



Water Supply and COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions

Indio Water Authority (IWA) is committed to providing safe, reliable drinking water that meets or exceeds state and federal drinking water standards.

Can COVID-19 (coronavirus) get into my drinking water?

NO. The new coronavirus disease, COVID-19, does not present a threat to the safety of your drinking water. COVID-19 is transmitted person-to-person, not through water, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

IWA delivers naturally filtered groundwater to its customers from deep groundwater wells. Chlorine is added as a disinfectant to prevent pathogens such as bacteria's and viruses used to kill viruses, including coronaviruses between our production facilities and your home.

IWA's staff continuously monitors the public water systems and collects daily and weekly samples that are tested to ensure tap water meets or surpasses all state and federal drinking water regulations.

Can IWA continue treating and delivering water if COVID-19 spreads?

YES. IWA maintains an extensive system of reservoirs, water treatment plants and pipelines to deliver safe and reliable water service to customers. The system includes multiple layers of redundancy to ensure continued deliveries, even during a disruption.

IWA has an Emergency Response Team and existing protocols for situations such as a pandemic.

In addition, IWA has taken several steps to protect the health of its employees by minimizing potential exposure to avoid widespread impacts to our workforce.

Lastly, IWA's has the necessary backup equipment, essential supplies and treatment chemicals in the event of disruptions to the supply chain for these items.

Do I need to stockpile bottled water?

NO. We want to reassure you that your tap water is both safe to drink and reliable. There is no reason to believe that COVID-19 will have any impact on the local water supply.

Do I need to install a water filter?

NO. Drinking water provided by IWA meets all federal and state water quality standards. Water filters may change the taste of tap water, but they are not necessary.

Be cautious of any salesperson who claims IWA sent him or her to test your water; IWA would never send a salesperson to your home. Also, be wary of those who test your water and claim that your water quality is unsafe.

Is tap water safe for handwashing and cooking?

YES. IWA's tap water meets some of the most stringent drinking water standards in the nation. The CDC recommends washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. Learn more by reading [CDC's handwashing guidance](#).

Where can I learn more about COVID-19 and water?

EPA: "Americans can continue to use and drink water from their tap as usual." Learn more at www.epa.gov

CDC: "The COVID-19 virus has not been detected in drinking water. Conventional water treatment methods that use filtration and disinfection, such as those in most municipal drinking water systems, should remove or inactivate the virus that causes COVID-19." Learn more at www.cdc.gov

CA.GOV: "Stay home except for essential needs. Everyone is required to stay home except to get food, care for a relative or friend, get necessary health care, or go to an essential job. If you go out, keep at least 6 feet of distance." Learn more at www.covid19.ca.gov