through the fragile ecosystem and away from the weak levees.

An infrastructure project of such magnitude will surely require compromise between stakeholders. The water district supports the efforts of the plan and cautions that the stakes are too high and the risks too great to not take advantage of this opportunity.

Bay Delta facts

The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta is the source of drinking water for 25 million Californians and irrigation water for 3.75 million acres of farmland. It also contains farmland, recreational opportunities and is habitat for fisheries, endangered species and other wildlife.

But the ecosystem faces numerous threats from unreliable levees, invasive species, polluted runoff, saltwater intrusion and more.

Earthquake damage — The California Department of Water Resources estimates an earthquake would interrupt water deliveries for 18 months and have an economic toll of up to \$40 billion.

Bay Delta Conservation Plan — Collaborative effort between government, environmental groups and scientists to redesign the water system to withstand earthquakes, flood and rising sea levels.

Two primary options — One option being studied is an open canal that diverts fresh water east of the Delta into the California Aqueduct. The canal would be 42 miles long.

Another option is a tunnel system underneath the Delta. The tunnel would be 35 miles long.

To get more information on the Delta and the proposed retrofit of our water system, visit www.baydeltaconservationplan.com.

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?

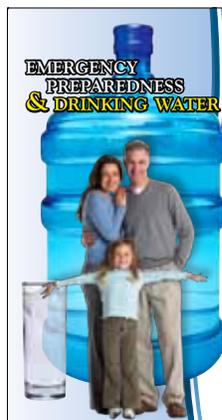
While bottled water is preferred, the water in your water heater can be used for drinking and cooking, provided that the water heater remains upright and you turn off the main water valve to your home immediately after the disaster occurs. To access this water, turn off the heating element and open the 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.



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.

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 of this brochure can be printed from the website at www.cvwd.org/news/publications.php. Call (760) 398-2651 to have a copy mailed to you.

By the Numbers

(covering the reporting period January - December 2011)

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 at-large 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 2011 of \$51,138,093,999 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	487
Total service area	639,857 acres

Domestic Water

Service information

Population served	286,240
Active accounts	107,730
Average daily demand	91.8 mgd
Total water delivered	102,805 af

System information

Active wells	102
Total well capacity	249 mgd
Distribution reservoirs	59
Storage capacity	134 mg
Distribution piping system	1,986 miles

Canal Water

Service information

Total irrigable acres	78,530
Active accounts	1,145
Total water delivered	265,270 af
Average daily demand	727 af
Maximum daily demand	1,361 af

System information

Reservoirs	2
Storage capacity	1,301 af
Distribution system	485 miles
Pumping plants	17
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

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.

Wastewater

Service information

Population served	260,700
Active accounts	91,673
Average daily flow	17.8 mgd

System information

Wastewater reclamation plants	6
Total daily plant capacity	33.5 mgd
Collection piping system	1,086 miles

Recycled Water

Service information

Active accounts	16
Average daily flow	8.6 mgd

System information

Wastewater reclamation plants producing recycled water	3
Total daily capacity	18 mgd
Distribution piping system	16.3 miles

Groundwater Management

(In cooperation with Desert Water Agency)

Recharge facilities	4
Recharge from imported water	286,629 af
Imported supply since 1973	2,849,269 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



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

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Irrigation Guide

If you don't have a self-adjusting irrigation timer, use this guide to determine the approximate amount of water your landscaping needs each month. Individual watering times will vary due to soil and other conditions.

Gradually reduce the amount of water to find an adequate amount for your situation without being wasteful.

January

Water-efficient shrubs
.7 gal./day ♦ 2 days/week

Grass spray system
4 min./day ♦ 7 days/week

March

Water-efficient shrubs
.9 gal./day ♦ 4 days/week

Grass spray system
9 min./day ♦ 7 days/week

May

Water-efficient shrubs
.9 gal./day ♦ 6 days/week

Grass spray system
15 min./day ♦ 7 days/week

July

Water-efficient shrubs
.9 gal./day ♦ 7 days/week

Grass spray system
16 min./day ♦ 7 days/week

September

Water-efficient shrubs
1 gal./day ♦ 5 days/week

Grass spray system
12 min./day ♦ 7 days/week

November

Water-efficient shrubs
.7 gal./day ♦ 3 days/week

Grass spray system
5 min./day ♦ 7 days/week

When there's measurable rain, turn your sprinkler system off and keep it off until the surface of the ground has dried!