

Use Water Wisely, And  
Keep It Clean, It's A  
Way Of Life.



# California Water Awareness Month

## Plant Low-Water Native Plants:

*This list is a brief representation of native, low-water consuming plants that are easily available. A more extended list can be found on our new website (see below).*

- Barrel Cactus
- Joshua Tree
- Blue Palo Verde
- Desert Senna
- Globe Mallow
- Snapdragon Vine
- Ocotillo
- Brittlebush

*Planting native plants will require less water, fertilizer and maintenance than others grown in milder climates. You can also check with your favorite local nursery for their suggestions about what is best suited to your specific area. Avoid harvesting (or digging up) wild plants. The disturbance to the ecosystem is irreversible, and most native plants don't transplant well.*

### Why Protect Water?

Water is earth's most precious resource. And with the Morongo Basin's desert climate, unpredictable rainfall, and growing population, we cannot take our water supply for granted. We must use water wisely to ensure we have an adequate supply, both now and in the future. Not only do conservation efforts help save this precious resource, they can also help reduce water bills. It's a win-win situation.

## TPWD Observes Water Awareness Month

During May 2006, the Twentynine Palms Water District will be observing Water Awareness Month (WAM) in coordination with the California Water Awareness Campaign and would like to invite you and your household or business to participate.

The campaign's primary focus is on public awareness about the conservation, supply, quality and distribution of water and about the need for all Californian's to use water wisely.

Approximately 300 water agencies, businesses and organizations throughout

California will be participating in the campaign whose theme this year is "Use Water Wisely and Keep it Clean, It's a Way of Life."

In preparation for Water Awareness Month, the District distributed groundwater and conservation oriented curriculum to all 4th and 5th grade educators within Twentynine Palms.

During May and June, the District will be including conservation tips in each water bill which will be distributed to approximately 7,000 meter services.

The District also announces the completion of its new



*Try the concept of xeriscape, which means, "landscaping for water conservation." The idea utilizes plants that require less water. You can also decorate with objects that need no water, such as rock, brick, benches, gravel and deck areas.*

website (see below) and has provided this information sheet which includes tips for water conservation and protection on the reverse side.

## District Announces New Web Site

In conjunction with Water Awareness Month, the Twentynine Palms Water District is pleased to announce the launch of its new website.

Included on the site is information related to services provided by the District and

water conservation and protection tips.

There is also a special section "just for kids" that includes fun activities centered on groundwater, the water cycle and conservation issues.

So, if you have a question

about understanding your water bill or just want to know more about the your local water supply, come visit our new presence on the web!

**[www.29palmswater.org](http://www.29palmswater.org)**

## Protecting Our Water Quality



*You can protect our water quality by using and disposing of household chemicals and waste with care.*

Household chemicals and waste can pollute our water supply if we do not use them correctly and dispose of them properly. If they are flushed down the drain, they may end up in our groundwater. And if they are thrown into the garbage and hauled to the landfill, they may be leached, over time, into the soil and water surrounding the landfill.

So what products are considered to be household hazardous waste? *Outdoors:* pesticides, fungicides, weed killers and pool chemicals. *Indoors:* ammonia and bleach-based cleaners, aerosol sprays, household polishes, fluorescent lamps, nail polish and remover, medications and syringes. *Automotive:* anti-freeze, oil and filters, gasoline, wax and auto polishes, auto batteries, engine cleaners and brake fluid. *Other:* paint (all kinds), paint thinners, wood preservatives, glues and adhesives, solvents, and photo chemicals.

You can protect our water quality by using and disposing of household chemicals and waste with care. Do not throw it in the trash, take it to a hazardous waste collection facility instead. You can also reduce/eliminate herbicide and pesticide applications as well as recycle used oil and other automotive products. For more information regarding disposal please call 1-800-OILY-CAT (645-9228).

## Indoor Water Saving Tips

- Only run full loads in the washing machine and dishwasher. This can save about 800 gallons of water a month. If you are purchasing a new washer or dishwasher sometime soon, purchase a water and energy saving model.
- Use water-saving shower-heads and take shorter showers. Taking five minute showers while using a low-flow shower-head can save about 600 gallons of water a month.
- Fix leaky faucets and toilets - if the toilet flapper valve leaks, it's an easy problem to fix and stops enormous waste of water. This can save about 140 gallons of water a month.
- Don't let the water run while you're washing dishes, shaving or brushing your teeth.



*Fixing leaky faucets and toilets can save about 140 gallons of water a month.*

## Outdoor Water Saving Tips



*Use drip irrigation for your flowers, trees, gardens and landscape.*

- Consider replacing high-water usage landscape with a deck, patio or low-water use plants. Landscaping with plants and flowers that need little water can use 50 percent less water.
- Instead of a hose, use a broom to clean driveways and walkways. This can save about 150 gallons of water each time.
- Use an automatic shutoff nozzle on your hose.
- Cover pools and spas to reduce evaporation. Covering the pool can save about 1000 gallons of water a month.
- Use drip irrigation for your flowers, trees, gardens and landscape.