Thirsty World: Interpreting Water Scarcity at Science Centers

Andrew M. Belanger Director of Public Services





More than two million residents call Las Vegas home.

Today, most of the community's water comes from the Colorado River.

Nevada is the driest state in the United States.



The region has experienced severe and sustained drought.



Demonstration & Interpretation at the Springs Preserve

... inspiring people to live sustainably











The Botanical Gardens provide residents with knowledge and inspiration to create their own waterefficient wonderland.









Local water agencies began providing financial incentives for customers to remove and replace turf with water efficient landscaping.

The Springs Preserve provides demonstration, instruction and inspiration for beautiful, water efficient landscape design.

The gardens feature more than 1,200 species of Mojave Desert and desert adapted plants. The Springs Preserve provides support for school and community garden projects.

1:++10



Semi-Annual Plant Sale

0

t.

CENTE

83









UNLV's award-winning DesertSol was relocated to the Preserve's Botanical Gardens following competition.



WaterWorks features hands-on experiences that engage visitors in the inner-workings of water resource treatment and delivery in Southern Nevada.

Welcome to WaterWorks

An interactive map shows where the community's water comes from and how/where it is used.











Explore ways to save water inside your home and outdoors.



WATER SAVER!

CONSERVATION COURTYARD







TUNNELING THROUGH



"ALL IN AND ALL HANDS"





A MACHINE WITH A MISSION



See how our community has responded to changing climate conditions.

Colorado River Traveling Exhibit



The Springs Preserve has partnered with federal, state, municipal and NGO partners to create and tour a major exhibition that explores this iconic and critically important waterway.

Meet the river you know, and the one that you don't.

From uncharted waterway to over-appropriated river system, the Colorado River epitomizes the challenges facing water resources in a rapidly changing world.



Conceptual Plan



Creating the River Sustaining the River

Experiencing the River

The exhibit will explore history, geology and early exploration







MEETING THE CHALLENGE

... and focus on modern-day supply and demand issues (and opportunities).



Museums have an important role to play in informing dialogue, and providing context for actions required to sustainably manage resources that are vital to our survival.

