

Call us!

The Southern Nevada Water Authority and various municipal entities in our valley have staff available to provide free assistance. We can help identify sources of nuisance water on private property and suggest solutions to nuisance-water problems. For additional information or assistance, contact:

Southern Nevada Water Authority
822-8573

You also may have concerns about excessive water that is not on your property. To report water waste that flows or pools into a public right of way (such as sidewalks, gutters or streets), please call the Water Authority's Conservation Helpline at **258-SAVE**.

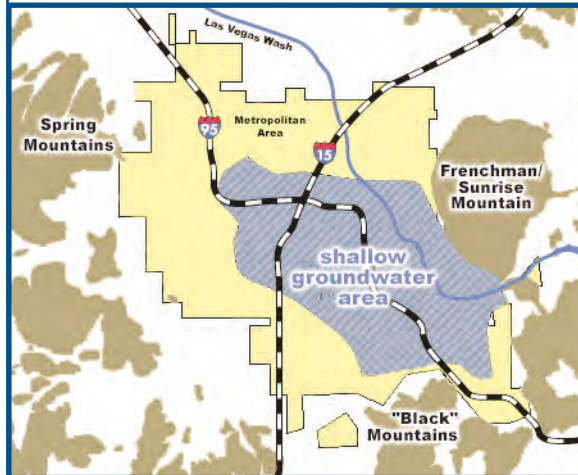
Nuisance water ABC's

- ❖ Nuisance water usually sits at or near ground surface. It is generally of poor quality.
- ❖ Nuisance water shouldn't be ignored, since it can cause damage to property, structures and landscaping, cause hazardous road conditions and carry pollutants.
- ❖ Earthslides on slopes can occur when soil gets saturated by water that doesn't drain properly.

Focus on shallow groundwater

Shallow groundwater is one form of nuisance water that tends to occur more often in certain areas of the valley than others. As shown in the map below, shallow groundwater is more prevalent in the southeast valley, near the Las Vegas Wash and in downtown Las Vegas, where it can seep into basements. Elsewhere, groundwater usually is too deep to cause nuisance-water problems.

Extent of shallow groundwater



Nuisance Water

in the Las Vegas Valley

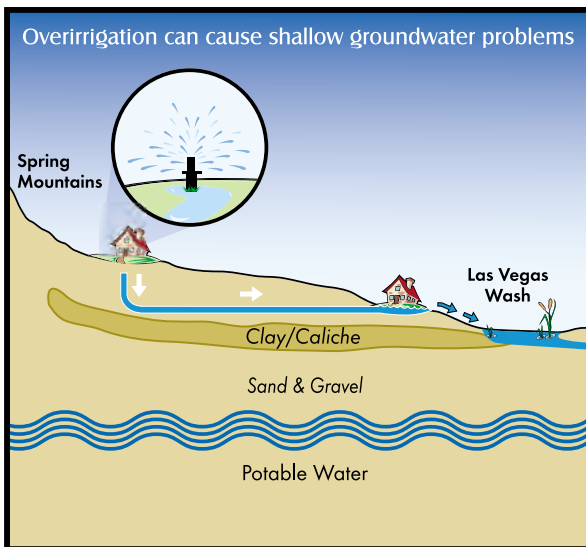
How to identify it

What you can do about it

Nuisance water: What it is, what to look for

Nuisance water—It's everywhere you don't want it to be. Nuisance water is just that: water on your property where and when you don't want it. If water is on your property, how can you determine if it's nuisance water? Here's what to look for:

- **Standing water in shallow puddles**
- **Wet areas that do not dry up**
- **Water that seeps into shallow excavations or basements**



In some parts of the Las Vegas Valley, water from overirrigation seeps through soil to impermeable clay or caliche layers. It then migrates on top of these layers to lower parts of the valley, where it can surface as nuisance water.

Where does nuisance water come from?

Nuisance water can come from, or be caused by, numerous sources:

- Overwatering a landscape
- Springs or marshy areas not properly drained before construction
- Natural shallow groundwater
- Leaking pools or underground pipes
- Runoff that accumulates from rainfall
- A combination of these conditions

To determine exactly where your nuisance water stems from—and how to lessen or eliminate it—may take some investigating. The Southern Nevada Water Authority and various local agencies can help you locate the problem and suggest solutions.

In some cases, the solution is apparent. That's because most local nuisance-water problems are caused by overwatering landscapes and poor drainage. By following proper watering schedules, adjusting your sprinkler clock and providing proper drainage, you usually can eliminate such nuisance water on your property.

In other instances, the solution can be more complex.

What you can do

Here are some steps you can take to eliminate nuisance water:

Identify and eliminate the source.

Before calling the Water Authority for help, do a simple check of your irrigation system and sprinkler clock to make sure you aren't overwatering in certain areas. You may want to ask your neighbors to do the same. Nuisance water often stems from overwatering and is easily corrected.

Contact your local water utility.

If you suspect a leaking underground pipe, your water provider has experts who can check for leaks and suggest solutions.

Contact additional experts.

If overwatering or leaks aren't your problem, your local public works department or a consulting geotechnical engineer may be able to help you get to the root of the nuisance water.

Provide drainage.

You may need to construct a drain from the nuisance-water area to a storm sewer or other appropriate receptacle. Check with local authorities for permit requirements prior to construction and always "call before you dig" to **(800) 227-2600**.

Consider a well.

In some cases, well construction and pumping may be necessary to lower the groundwater table on your property where shallow groundwater is a problem. Contact the Nevada Division of Water Resources **(486-2770)** for specific requirements prior to drilling a well or pumping groundwater.