

# Jordan Aqueduct Easement and Right-of-Way

A Guide for Proper Use



CENTRAL UTAH WATER  
CONSERVANCY DISTRICT



JORDAN VALLEY WATER  
CONSERVANCY DISTRICT



Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District treats and supplies drinking water for most of Salt Lake County, and parts of Utah County. As a regional wholesale supplier, Jordan Valley Water delivers drinking water to 17 member agencies (such as the cities of Bluffdale, South Jordan, Riverton and others), which then provide it to their retail customers, totaling more than 600,000 people valley-wide. On average, Jordan Valley Water delivers more than 90,000 acre-feet\* of drinking water every year. All of this requires operating and maintaining an extensive drinking water transmission system, including a very large diameter pipeline know as the Jordan Aqueduct.



Jordan Valley Water  
Treatment Plant



78-inch Pipeline

## What is the Jordan Aqueduct?

The Jordan Aqueduct is a 72-inch (6 feet) to 78-inch diameter underground pressurized pipeline that supplies drinking water to most areas within the Salt Lake Valley. It extends nearly 40 miles from the mouth of Provo Canyon to 2100 South in Salt Lake City and is owned by the United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR). Through a contract with USBR, Jordan Valley Water is responsible for operating and maintaining the Jordan Aqueduct and for protecting it from the impacts of urban development.

The Jordan Aqueduct was originally constructed in the early 1970s, and installed to a depth that ranges from four to seven feet, a shallow depth for a pipeline of this size.

**\*An acre-foot is 325,851 gallons of water, and 90,000 acre-feet is more than 29 billion gallons!**



## The Alpine and Jordan Aqueduct share the same Easement

A separate large diameter pipeline, known as the Alpine Aqueduct, runs parallel to the Jordan Aqueduct from the mouth of Provo Canyon to State Road 92 in Utah County. Both aqueducts share the same easement.

The Alpine Aqueduct ranges in diameter from 18 to 48 inches, and is also owned by USBR. Under a separate contract with USBR, the Alpine Aqueduct is operated and maintained by Central Utah Water Conservancy District.



These 1980s-era photos show construction of the Jordan Aqueduct amid mostly agricultural lands. The easement now lies within densely populated urban development.

Installation of the Jordan Aqueduct







# W A R N I N G

H I G H P R E S S U R E

A Q U E D U C T

CALL BEFORE DIGGING



JORDAN VALLEY WATER  
CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

## What is an Easement or Right-of-Way?

An easement is a lawful property interest that runs over, across, and through a tract of land. The Jordan Aqueduct Easement was acquired from land owners prior to its construction, and is a perpetual interest in real property as described in legal conveyance documents recorded at the county recorder's office.

The Jordan Aqueduct Easement was acquired when much of the affected land was used for agriculture. Since then, densely populated urban areas have developed in most easement areas, and it's important for current property owners to know about the land use restrictions within the easement.

The Jordan Aqueduct Easement is generally 50 feet wide and allows Jordan Valley Water personnel the right to access the easement property for purposes of inspection, operation, maintenance, construction or reconstruction, and for other purposes necessary to manage the Jordan Aqueduct as a critical drinking water conveyance facility.

When purchasing a home, any easement of record should appear in a title report for the property being purchased.



Know what's below.  
Call before you dig.

Notify utilities of your intent to dig by calling 811 or making an online request a few days before you plan to break ground.

Your state 811 center will inform utility operators in your area that they need to mark any buried utility lines on your property with paint and/or flags.

On average, between 7-8 utility operators are notified for each request.

Installation of the Jordan Aqueduct





Why the  
**Jordan  
Aqueduct**  
is  
**Important**

The Jordan Aqueduct Easement is vital in helping Jordan Valley Water maintain a safe, reliable drinking water system for a large and growing population. Your participation in keeping the easement free and clear of impermissible encroachments will help us access the property for necessary operation and maintenance activities, or to complete emergency repairs in the event of a pipeline leak or failure.

Keeping the easement free and clear of impermissible or unauthorized improvements will also help you avoid costly liability claims and potential litigation.

**Your role in protecting the easement is crucial to keeping your drinking water supply and property safe!**



A damaged pipeline can shoot water many feet into the air.

This rupture in the Jordan Aqueduct was caused by contractor equipment, and sprayed water and boulders more than 200 feet in every direction. Planting deep-rooted plants or constructing unapproved improvements over the Jordan Aqueduct can damage the pipe or make it difficult to access when repairs are necessary.





# IMPORTANT

## Easement Requirements

In addition to providing for the ongoing management of the Jordan Aqueduct and Alpine Aqueduct, the easement owned by USBR restricts various land uses by property owners. Jordan Valley Water, in coordination with Central Utah Water Conservancy District and USBR, have developed several requirements to help property owners comply with these restrictions.

These restrictions improve public safety by protecting the pipeline from damage. They also protect you, our ultimate customer, from loss and damage to your property.

### What is Allowed?

Property owners who have the Jordan Aqueduct Easement situated on their property must have prior approval before making any changes to the property within the easement. Generally speaking, changes that do not involve deep rooted plants, permanent structures, or hazardous materials are allowed. Some examples include planting grass, installing a shallow sprinkling system, or planting a shallow-rooted garden.



### Easement Requirements



1- No trees or deep-rooted plants may be planted within the easement. Trees limit or prevent access for operation and maintenance activities, and roots have the ability to damage the pipeline. The pipeline is only four to seven feet underground.



2- No structures may be placed within the easement. This includes walls, foundations, and any buildings such as sheds, garages or storage facilities. In addition, prior approval must be obtained for the placement of any features or improvements within the easement, whether on the surface or underground (including, but not limited to, any activity involving digging, concrete work, fencing, and underground utilities such as power wires, fuel lines, etc.) or for the placement or removal of materials of any kind within the easement area.



3- No storage of hazardous material within the easement is allowed. Hazardous materials stored near the easement could work their way into your drinking water or inhibit access to the Jordan and Alpine Aqueducts.



4- No storage or parking of automobiles, recreation vehicles, or equipment of any kind within the easement is allowed without permission.





# How to Request Approval for Improvements

Any change within the Jordan Aqueduct Easement, whether on the surface or underground, must be reviewed and approved. Please call to discuss any plans you have for improvements on your property that are situated within the Jordan Aqueduct Easement. An application with detailed instructions on how to apply for an easement encroachment agreement will be provided to you.

## Jordan Valley Water's Property Manager

Monday-Friday  
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

801 565.4300



8215 South 1300 West  
West Jordan, UT 84088