

# FAQs

## Mojave Water Agency ID-M Tax Assessment

**What is the Mojave Water Agency IDM Tax Assessment?** The Mojave Water Agency IDM Tax Assessment is essentially a property tax levied on the tax role of each property owner within the Improvement District M (IDM), which includes the communities of Yucca Valley, Joshua Tree, Landers, and portions of Johnson Valley. In 1990, the people within the IDM voted for the financing and construction of the Morongo Basin Pipeline. The pipeline allows us to import supplemental state water from the California Aqueduct that stretches from the Feather River in northern California. Our pipeline ties into the state water project in Hesperia.

The capital cost of the pipeline is being paid for in two different methods, on the water bill and on the yearly property tax bill as follows:

1. 25% of the pipeline is paid by the water users within the service area of each water district. For example, those customers residing in the Hi-Desert Water District boundaries pay \$4.00 per month on their water bill. The District collects this money and ultimately pays Mojave Water Agency for the debt.
2. 75% of the pipeline is paid by each property owner located within the Improvement District M of the Mojave Water Agency by an assessment levied on the yearly property tax bill.

**Who must pay this assessment?** Every property owner located within the boundaries of the Improvement District M must pay this assessment. This includes Yucca Valley, Joshua Tree, Landers and portions of Johnson Valley.

**How much do I have to pay?** The tax rate for this fiscal year is established at \$0.085 per every \$100 of assessed valuation. For example, a parcel of land with a structure valued at \$100,000 would essentially pay \$85.00 for the year ( $\$100,000/100 \times \$0.085$ ).

**How much water has Yucca Valley received from the pipeline?** The Hi-Desert Water District has averaged about 3,900 acre-feet a year (or 1,238,150,200 gallons). This calendar year the District expects to import 5,400 acre-feet, whereas water use is approximately 3,000 acre-feet a year. The District has been importing more water than is pumped to prepare for drought years.

**Is it still important to conserve water?** Absolutely. Conserving water has always been very important and will continue to grow in importance as Southern California grows. Conserving today will help to insure there will be water available for tomorrow. For water saving tips visit [www.hdwd.com](http://www.hdwd.com) or the Alliance for Water Awareness and Conservation at [www.hdawac.org](http://www.hdawac.org).

For more information, please call the Hi-Desert Water District at (760) 365-8333 or the Mojave Water Agency toll free at 800-254-4242.