



MEDIA ANNOUNCEMENT



Desert Recreation District and Other Agencies join forces to bring relief to North Shore residents during power outage

North Shore, CA (September 1, 2021) – In response to a power outage that began on Tuesday, August 31 and is anticipated to last several days according to Imperial Irrigation District (IID), Desert Recreation District (DRD) opened its doors to those community members impacted by the outage. The blackout was caused by high winds, and left area residents not only in the dark, but without a way to keep cool during some of the hottest weeks of the year in the Valley.



DRD operates the North Shore Beach & Yacht Club, located at 99-155 Sea View Drive in North Shore as a community center where health & fitness programming, along with youth activities and classes take place. During the summers, this location is one of several that DRD uses as a Cooling Center where residents can sit inside the air-conditioned building and have some cold water and snacks, thanks in part to a partnership with the County of Riverside's Community Action Partnership (CAP).

As the power outage knocked the DRD facility offline too, IID has contributed generators that are powering the North Shore Beach & Yacht Club so that Desert Recreation District can continue to offer it as a Cooling Center. Since this power outage is expected to last several days, DRD has expanded the hours at the center, which will now be open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. until power is restored. In addition, DRD's Mecca Community Center at 65-250 Coahuilla Street in Mecca, will also be open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Other agencies contributing to the efforts to ease the pain of not having electricity right now are Supervisor V. Manuel Perez's office, which provided additional supplies including bringing in food on Tuesday evening to help feed residents and is working with the county and Fantasy Springs to offer emergency sheltering, and IID is offering a limited number of hotel vouchers for those most vulnerable (seniors, those with underlying health issues, etc.).

The Salvation Army is also contributing food for the families in the area; according to a post on social media earlier today, they are providing lunch and dinner through Saturday, September 4 as needed, at 12 p.m. and 6 p.m., as well as giving out breakfast items.

Updated information on this evolving situation can be found at Facebook@MyRecreationDistrict and @VManuelPerez4th.

About Desert Recreation District

Desert Recreation District (DRD) is the largest park and recreation district in California, covering over 1,800 square miles and serving more than 380,000 residents throughout the greater Coachella Valley. In addition to managing, maintaining, and assisting in maintaining more than 30 parks and recreation facilities and creating and delivering quality programs, services and classes, thanks to strategic partnerships we have been able to bring essential services such as Rapid-Response Food Distributions, COVID-19 Testing, Flu Shots, a Distance-Learning Program and more to Valley residents. This community collaborative approach allows us to not only provide barrier-free and safe recreational activities, but to also bring critical resources where they are needed, thereby helping to create stronger communities and healthier citizens.

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