

JOSHUA BASIN WATER DISTRICT

# WATERLINE REPORT

## BOARD of DIRECTORS

### President

Mickey Luckman

### Vice President

Mike Reynolds

### Directors

Bill Long

Michael Luhrs

Gary Wilson

## CONTACT INFORMATION

PO BOX 675  
61750 Chollita Road  
Joshua Tree CA 92252

### PHONE

(760) 366-8438

### FAX

(760) 366-9528

### EMAIL

contact@jbwd.com

The Board of Directors meets regularly on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of each month at 7 p.m. at the District Office. JBWD is an equal opportunity provider.



March 14-20, 2011

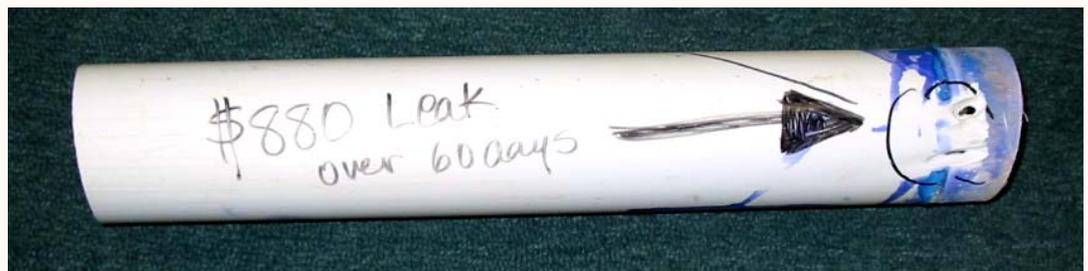
## Fix a Leak Week

Drip. Drip. Drip. The average American household wastes more than 10,000 gallons each year from easy-to-fix water leaks - enough water to wash nearly 10 months' worth of laundry. If that doesn't seem like a lot, consider that across the country, easy-to-fix household leaks can add up to more than 1 trillion gallons of water lost every year.

That's why the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Joshua Basin Water District encourage homeowners to find and fix leaks during the third annual *Fix a Leak Week*, March 14 through 20, 2011. *Fix a Leak Week* reminds homeowners of the easy steps they can take to help save water in their community now and for future generations.

Fixing household leaks not only saves water but can also reduce water bills. Start saving today with three simple steps: Check. Twist. Replace.

- **Check** Look for dripping faucets, showerheads, and fixture connections. Check for toilets with silent leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring into the tank and seeing if it appears in the bowl before you flush. Don't forget to check irrigation systems and spigots outside the house too. Items that are often overlooked are waterlines to swamp coolers and to refrigerators with icemakers and water dispensers.
- **Twist** To save more water without a noticeable difference in flow, twist on a water-efficient faucet aerator for kitchen and bathroom faucets.
- **Replace** the fixture if necessary. Look for water-efficient models; they use less water and perform as well as or better than standard models.



The two holes in this section of PVC are less than 1/4 inch long. They occurred where the pipe was joined. Leaks of this type start out as a small bit of water escaping ; the water, under pressure carved the tiny outlets into larger holes.

## What Can **You** Do to Help Protect Our Water Quality?

Here in the Joshua Basin Water District, our very pure water has been filtering through the earth and collecting underground bit by bit over tens of thousands of years.

The natural processes that occur in the earth to filter rainwater may not be enough to filter out modern chemicals, cleaners, prescription drugs, and other toxic substances. Here are a few tips to help keep our groundwater safe from contamination:

- ◆ Never flush toxic substances down the drain; chemicals like gasoline, antifreeze and pesticides pose a potential threat to our water supply, and they can destroy the biological processes that make your septic system work properly;
- ◆ Keep vehicles in good condition; fix leaks promptly to keep oil and other fluids from absorbing into the ground, and never bury or dump toxic substances on the ground;
- ◆ Household cleaners and personal care products; choose products with nontoxic ingredients whenever possible. Make an online visit to the Household Products Database to find out what's in the products you use at home and to find better alternatives: <http://householdproducts.nlm.nih.gov>;
- ◆ Take all household hazardous waste to the local hazardous waste collection facility - it's free. Call 1.800.OILY CAT (1.800.645.9228) for information on the Joshua Tree collection site.

## Expand Your Water Vocabulary

**aquifer** - soil or rock below the land surface that is saturated with water.

**subsidence** - the lowering of the land surface elevation from changes that take place underground.

*Groundwater Fast-Fact* - Aquifer system compaction is one of the principal causes of land subsidence.

Subsidence is virtually an irreversible process; however, some possible measures for reducing subsidence are:

1. reduce water use, and
2. choose locations for pumping and artificial recharge that will minimize subsidence.

## Celebrating World Water Day March 22 2011

*World Water Day* was designated by the United Nations as a day to highlight the importance of freshwater, worldwide.

Each year, *World Water Day* highlights a specific aspect of freshwater. The theme for 2011 is "*Water for Cities: Responding to the Urban Challenge*"

*Did you know that, worldwide;*

- 141 million urban dwellers do not have access to safe drinking water
- 828 million live in slums without safe drinking water or sanitation services
- lack of safe water leads to water related diseases and malaria and cholera epidemics
- in developing countries, cities gain an average of **5 million** residents a month

How will you observe *World Water Day*? Here are some ideas: make a personal commitment to conserve water by... taking shorter showers - turning the water off while brushing your teeth - replacing water fixtures with water-efficient models - check for leaks: check • twist • replace (see pg. 1).

