



Resources available online

Find answers to your groundwater questions, research Nevada Water Law or learn about well conversion, aquifer protection, the citizens advisory committee and more at LasVegasGMP.org.

While online, learn how to help conserve water resources and save cash. Well users can receive incentives and rebates offered by the SNWA for pool covers, rain sensors, smart irrigation controllers and more.

Groundwater Update is published by the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA). Comments or questions should be directed to:

SNWA Public Information

1001 S. Valley View Blvd.
Las Vegas, NV 89153

You may also call **258-3930** or log on to snwa.com.

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A Water Smart spotlight: The Johnson family

Spencer and Dana Johnson are so pleased with their new water-smart backyard they can't wait to replace their frontyard with beautiful, water-efficient plants and shrubs. They recently participated in the Southern Nevada Water Authority's (SNWA) Water Smart Landscapes program and received a rebate check for approximately \$1,900 for replacing 1,262 square feet of turf at their southwest valley home.



Dennis Gegen from the SNWA meets with homeowner Spencer Johnson.

The Johnsons took on the project to help conserve the valley's groundwater resources. Every square foot of grass replaced with water-smart trees, shrubs and flowers saves an average of 55 gallons of water each year. "It looks nice and requires less labor," said Dana, referring to her new backyard.

Before removing any grass, the Johnsons filled out a program application and scheduled a pre-conversion site visit, requirements of the program. To help with the process, the Johnsons used a SNWA Water Smart Contractor. After landscaping work was finished, SNWA staff returned to verify the work

was complete according to program specifications. The Johnsons received their rebate check a short time later.

Program participants have removed more than 128 million square feet of turf since 1999, saving more than 7 billion gallons of water annually. The SNWA offers well owners a rebate of \$1.50 per square foot to replace turf with water-efficient landscaping. Certain restrictions apply.

Visit LasVegasGMP.org or call **258-SAVE** for more information.

Safeguard groundwater resources

Drinking contaminated groundwater can pose serious health effects. Follow these tips to keep groundwater free of contaminants:

Dispose of harmful materials properly. Don't pour hazardous materials down the drain, dump them on the ground or throw them out with the trash. Visit NevadaRecycles.gov or call **800-597-5865** for local recycling-center locations.

Always plug and properly abandon wells. An improperly abandoned well is a direct channel for contaminants to reach groundwater. If you are aware of any abandoned wells, contact the Groundwater Information Line at **258-7288**.

Protect your wellhead. Avoid storing, spilling or disposing of animal wastes, fuels, pesticides, fertilizers, paints and other contaminants within 100 feet of your well.

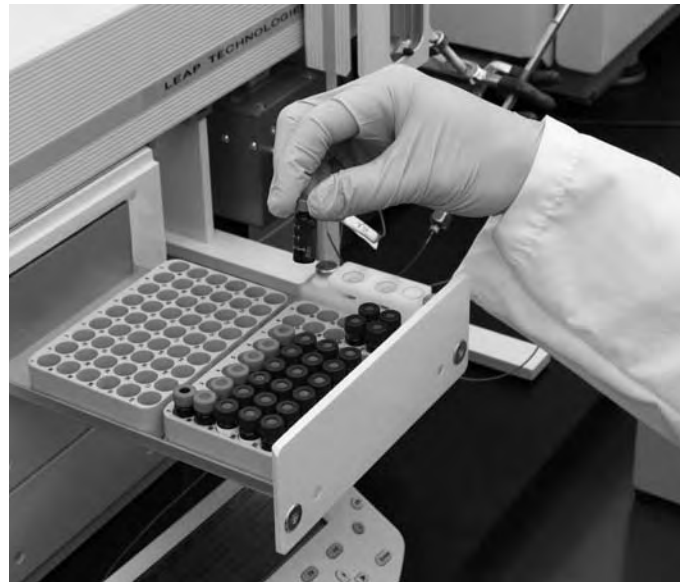
Protect your health with regular testing of well water

Water quality is important to everyone. The Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD) recommends that you have your well water tested by a qualified water lab to ensure that your water is free from harmful substances. Well users should have their well tested for bacteria, nitrates and pH at least annually.

To be sure your drinking water is safe, you may send samples from your tap to a certified local water laboratory for analysis. After testing the water, the lab will provide you with a comprehensive analysis of any detected substances.

When you receive your analysis, the SNHD is available to help you understand the results. In addition, the SNHD also can suggest possible steps to take if your water is found to be potentially unsafe to use.

Contact the SNHD at **759-0677** with questions or to obtain a list of local water quality laboratories.



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DID YOU KNOW

Sub-meters are available to help you manage your water use. Contact the Groundwater Information Line at 258-7288 or visit LasVegasGMP.org for more information.

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Southern Nevada Water Authority
1001 S. Valley View Boulevard, MS #760
Las Vegas, NV 89153
www.LasVegasGMP.org