



Frequently Asked Questions Mission Springs Water District

Coronavirus (COVID19)

Can Mission Springs Water District (MSWD) continue providing water if COVID19 causes wide-spread community illness?

Yes. Mission Springs Water District operates and maintains 13 potable ground water wells throughout our water service area which includes the City of Desert Hot Springs, portion of Palm Springs, and unincorporated areas of Riverside County. The water distribution system includes approximately 390 miles of pipelines and numerous reservoirs, and pumping stations that can provide water to our residents under any number of emergency situations and scenarios. MSWD's emergency response and readiness plans are in place, tested regularly and include provisions for providing water during emergency conditions that includes community-wide illness.

Should I stockpile bottled water as a result of COVID19?

While MSWD is prepared to provide water for the community under any number of emergency situations, including an outbreak of COVID19, community members may implement their own individual readiness and preparedness plans for emergency situations as they deem appropriate. Our community's drinking water supplies meet or surpass federal Safe Drinking Water Act standards. Even under extreme circumstances, provisions are in place to make water available from groundwater wells and/or through other operational strategies.

Are there any risks of COVID19 being transmitted through drinking water supplies?

According to health officials, COVID19 is primarily transmitted person-to-person – there is no indication that transmission can occur via drinking water supplies. MSWD's drinking water is treated using chlorination which is effective at removing contaminants from water. Chlorination, which is used throughout MSWD's water distribution systems, is extremely effective at destroying virus and microorganisms during the water treatment process and maintaining disinfection throughout the water system.

What steps is MSWD taking to ensure COVID19 does not interrupt water system operations?

MSWD maintains a robust emergency response and readiness plans to help maintain water system operations during natural disasters, community-wide illness, and other emergency situations. These plans are tested and updated regularly. Provisions are also in place to ensure appropriate water treatment supplies and resources are available to sustain water delivery for an extended period of time, even if supply chains are temporarily disrupted during an emergency.

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