

THE MANAGER'S UPDATE...

WATER...It seems every paper you read in Southern California these days is reporting on the California water situation. Our community is certainly not alone in searching for ways to manage our water wisely. I wanted to take this opportunity to inform our customers of some of the major activities that Borrego Water District is undertaking to insure that our Valley has a sustainable and high quality water supply for now and the future.

- **WATER CONSERVATION:** The District's Water Conservation Plan went into effect on July 1st. Several residents have already taken advantage of the free water audits, toilet replacement credits, and turf reductions rebates. Please visit the District's website at www.borregowd.org to find out more about the program and download any forms you may need to apply for assistance. You are always encouraged to also stop by the office for this information between 9:00 am and 4:00 p.m. (closed at the noon hour for lunch).
- **GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT:** The District has entered into contracts with the U.S. Geological Survey and the California Department of Water Resources to conduct a thorough analysis of our groundwater aquifer and scientifically determine the water that is available from it for future use, and to also help the District and community ascertain the future viability of this important element of the Valley's water supply.
- **WATER SUPPLY PLANNING:** An updated Water Resources Management Plan is nearing completion which evaluates alternatives for the District to assure that it continues to meet its responsibilities for a sustainable/renewable water supply for the Valley. Included in the study are options to supplement supply as may be necessary if the Groundwater Aquifer analysis indicates the need for additional water as the community grows. This document will be available for public review and comment within the next few months.
- **COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTICIPATION:** The District is participating in a committee of the Community Sponsor Group to provide input to the updates to the General Plan for our area which is overseen by San Diego County. The role of this group is to create a vision of what the future may hold for our village, and the role of the District is to insure that the water supply is available to meet the needs of our community in the future.
- **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** The District welcomes all interested residents to attend our Board meetings and committee meetings. Our goal is to address the needs of the community and all the different interested parties residing here in a way which accurately defines, analyzes and addresses the water supply issues in a proactive manner to provide for the long-term water supply needs of Borrego Springs. Your participation, input and assistance is welcome, and as shown with the Water Conservation Program, we do LISTEN to the community's concerns to arrive at the best possible solution for all.

The next twelve months will be a challenging and exciting time as we focus on our community's future. As General Manager, I am looking forward to working with all the "stakeholders", and trust that the community will come together as a "village" to address these matters. If you have any questions or suggestions please feel free to call me at the District office, or email me at rich@borregowd.org.

Best regards, Richard Williamson