

MOJAVE DESERT NEWS

Help for Private/ Small Water System Well Owners with Dry Wells

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By: Mojave Desert News

If you are a private well owner with a well that is dry or about to run dry and this is your sole source of drinking water, the state of California can help but only if you act fast. The deadline for applying to the Household & Small Water System Drought Assistance Program (HSWSDAP) is June 30, 2018, and the program might not be offered again.

The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) has partnered with three agencies, the California Rural Water Association (CRWA), Self-Help Enterprises, and the Rural Community Assistance Corporation, to administer the \$5 M program, which was designed to help low-income residents respond to drought-related drinking water emergencies. The maximum award, which can include well replacement, is \$45 K for individual households and \$100 K for small water systems. For individuals, maximum household income must be \$45,454 or less. Supporting documentation including last year's income tax return and the most recent 12 months' bank statements must also be submitted, so start now if you want to apply.

For questions or more information contact Dustin Hardwick of the CRWA (dhardwick@calruralwater.org or 916-553-4900), or contact Eastern Kern County Resource Conservation District, ekcrd@iwvisp.com, for a fillable pdf application and fact sheet. You may pick up a hard copy of the application in the foyer of Indian Wells Valley Water District, 500 W. Ridgecrest Blvd., Ridgecrest.