



# Cahuilla Band of Indians

## Cahuilla Tribal Environmental Protection Office

52701 CA-Highway 371 Anza, CA 92539

*December Newsletter*



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## CTEPO Updates!

### Announcement

If you would like your water tested,  
please contact our office. More  
information on the next page.

November was quite the month. CTEPO faced many challenges and yet we prevailed. Our Solid Waste Management Team was a major proponent to such. They worked incredibly hard to maintain the Tribe's solid waste needs while we made repairs to the Trash Truck.

In November, we also had the chance to attend Pala's Tribal Climate Action and Health Summit. We learned a great deal throughout the day and left feeling inspired and motivated.

As we move into the final month of 2025, CTEPO is looking forward to the ways in which we can continue to grow and build new programs which best serve the needs of the community.

We wish you all happy holidays and look forward to seeing you in the new year!

# THE FIRST FLUSH

## WHAT IS IT?

“The First Flush” refers to the first large rain after a wildfire.

When it rains, the water carries the debris, ash and other pollutants from the site of the fire into nearby water bodies.

## CAHUILLA'S WATERS

With the recent wildfires on the Reservation, the rain season will bring those contaminants into Cahuilla's waters.

It is important to monitor the impacts the Cahuilla and Dale fires will have on water quality, especially as it pertains to sources for drinking water.

If you would like to have your water tested, please contact CTEPO so that we can coordinate a date and time to test at your monitoring location.



## Contact Information

Please contact CTEPO so that we can have you fill out an Authorization for Entry form while we prepare our schedules and supplies to collect water samples at your site.

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# Fall Calendar

## DECEMBER 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
				<b>Early Office Closure</b>		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
			<b>Christmas Eve</b>	<b>Christmas</b>		
28	29	30	31			
			<b>New Year's Eve</b>			



### Unbeleafably Funny

Why is the Christmas tree getting coal in his stocking this year?

**He kept throwing shade.**

How did the snowman become a secret agent before the new year?

**He got a license to chill!**

What band does the Grinch hate?

**The Who**

Me in December:  
Isn't winter so magical!?



Me in January:  
Winter is the worst thing in the history of things.

### Fun Fall Facts

The Winter Solstice happens in December and marks the beginning of the season. It is the shortest day and longest night of the year.

The full moon in December is called the Cold Moon fitting for the first month of Winter.

In December of 1807, many people in Vermont and Connecticut witnessed their first meteor. Scientists had difficulty convincing many people that it was, in fact a meteor. Thomas Jefferson was famously a skeptic.



THERE ARE TWO TYPES OF PEOPLE AT THE BEGINNING OF DECEMBER



# Renewable Energies

Innovation has always been a cornerstone of human existence. If there is a problem, we can often find solutions through the development of new technologies. In today's world, we use a lot of energy, especially during the holiday season. Sustaining humanity's energy needs appears impossible.

In the age of climate change, there are many concerns in regard to our reliance upon fossil fuels to supply energy to the majority of the world. Fossil fuels are a finite resource, meaning one day we will run out. Also, accessing and using fossil fuels has led to considerable damages to the planet.

For these reasons, we have been in search of cleaner alternatives which we will be able to depend upon more consistently. We call these renewable energies.

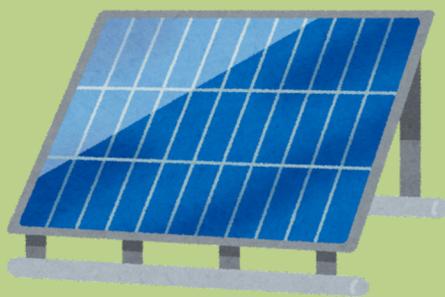
Here are the prominent renewable energies of today:

## Wind



Using the windy parts of the globe to set up wind turbines, we can generate electricity. The blades are turned by the wind which then turns a turbine, generating electricity.

## Solar



Using the solar radiation emitted from the Sun, we can create energy here on Earth. We can capture light and turn it into heat or we can use the Sun's energy to create electricity.

## Hydropower



The natural movement of water can be used to generate energy. Using technology such as dams, we can generate electricity. The moving water helps turn a turbine which powers a generator.

## Geothermal



Using the heat beneath the Earth's surface, we can send fluids down into fractures to be warmed. To generate electricity from such, we use this process to create steam to turn turbines.

## Biomass



Using organic materials like plants we can make fuels. Biomass, as an energy source, can be utilized in various capacities for heating, creating electricity, or manufacturing.

## Hydrogen



Using hydrogen as a fuel source is a cleaner alternative to fossil fuels that only produces water in its use. Hydrogen carries energy to a fuel cell which converts the energy into the desired form.

