

JOSHUA BASIN WATER DISTRICT

WATERLINE REPORT

BOARD of DIRECTORS

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The Board of Directors meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the JBWD Office. Some meetings are cancelled, please check with the District office before planning to attend. Joshua Basin Water District is an equal opportunity provider.

*Education "Above and Beyond"
A Key to a Well-Run Water System*

Here in Joshua Tree, we take pride in the quality of our groundwater. Keeping the water flowing safely to our customers through hundreds of miles of pipe in conditions of heat and high usage in summer, and occasional freezing temperatures in winter can be a challenge.

Several factors keep the water flowing to the taps. One is the high caliber of education and training of our staff. At JBWD, every job is important, and we encourage education and training so that all our staff can be as efficient and knowledgeable as possible.

Our field employees all have Distribution Operator and/or Treatment Operator certifications issued by the California Department of Health - much more than the minimum required for our District. Specialized education, experience, and successful exam completion are required to obtain the certifications. Additionally, renewal of certifications every three years requires continuing education.

The District is proud of the level of commitment and pride shown by our Water System Operators. We have four Distribution level 1 Operators (D1), three D2, two D3 and one D4. Three of our staff have Treatment level 2 certification (T2).

Class A drivers, welders, backflow specialists, heavy equipment operators, telemetry specialists, and mapping experts are on staff as well.

Office staff also take advantage of opportunities to further their skills, with continuing education beneficial to their particular area of expertise. Computer skills, communication, customer service, safety and emergency preparedness planning and exercises are all encouraged and practiced regularly.

Add to that Associates degrees, Bachelors and Masters degrees, and it is apparent that our staff of only 23 employees is very highly qualified to "get the job done".

Our Board of Directors are also offered the opportunity for education. Seminars in Special District Finance, Administration and Governance have been completed by several Directors. Meetings, seminars and lectures on local, regional and state-wide water issues are regularly attended. This gives our Board an excellent advantage when making the tough decisions needed to manage our most precious resource.



Recently, fire extinguisher use training was provided for all staff.

Following a training presentation, District employees approach the blaze, using the buddy system, and successfully extinguish the fire.



Water Education is Fun at JBWD

Recently, Mrs. Killian's fifth grade class from Joshua Tree Elementary School visited our Water-Wise Demonstration Garden to learn about water conservation.

The students learned many facts while participating in water-awareness activities.



Students at learning stations in the Water-Wise Demonstration Garden

After the field trip, students worked in class designing posters with artwork and water conservation messages.

All of the posters are fantastic! Some are on display in the Joshua Basin Water District Lobby. Watch for examples in future issues of the "Waterline Report".

District Committee Wins Award for Safety

Joshua Basin Water District's Safety Committee was recently awarded the *H.R. LaBounty Safety Award*.

The award is given by the Association of California Water Agencies Joint Powers Insurance Authority (ACWA/JPIA).

Twice each year, JPIA solicits nominations, and then selects those who made significant contributions to their water agencies in promoting safety in the workplace.

The award was announced at the ACWA Spring Conference in May.

JBWD's program has several functions; safety policy development, regular safety inspections and reviews, promotion of safety throughout the District, and safety training for all staff, to name a few.

The Safety and Emergency Preparedness Committee meets regularly under the guidance of the District's Safety Coordinator and the Emergency Services Coordinator to review programs, plan for the future and discuss and resolve any concerns.

The District is now in its third year with no work related injuries.

Plant of the Month - May 2010 *Cerastium tomentosum* - Snow-in-Summer



Cerastium tomentosum (Snow-in-summer) is an appealing ground cover that grows easily in any well-drained soil, and spreads quickly by reseeding itself.

In late spring to early summer, it is covered with white flowers about one inch in diameter. It is quite drought tolerant, but does well with regular watering. Snow-in-summer grows best in full sun. It can be a nice addition to a rock garden.

For more information on low water use gardening, see www.jbwd.com or www.hdawac.org

Hey kids, check out the "Kids Corner" on our website.

Click on the water drops to find games, fun water facts, and videos!

Do you know... How much water is on the earth?
What the water cycle is? Where your water comes from?
How much water it takes to grow an orange, or to make bread, french fries or a car?

Find out at: www.jbwd.com/kids-corner

