

# DWANews

DESERT WATER  SPRING 2024

Let's make every drop count!

## DWA HAS A NEW GENERAL MANAGER



Desert Water Agency is happy to welcome Steve L. Johnson as the Agency's seventh General Manager. He replaced Mark Krause on Feb. 22, who retired after 29 years.

Johnson joined DWA in 1995 as an Assistant Engineer and has been instrumental in leading a variety of engineering projects over the years. He became Operations Engineer in 2004 and Assistant General Manager in 2016.

Johnson worked side-by-side with Krause for almost three decades and appreciates the opportunity to lead the Agency as the new General Manager.

"I have spent my entire career at DWA working alongside Mark, learning from the best. In my new role I will continue to plan and prioritize so that future generations can enjoy clean, reliable drinking water, like we do today," said Johnson.

Among his many accomplishments, Johnson has guided DWA through several departmental restructurings to help the Agency navigate ever-increasing regulations more efficiently. He has also negotiated new power purchase and land use agreements to generate revenue for DWA and keep rates down.

Johnson will continue to work with the Board of Directors and Agency staff to ensure the reliability, safety and sustainability of DWA's water supply.

Replacing Johnson as Assistant General Manager is David Tate, who has been at the Agency for 19 years.

DWA looks forward to continued success under new leadership.

## PIPELINE UPGRADES



Desert Water Agency is replacing several aging water pipelines throughout our system to help improve water reliability, lower repair costs and reduce water loss.

Construction is underway on several streets and more work will begin throughout our service area over the next few months.

To see project area maps and stay up to date on pipeline construction, go to [www.dwa.org/pipelines](http://www.dwa.org/pipelines).

## DETECTING LEAKS SUPPORTS WATER EFFICIENCY



Conservation is a priority for DWA and its customers. Water system leaks not visible at the surface can add up to big water loss.

To proactively find and fix leaks, DWA conducted detection surveys in several areas throughout its distribution system in March. As part of the process, specialists trained DWA employees on how to use equipment to identify and locate leaks, allowing the Agency to efficiently address potential issues.

Finding and repairing hidden or small leaks before they become a major problem reduces water loss and avoids emergency work and traffic.

We all play a part in reducing water waste. Learn how you can spot and repair leaks at home. Go to [www.dwa.org/leaks](http://www.dwa.org/leaks) for tips.

## MEET EDDIE!



Eddie is our Facilities & Safety Officer. He has been with DWA for 15 years and makes safety a top priority.

He does everything from employee safety drills and training to serving as DJ for holiday work parties. A top hobby is producing music and his favorite food is shredded beef tacos.

To see Eddie in action, check out his video Reel on DWA's Instagram page.

## GET SOCIAL WITH DWA!

Follow us for the latest in water news.  
 X (formerly Twitter) - @DWAwater  
 Facebook - @dwawater  
 YouTube - @desertwateragency4898  
 Instagram - @desertwateragency



## FAQ

### How do I report water waste?

If you see a leak or water waste, report it to DWA at [www.dwa.org/report](http://www.dwa.org/report). Be ready with the location, date, time and description. Photos are a huge help! You can also send an e-mail to [waterwaste@dwa.org](mailto:waterwaste@dwa.org).

In the event of a water emergency, call 760-323-4971 and push 0 during business hours and 4 after hours.



## WATER SAVY WAYS TO PROTECT THE PLANET



April 22 is Earth Day! One of the best ways to ensure a healthy planet is to save water! Here are tips to conserve at home:

### OUTSIDE

- Watch the weather! Don't irrigate during or 48 hours after rainfall, or while it's too windy.
- Install a smart controller to adjust irrigation for you. DWA has a rebate of up to \$250.
- Make sure sprinklers are watering your landscape, not the pavement.
- Sweep your driveway and sidewalk instead of using a hose.
- Replace grass with water-efficient landscaping. Get \$3/square foot from DWA, plus an extra \$1 from Palm Springs if you're in the city.

### INSIDE

- Defrost food in the fridge instead of under running water.
- Check pipes and appliances, such as dishwashers and water heaters, for leaks.
- Keep showers short.
- Turn off water when brushing teeth or washing hands.
- Upgrade to an efficient washing machine and get up to \$250 back from DWA.
- Upgrade to an ultra-efficient toilet and get up to \$250 back from DWA.

Conserving water will also save you money! Get more tips and details on all DWA's water efficiency rebates for customers at [www.dwa.org/save](http://www.dwa.org/save).

## WANT TO KNOW MORE?

The public is welcome to participate in our board meetings. They take place at 8 a.m. on the first and third Tuesday of the month, at 1200 S. Gene Autry Trail, Palm Springs. For a meeting schedule, please visit: [www.dwa.org](http://www.dwa.org).

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Steve Grasha: Div. 1 - Director
- Gerald McKenna: Div. 2 - Sec./Treasurer
- Jeff Bowman: Div. 3 - Vice President
- Paul Ortega: Div. 4 - President
- Kristin Bloomer: Div. 5 - Director

## CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information, please contact: DWA Public Affairs Manager Xochitl Peña at 760-323-4971, ext. 272, or [Xpena@dwa.org](mailto:Xpena@dwa.org). For more information on DWA's conservation programs, please visit: [www.dwa.org/save](http://www.dwa.org/save).