

Canyon Lake
is a valuable
drinking
water source

Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District

UPDATE

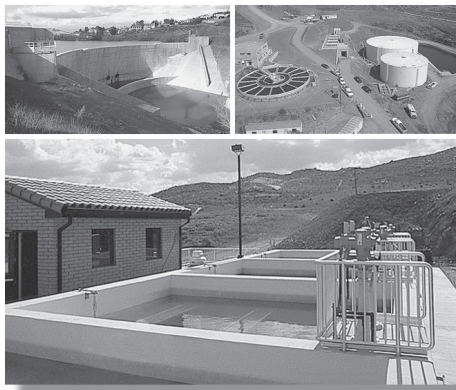
NOVEMBER 2002

EVMWD Explains Canyon Lake Reservoir Operations

Canyon Lake residents have asked about current lake levels and lake operations. This UPDATE answers common questions about EVMWD's contractual obligations to the Canyon Lake POA and responsibilities as a drinking water supplier.

Who uses the water in Canyon Lake?

Canyon Lake is foremost a drinking water supply and plays a very important role during peak customer water demands. EVMWD's Canyon Lake water filtration plant serves Canyon Lake residents and customers in the Elsinore Valley. Recreational surface rights are leased by the Canyon Lake POA through an agreement with the District.



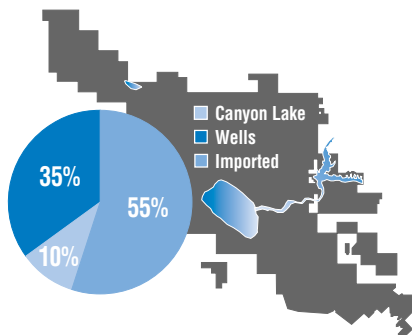
Canyon Lake treatment plant can deliver up to 9 million gallons of drinking water per day.

How long has the lake been a drinking water supply?

Drinking water has been produced since 1951, when the Canyon Lake Water Filtration Plant began operations. Recent upgrades to the plant include extensive clarifier upgrades and filter modifications which will enable the plant to continue to meet more stringent State of California Health Department water quality regulations. The second phase of the \$2 million project includes construction of a 1 million gallon tank that will meet seismic requirements.

EVMWD Water Sources

Fiscal Year 2002-03



Canyon Lake supplies about 10 percent of our drinking water.

What is the significance of surface water to overall supplies?

Canyon Lake treatment plant supplies about one-tenth of our drinking water. For the balance of our water needs, EVMWD relies on 10 local wells and imported water from MWD's Mills and Skinner filtration plants. The Temescal Valley Project pipeline connection to imported water, at the north end of the District, supplies approximately 3,000 acre feet of water annually. The cost of treating local surface water is significantly less than purchasing imported water. Without Canyon Lake supplies, EVMWD would be more dependent on expensive imported water—a costly scenario for water rate payers. EVMWD sells approximately 22,000 acre feet a year throughout its 96 square mile District.

Does EVMWD continue to use the lake when it gets low?

EVMWD stops treating water from the lake before the level reaches the minimum level (1372') allowed by agreement with the POA. The treatment plant has been inactive since October 23, 2001, when the lake level was 1374.17'. Until seasonal runoff replenishes the lake, EVMWD must rely on imported water and local groundwater to meet customer demand. The Canyon Lake treatment plant is scheduled to be online again in early summer of 2003.

How does seasonal rainfall impact lake levels?

Each winter, the district relies on natural runoff to replenish the lake. Our goal is to store as much runoff as possible before it flows over the spillway of the dam. In dry years, EVMWD may purchase imported water to assure the minimum level is maintained. Imported water for the lake was last purchased in April 2002.

Information about Canyon Lake Levels and Water Supply

Seasonal filling from the San Jacinto watershed has provided for customers' water needs year after year.



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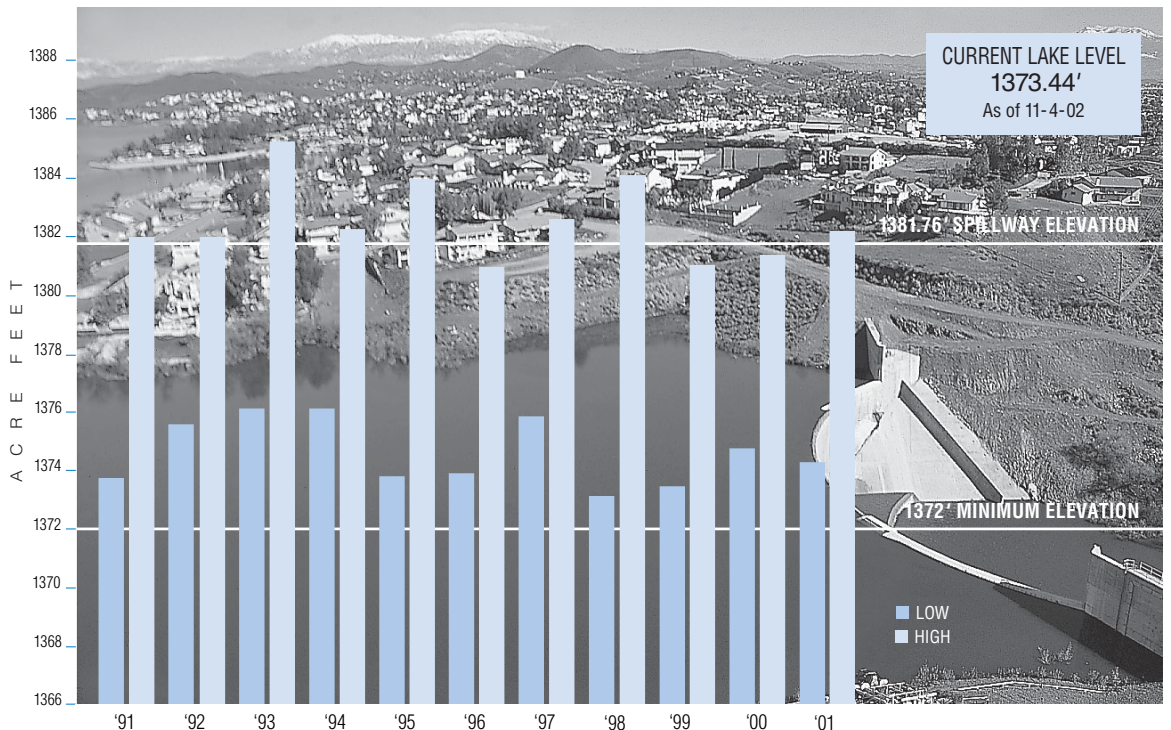
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Canyon Lake Levels for Past 10 Years

The Canyon Lake POA leases surface rights from the EVMWD in an agreement dating back to 1968. Under the agreement, EVMWD is responsible for maintaining a minimum lake elevation of 1372 feet above sea level.



The District has always adhered to the lease agreement.



Over the past decade natural runoff has filled the lake annually. The minimum level to be maintained by agreement between EVMWD and the Canyon Lake POA is 1372'. The lake spills when the level reaches 1381.76'.