

Black Canyon City Water Improvement District  
PO Box 1007  
Black Canyon City, AZ 85324  
(623) 374-9408

1/25/13

Subject: Water Conservation, BCC Agua Fria Aquifer Users

Dear Community Association Board:

We are contacting you because the availability of reliable domestic water is a community wide concern. The Black Canyon Water Improvement District supplies two thirds of the residents of Black Canyon City and virtually all of its businesses. We recognize the amount of water in the Agua Fria aquifer is dependent upon seasonal fluctuations, any long term drought, and the increasing demands of growing upstream communities. However the Board and management are greatly concerned that the amount of water reaching our town appears to be in a continuing decline. The three major water draws locally are the private Cold Water Canyon Company, the BCC Water District, and the Community Association's Heritage Park. All three withdraw millions of gallons a month from the Agua Fria aquifer.

The BCCWID has alerted our customers of the need for conservation with a level III drought warning in place since July of 2012. Several years ago, at the suggestion of ADEQ, the Board instituted tiered billing to monetarily penalize those who were wasteful. Because of our users' conservation efforts the District's draw on the aquifer has fallen by 20% over the past 3-4 years. Unfortunately, our well pumping levels continue to drop and our management team has growing concern that increasing water demands by other users coupled with a continuing drought may leave the community's taps dry this summer.

The greatest water question we have is the quantity of water pumped to keep the pond in Heritage Park filled. We believe the Black Canyon City Community Association has the best interest of town residents and businesses foremost in their minds and will cooperate in helping us determine the total local water consumption from the Agua Fria aquifer. We are requesting attendance of whoever is responsible for running the pumps at the Heritage Park site at our next board meeting. Ideally, we would like to see a monthly record of the amount of water that is being pumped (gallons/month) that covers several years. Recognizing this may not be available, it would help if the responsible person could come prepared to discuss the following:

- 1) The well ID number
- 2) The well design – casing size, pump hp, depth, perforation depth, pump running hours, maximum pumping rate (gpm)
- 3) Primary loss mechanisms for the pond and whether anything can be done to institute water conservation

The availability of potable water is extremely important to every community, so one might reasonably expect that neither the Community Association nor the District would enjoy seeing

this situation eventually devolve into water for people or water for wildlife. One way to avoid such an ugly choice is for all local Agua Fria aquifer users to fully understand the water demands of our community and plan ahead.

The next meeting of the Black Canyon City Water Improvement District is February 21 at 6:30 PM at the Albins Center. It would aid the discussion if the requested materials could be made available prior to that meeting. The Community Association Board and the organization's members are welcome to attend.

It might be helpful if this request by the BCCWID was placed on your next meeting agenda.

Thank you,

Robert R. Marley  
Board Chair BCCWID