

VOL. 1 ISSUE 1 · NOVEMBER 2022

# THE MONTHLY DROP

Official Newsletter of Ventura River Water District

## General Manager's Message

BY BERT RAPP

California is in a drought emergency and many areas throughout Southern California do not have enough water to meet normal demands. As we brace for what is expected to be another DRY year, I am pleased to announce that VRWD customers continue to exceed our mandated 30% conservation target. This is helping to preserve our local groundwater supply and ensure available supplies as the ongoing drought continues. Every drop we save today counts!

### Why It's Important To Conserve Water



## District Directors

Peggy Wiles, President  
Nathan Rosser, Vice-Chair  
Ed Lee, Treasurer  
Bruce Kuebler, Director  
Jack Curtis, Director

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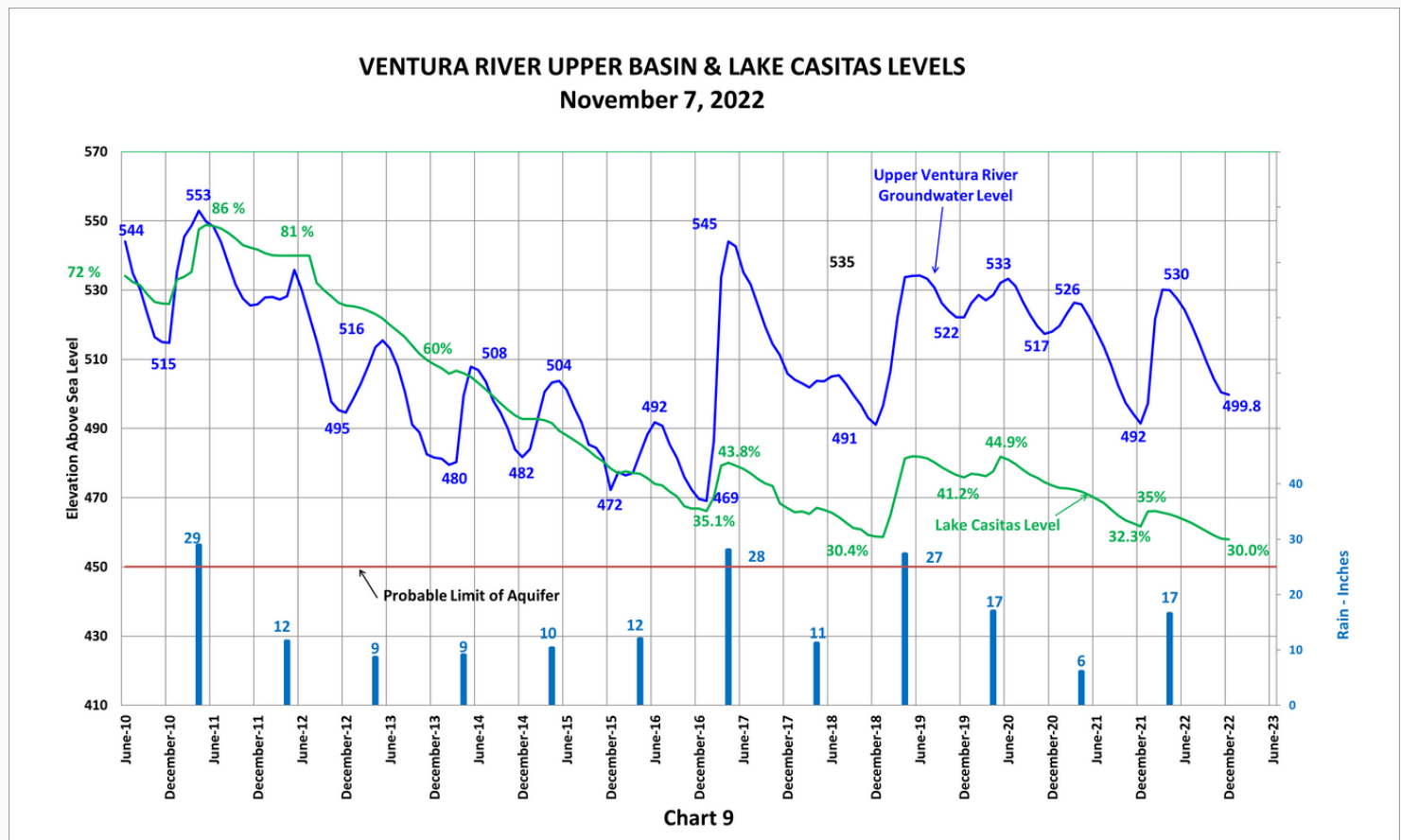
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# Water Supply Status Update

BY BERT RAPP

As of November 7, 2022 groundwater levels in the Upper Ventura Groundwater basin dropped below 500-feet which is 7.5-feet below normal and Lake Casitas has dropped to a new record low of 30.0% of capacity. The 1.5-inches of rain we received this week will soak into the ground and add to the groundwater levels in about 3 weeks. The rainfall that fell on the lake raised lake levels a little but the level is still at 30.0% of capacity. Because the watershed is so dry it will take 6 or 8 inches of rain to provide some sustained runoff to start filling the aquifer and lake.



## System Leak Detection Testing

**Our water system passed a leak test!**

The State of California offered a free leak detection test of water mains in the District. The free program tested three locations, representing typical pipes, pressures and neighborhoods in our district and no leaks were found!

