



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE MOJAVE WATER AGENCY

Q.: What is the Mojave Water Agency?

A.: The Mojave Water Agency is one of 29 State Water Contractors with access to supplemental water from the California Aqueduct. According to state law, the MWA is charged with the responsibility to “do any and every act necessary to be done so that sufficient water may be available for any present or future beneficial use of the lands and inhabitants” within its jurisdiction.

Q.: Why is it needed?

A.: Portions of the areas served by the MWA are experiencing groundwater overdraft. That is, more groundwater is used each year than is replaced by nature through rain and snowmelt. A plan to deal with this problem has been approved by the trial court and must be administered by a regional authority. The alternative would, in all probability, result in growth limitations and other economic hardships.

Q.: What are its boundaries?

A.: The MWA serves nearly 5,000 square miles of the Mojave Desert in San Bernardino County. This region includes the communities of Adelanto, Apple Valley, Baldy Mesa, Barstow, Daggett, El Mirage, Flamingo Heights, Grandview, Helendale, Hesperia, Hinkley, Johnson Valley, Joshua Tree, Landers, Lenwood, Lucerne Valley, Newberry Springs, Oak Hills, Oro Grande, Phelan, Pinon Hills, Pioneertown, Silver Lakes, Spring Valley Lake, Summit Valley, Victorville, Yermo, and Yucca Valley.

Q.: Why do we have to pay taxes to the MWA?

A.: The MWA property taxes, collected on the county tax rolls, consist of two types of assessments. This money is mostly used for the MWA to pay debt service and maintenance in connection with the State Water Project (California Aqueduct). One tax is permanently set at 11¼ cents per \$100 of assessed valuation on land only. The second tax, levied to supplement the first assessment and also to fund MWA administration, is set each year. It is currently set at 5½ cents per \$100 of assessed valuation on land and improvements.

Q.: What does the MWA do for us?

A.: Since 1991 the MWA has been regularly importing water from the California Aqueduct to recharge the groundwater basins from which local water companies and other well owners derive water for all uses: domestic, agricultural, industrial, and recreational.

Q.: How can I learn more about the Mojave Water Agency?

A.: You can visit the Mojave Water Agency Website at: www.mojavewater.org, on the Agency’s Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/mojavewater>, or call (760) 946-7000 during business hours.

Mojave Water Agency is **M.W.A.** — **Making Water Available**