



AUGUST 2023

THE WATER DROP

Official Newsletter of Ventura River Water District

General Manager's Corner by Bert Rapp

Upcoming Board Vacancy - Dive Into An Exciting Opportunity!

At Ventura River Water District, we offer a chance to be part of a team that is transforming the way we manage our most vital resource. Our Directors are dedicated to making a difference. You'll have the opportunity to work alongside experts in the field, ride the wave of technological advancements, and champion sustainability initiatives.

Why Join Our Team?

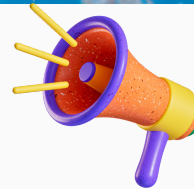
Make Waves: As a Board member, you'll have the chance to make a real splash in shaping the future of our water agency. Your expertise will steer us towards success, ensuring that we continue to deliver outstanding water services to our customers.

Dive into Innovation: We are on a mission to stay at the forefront of environmental sustainability. Becoming a Board member will allow you to dive deep into exciting initiatives such as water conservation, renewable energy, and smart water management. Be part of the wave of change!

Make a Ripple Effect: Board service is a wonderful opportunity to give back to your community. By ensuring the efficient and responsible management of our water resources, you'll be contributing to the well-being of our customers and the environment. Your involvement will create a ripple effect that extends far beyond the boardroom.

If you're passionate about water, strategic thinking, and bringing a refreshing perspective to the table, this is the opportunity you've been waiting for! For more information, visit: <https://venturariverwd.com/2023-board-vacancy/>

Please submit your application to office@vrwd.ca.gov with the subject line "**Board Vacancy**" or stop by our office. Don't forget to include a water pun that will make us grin from ear to ear!



District Directors

Ed Lee, President

Bruce Kuebler, Vice-President

Jack Curtis, Director

Peggy Wiles, Director

Nathan Rosser, Director

Water Supply Status

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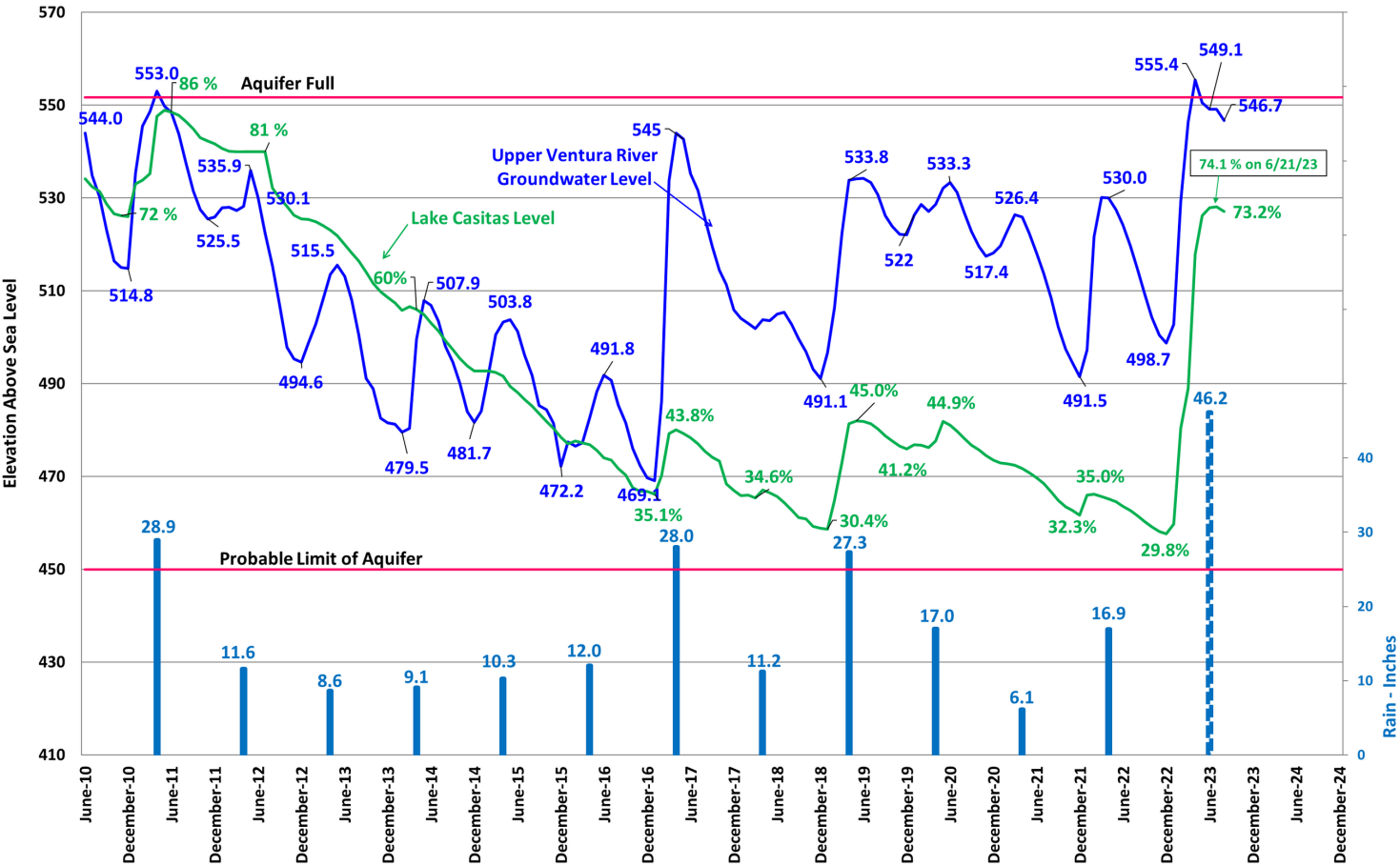
Summer Watering Tips

