

#6 What are some California Water FAQs?



- An Acre-foot of water is about 326,000 gallons.
- A family of four uses 1 acre-foot of water per year in and around the house.
- Statewide, California receives on average of 23 inches of precipitation each year.
- Joshua Tree receives an average of 4.65 inches of precipitation each year.
- Most of California's rain falls from October through April, and most of the water use occurs May through September.
- About 75 % of the rain that falls in California falls north of Sacramento, while about 75% of the water demand (agricultural, domestic and industrial) is south of Sacramento.
- About 63% of annual rainfall and runoff is used by native vegetation, evaporates or soaks into the ground.





- California has about 85 million acre-feet of surface and ground water available in an Average year. Of that, about 36% (or 30 million acre-feet) is used for cities and farms; 28% (24 million acre-feet) is legally committed to the environmental purposes of wild and scenic rivers, wetlands and Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta outflows; and 36% (30 million acre-feet) flows to the ocean.
- Landscaping accounts for about 33% to 40% of home water use, showers for about 15 % to 18%, and toilets for about 17% to 20%.
- California recycles about 401,910 acre-feet of water each year.
- The state’s 1,400 surface water reservoirs hold about 45 million acre-feet.
- In “normal” water years, ground water supplies 35% to 40% of the states water needs. That percentage jumps to at least 50% in dry years.
- Given California’s growing population and increasing environmental needs for water, officials estimate that shortages of 3 million to 4 million acre-feet can be in average years by the year 2020.
- A State water shortage project typically takes 10 to 20 years to design and build.
- JBWD has about 5.8 Million gallons in storage capacity at this time. Our average daily demand of 1,408,191 gallons results in 4.1 days of storage.
- JBWD produced 513,190,000 gallons of water last year.