



SPRING 2026

DWA Board Elects Officers for 2026

At its January 6, 2026, meeting, the Desert Water Agency (DWA) Board of Directors conducted its annual election of officers.

Director Kristin Bloomer (Division 5) was elected to serve as President and Director Gerald McKenna (Division 2)

was elected as Vice President. Director Paul Ortega (Division 4) was elected to serve as Secretary-Treasurer. Directors Jeff Bowman (Division 3) and Steve Grasha (Division 1) will also continue to serve as members of the Board.

The Board meets at 8 a.m. on the first and third Tuesday of each month in the DWA Board Room. The public is welcome to attend in person or virtually. For more information and meeting agendas, go to www.dwa.org



President
Kristin Bloomer



Vice President
Gerald McKenna



Secretary-Treasurer
Paul Ortega

Meter Replacements

Water meters are an essential part of your water service. The devices measure water consumption and ensure that DWA customers are billed accurately based on actual water use.

DWA monitors the age of residential and commercial meters so we can proactively replace the devices when they are near the end of their lifespan. Typically, a water meter lasts about 20 years.

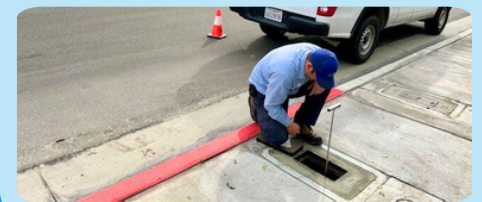
As part of our ongoing efforts to keep meters in our service area up to date, DWA is replacing meters that have reached the end of their optimal life. Customers who are due to have their meter replaced will receive advance notice from DWA.

Upgrading a meter takes about 15-20 minutes and requires the water to your home or business to be shut off during that time.

Accurate meters allow customers to monitor their water usage and detect unusual changes, such as leaks. If the dial on the face of the meter is spinning when the water is shut off or no water is being used, that could be a sign of a leak.

To learn more about meters and the meter replacement program, go to www.dwa.org/meterreplacements

Learn more about finding and fixing leaks at www.dwa.org/leaks



Commit to Conserve All Year Long

Earth Day may be April 22, but conservation matters year-round. Small changes make a big difference. Here are some easy tips to help you save water – and the planet!

Inside:

- Take shorter showers. Pick your favorite 5-minute song and try to finish up before it ends.
- Turn off the tap while washing your hands and brushing your teeth.
- Defrost food in the fridge instead of under running water.
- Only wash full loads in the dishwasher and washing machine.
- Use DWA's rebates to upgrade to efficient toilets and appliances.



Outside:

- Watch the weather! Remember not to irrigate during or 48 hours after rainfall, or while it is too windy.
- Install a smart controller to adjust irrigation for you. Be sure to check out DWA's rebate before you buy one!
- Check your irrigation system for leaks and efficiency. Make sure sprinklers are watering plants and grass, not the pavement.
- Sweep your driveway and sidewalk instead of using a hose.
- Update your landscaping using desert-friendly plants. Make sure to take advantage of DWA's grass removal rebate.

Get more conservation tips, resources and rebate info at www.dwa.org/save





Need help with your water bill?

DWA offers a bill assistance program.

We understand that sometimes it can be difficult to pay your water bill. DWA offers options for customers who need assistance.



Low-income customers that meet certain requirements may be eligible for a water bill credit of up to \$200 a year through DWA's Help2Others program. DWA works with Inland SoCal United Way to administer the program. Customers may also be eligible to set up a payment plan directly with DWA.

For more information and for other resources that may be able to help, go to www.dwa.org/h2o

Get social with DWA!

- Instagram:** @desertwateragency
- Facebook:** @dwawater
- X (formerly Twitter):** @DWAwater
- YouTube:** @desertwateragency4898
- Nextdoor:** Desert Water Agency
- LinkedIn:** Desert Water Agency



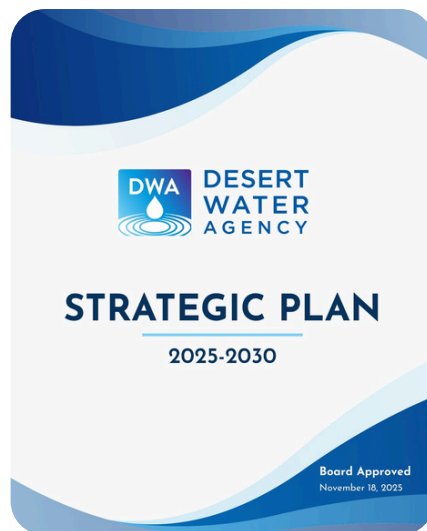
DWA Unveils Five-Year Strategic Plan

DWA adopted its first Five-Year Strategic Plan that sets a clear path for the future, and formalizes its mission, vision, and values.

The plan focuses on four strategic goals: sustainability, operational, modernization and engagement.

Each goal represents a core area of focus that is supported by measurable objectives and initiatives to help DWA achieve its long-established purpose of safe, sustainable and responsible water management and delivery.

Development of the strategic plan was comprehensive and inclusive. All employees and the Board of Directors were invited to collaborate and provide input to help develop the strategic goals, objectives and initiatives.



The process also involved creating mission, vision and values statements to better define the Agency and its guiding principles.

The DWA Board of Directors adopted the plan on Nov. 18, 2025.

To read DWA's Strategic Plan and the mission, vision and values, go to www.dwa.org/StrategicPlan

Conservation Corner

April is National Garden Month! In the desert, it is also a great time to give your landscaping some attention before it gets hot. See the tips on the front page for some easy ideas! The warmer weather means you'll use more water outdoors, making it extra important to save where you can. Here's a general rule of thumb when watering grass with a spray system:

- April:** 10 minutes/day, 7 days/week
- May:** 12 minutes/day, 7 days/week
- June:** 14 minutes/day, 7 days/week

Consider upgrading your yard to desert-friendly landscaping! DWA offers a grass removal rebate of \$2 per square foot (\$3 for Palm Springs residents). Get details at www.dwa.org/save

Get the complete watering guide at www.dwa.org/guide



WANT TO KNOW MORE?

For more information, please contact: DWA Public Affairs at outreach@dwa.org or 760-323-4971, ext. 184. To learn about DWA's conservation programs, please visit: www.dwa.org/save

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

The public is welcome to participate in our board meetings at 8 a.m. on the first and third Tuesday of the month. Meetings are held at 1200 S. Gene Autry Trail, Palm Springs. For a meeting schedule, please visit: www.dwa.org