The leak tests were conducted by the California Rural Water Association in October with grant money from the State. Because of the drought the State is helping water agencies find and fix leaks that would waste water.





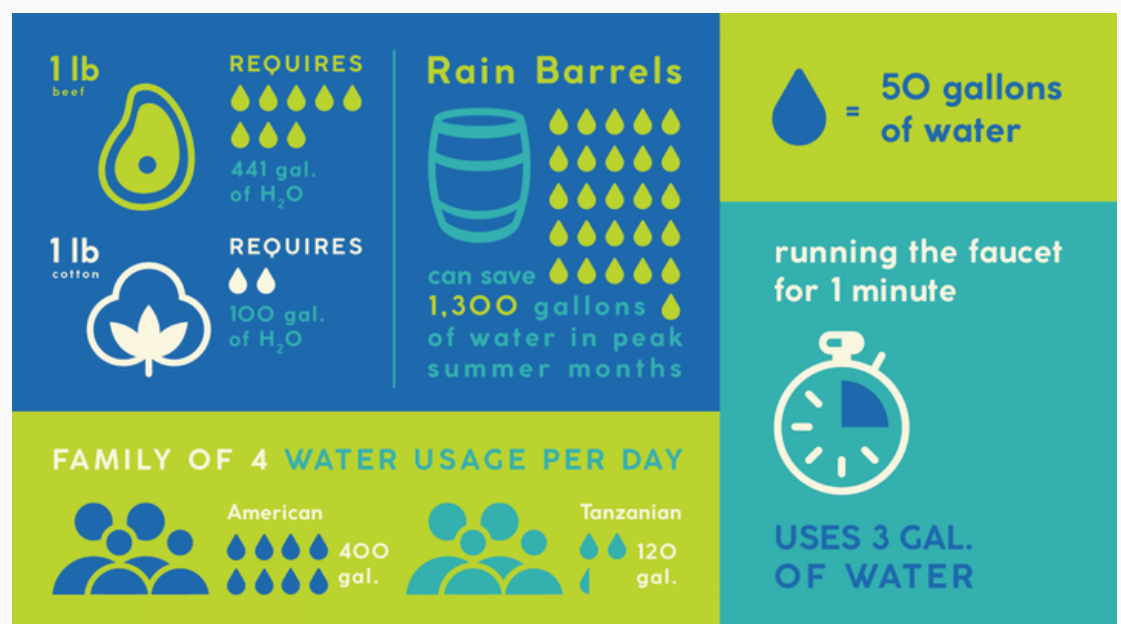
<b>LEVEL 1</b>
<b>LEVEL 2</b>
<b>LEVEL 3</b> Drought Condition
<b>LEVEL 4</b> Drought Condition
<b>LEVEL 5</b> Drought Condition
<b>LEVEL 6</b> Drought Condition

## STAGE 3: WATER RESTRICTIONS IN PLACE

### ORDINANCE 2022-1

To ensure the greatest public benefit, wasteful uses of water are summarized below:

- Reduce usage by 30%
- Non-drip irrigation systems should irrigate up to two days a week, 20 minutes a day after 8 p.m. and before 10 a.m.
- Irrigation should be off during rainfall and off for two days after rainfall.
- Repair or turn off leaky/broken plumbing.
- Don't let water run off your property into streets and gutters.
- Only wash vehicles with a hose that has a positive shutoff valve.
- Fountains & Decorative Water Features: must have a recirculating system.
- HOA's or Community Service Organizations are: (1) prohibited from enforcing landscape/architectural guidelines, (2) imposing fines/penalties for reducing/eliminating watering of vegetations or lawns, (3) requiring homeowners to remove water efficient landscapes.
- Street Cleaning & Construction Sites: prohibition of potable water for such purposes unless no other method can be used.





# Free Surveys & Water Saving Devices!

## Free water surveys - Residential & Commercial

The Water Survey Program is a free service offered to our customers to provide indoor and outdoor water-saving assistance, ultimately lowering their water bill.

The indoor survey includes a test of showerhead and faucet flow rates, an estimate of toilet flush volumes, a review of all water-using appliances and a test for toilet leaks. The outdoor survey includes a review of the irrigation system, irrigation design, and watering schedules. The survey also includes reading the meter to reveal possible leaks in the customer's system.

To schedule an appointment for your free survey, please email: [kkaur@casitaswater.com](mailto:kkaur@casitaswater.com).

## Free water conservation devices

Casitas Municipal Water District provides the following water conservation devices free of charge to all customers living in our service area.

Customers can pick up these devices between 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at the District's main office (1055 Ventura Avenue, Oak View, CA).



## Now is the Time to Water Less!

### Landscapes Need Less Water in the Fall

Plants start to slow down in September, entering into a period of dormancy until spring. Even though it may still be hot on some days, the days are getting shorter, and less water is lost through evaporation-so the soil does a better job of retaining the water you give it. As a result, your plants don't need as much water this time of year.

All this means is that irrigation schedules should be dialed down by 30% to adjust to the season. You'll still have a beautiful yard and save a lot of water!

For more information, including a watering guide, please visit: <http://www.venturacountygardening.com/>

## Drought Resistant Plant Corner



Bougainvillea makes a great, colorful, no water plant. They come in pink, red, purple and orange. This plant thrives with plenty of space to grow!



The California native Walnuts are displaying their beautiful fall colors. They make a beautiful small tree and require no water. This is also an endangered tree species due to loss of habitat!