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Water Supply Status

Our aquifer level reached its peak on April of this year and is now on a downward trend at 546.7 feet in elevation as of July 31st with a small change in storage. This means the water from the aquifer is being draining out at a faster rate than what is being recharged. Lake Casitas topped out at 74.1% on June 21st and is now down to 73.2% of capacity as of August 1st. The Robles Diversion stopped diverting on July 15, 2023. The District is currently in a Stage 1 declaration with 20% voluntary conservation.

VENTURA RIVER UPPER BASIN & LAKE CASITAS LEVELS
August 1, 2023



California Native Corner

Silver Lupine (Lupinus albifrons)

Very showy and fragrant, silver lupine is a fast-growing evergreen perennial shrub species native to California. Blue to purple flowers grow on 8-12 inch long spikes from early to late spring. This highly adaptable California native lupine occurs across much of our state in grassland, foothill, valley and desert habitats. The leaves are silver with a feathery texture. There are four recognized varieties in California that are found in different parts of the state.

It grows best when planted in sunny locations, on well drained soils, and provided with periodic deep summer water. It grows well with other California native species in mixed shrub and wildflower plantings that endure summer heat, sun and extended periods of moisture stress. They are attractive to butterflies and other pollinators.





Summer Watering Tips to Keep Your Garden Thriving

Summer Watering Tips to Keep Your Garden Thriving

As the temperature rises and the sun shines brighter, it's time to focus on one of our favorite topics—keeping your plants and gardens happy and hydrated during the hot summer months. Proper watering techniques are essential to help your green spaces thrive while conserving water. Read on for some valuable tips and insights.

1. Understand your plants: Different plants have varying water requirements. Some prefer moist soil, while others need drier conditions. Take the time to research the specific needs of your plants, including their preferred watering frequency and depth. This knowledge will help you create an effective watering schedule.

2. Water deeply and infrequently: Frequent, shallow watering can lead to weak root systems, making plants more vulnerable to heat stress. Instead, water deeply, allowing the water to penetrate the soil and reach the roots. This encourages plants to develop stronger roots that can access water stored deeper in the ground.

3. Water early or late in the day: The best time to water your plants is in the early morning or late evening when temperatures are cooler. This allows the water to soak into the soil before it evaporates, reducing water waste. Avoid watering during the hottest part of the day, as the water can evaporate quickly, and the leaves may burn in the intense sunlight.

4. Use mulch: Applying a layer of organic mulch around your plants can help conserve moisture by reducing evaporation and weed growth. Mulch also helps to maintain a more consistent soil temperature, protecting the roots from extreme heat. Apply a two to three-inch layer of mulch around your plants, leaving a small gap around the base to prevent rotting.

5. Consider drip irrigation or soaker hoses: These methods deliver water directly to the root zone, minimizing water loss through evaporation and runoff. Drip irrigation systems and soaker hoses are efficient and cost-effective ways to ensure your plants receive a slow, steady supply of water.

6. Monitor soil moisture: Check the moisture level of your soil regularly to avoid over or under-watering. Stick your finger into the soil about one inch deep; if it feels dry, it's time to water. Invest in a moisture meter for a more accurate reading of the soil's moisture content.

7. Group plants with similar water needs: When planning your garden, consider grouping plants with similar water requirements together. This way, you can water them more efficiently, avoiding over or under-watering certain areas.

Remember, using water efficiently not only benefits your plants but also helps conserve this precious resource. By following these watering tips, you can maintain a lush, thriving garden while being mindful of water conservation. Stay tuned for more helpful information and updates in our future newsletters. Happy gardening!