



COTTONWOOD SPRINGS WATER STEWARDS

The Cottonwood Springs Water Stewards is a volunteer committee of Save Red Rock, with the mission of preserving and protecting our most precious local resource. For more information, visit www.saveredrock.com/water.

*** DROUGHT UPDATE ***

WATER SHORTAGE FOR SOUTHERN NEVADA TO BE DECLARED

(source: SNWA, CNN)

With below average snowpack last winter, forecasts from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation indicate that Lake Mead's water level will fall below elevation 1,075 feet by 2022, triggering the first federally-declared shortage on the Colorado River. A shortage declaration **requires** Nevada to reduce its annual Colorado River allocation by **4.2 billion gallons** – that is in addition to the 2.6 billion-gallon reduction SNWA has already taken in efforts to protect the lake under provisions of the Drought Contingency Plan.

Though Blue Diamond Village draws water from its own aquifer, we suffer from the same drought conditions. In the last year, mainly due to lack of precipitation, our well levels have **decreased by more than 5 feet** to the **lowest levels in the last 4 years**.

By reducing outdoor water use, we can continue to ensure reliable water supplies for years to come.

Please read these important articles on the issue
(check our e-newsletter for click-able links):

[SNWA Water Update: Shortage is coming](#)

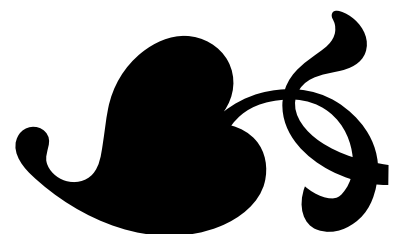
[CNN: First-Ever Colorado River water shortage is now almost certain, new projections show](#)

[LVRJ: Non-functional grass to be banned in the Las Vegas Valley](#)

TELL US HOW YOU'VE CONSERVED!

The Cottonwood Springs Water Stewards want to know how you've conserved. We will be calculating our water savings and communal green space "earnings" in a fun and exciting way, but first we need your info!

Stay tuned for an email survey asking for the specific ways you've conserved.





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KNOW YOUR USAGE

Do you know how much water your household uses?
Water utility use is public information, so it's very easy to find out!
Get up-to-the-minute data by calling the Las Vegas Valley Water District.

800-252-2011

WATER CONSCIOUS GARDENING

Having a garden is a great way to conserve by localizing your food supply, but it's important to grow food sustainably. Below are a few simple ways to be water conscious while growing your own food.

- **WATERING TOOLS** - Like most things in life, your tools are important. Check for outdated hoses and nozzles that may be leaking through out the day. Updating hoses and nozzles not only helps unnecessary leaks but having the right pressure for your plants makes hand watering much more efficient.
- * Hand-watering the garden is a sure way to avoid leaks and stay connected with the garden. Hand-water when possible.
- **IRRIGATION LINE CHECK** - Because we live in such a dry climate, micro tubing and irrigation lines are prone to cracks, shifts, and displacement. It's a good idea to double check irrigation lines every so often for leaks and positioning. Is there a line running water to a plant-less area?
- **GARDEN BED LINING** - Raised garden beds tend to leak, so lining them helps retain as much water as possible and allows for a slower drainage process. Lining garden beds not only helps plant growth but can reduce the amount of water needed to grow and unnecessary water lost.

HABITAT AWARENESS

We aren't the only ones that depend on water for survival. Our home supports the lives of a special variety of plant and animal species, not typically seen in developed suburban areas. It is a rich habitat that we are committed to learning more about. To that end, we got curious about all the living beings with whom we share our space, and enrolled a few neighborhood experts and volunteers to chronicle the vast numbers of species of flora and fauna that grace our Village. The informal, observational survey reveals a complex ecosystem of delightful wildlife.

Here's some of what we saw:

- approximately six different mammal species – including our beloved burros and cottontails but also bobcats and ringtail cats;
- interesting arthropods like the Metaphid Jumping Spider, Flame Skimmer Dragonfly (in the Wetlands), Painted Lady Butterfly and adorable Roly-Poly;
- a variety of amphibians and reptiles;
- nearly 13 different tree varieties such as the Honey Mesquite, Sycamore, English Elm, Russian Olive, Lotus, Pecan, Apple and Apricot fruit trees, and of course Cottonwoods;
- stunning flowers like our Yellow and Purple Irises and Yerba Mansa, and our new pollinator garden with native flowers;
- approximately 12 species of wild birds from Cooper's Hawk to the American Robin

If you'd like to see the full list of our survey or contribute your observations, please email us at water@saveredrock.com.