



Las Vegas Valley Water District  
Southern Nevada Water Authority  
Springs Preserve™

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Southern Nevada Water Supplies and Emergency Readiness

#### **Can the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) and Las Vegas Valley Water District (LVVWD) continue providing water if COVID-19 causes wide-spread community illness?**

Yes. Southern Nevada's water treatment and delivery system consists of two advanced water treatment facilities that are capable of treating and delivering up to 900 million gallons of drinking water per day. The water distribution system includes more than 6,800 miles of pipelines and numerous reservoirs, pumping stations and wells, that can provide water to Southern Nevadans under any number of emergency situations and scenarios. SNWA'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 COVID-19?**

While SNWA and LVVWD are prepared to provide water for the community under any number of emergency situations, including an outbreak of COVID-19, Southern Nevadans 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 COVID-19 being transmitted through drinking water supplies?**

According to health officials, COVID-19 is primarily transmitted person-to-person – there is no indication that transmission can occur via drinking water supplies. Southern Nevada's drinking water is treated using a combination of ozonation, filtration and chlorination, which are on the leading edge of water treatment processes and effective at removing contaminants from water. Chlorination, which is used throughout Southern Nevada'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 SNWA taking to ensure COVID-19 does not interrupt water system operations?**

SNWA and LVVWD maintain 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.

#### **What can I do to help?**

During the coronavirus outbreak – and during other emergency situations – the community can help by reducing outdoor landscape irrigation. Reducing water demands allows SNWA to treat and deliver less water each day. While current temperatures are still cool, you can water **one or two days a week** to keep your landscaping healthy.

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