



Cahuilla Band of Indians

Cahuilla Tribal Environmental Protection Office

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February Newsletter

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CTEPO Updates!

What a way to kick off 2026!

Believe it or not, CTEPO spent the majority of this month thinking about 2027. We are working on plans for the future of our programs, and we are very motivated to make these programs a reality in the coming years.

This month our solid waste team also hosted an e-waste collection event. Thank you to everyone who participated throughout the week. Remember! If you have any electronics you want to throw away, give us a call!

Our department has also been monitoring water quality and environmental conditions, especially after these recent rains. If you would like us to perform water testing, please contact our office. We would really appreciate the chance to coordinate with you!

Our department is very excited for this new year, and we are already trying to make the very most of it. We hope you are, too!

Winter Calendar

February 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 President's Day	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

March 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				



You **Snow** You Wanna Laugh

Why does coffee taste so good in the second month of the year?

It's Feb-BREW-ary!

Why did the flower get a promotion?

It was outstanding in its field!

What do you do on the last day of February?

You March on!



Winter Wonderings

In the month of love, there are many flowers used to symbolize one's affections. Here are some of the flowers commonly found in February and their meanings:

- Red Roses- I love you.
- Pink Roses- Happiness
- White Roses- I am worthy of you.
- Red Tulips- Declaration of Love
- Yellow Tulips- There is sunshine in your smile.
- Carnations- Fascination, Female Love or Mother's Love

CTEPOs Services of 2026

It's a new year! Here is an updated list of all of the things CTEPO can do for you in 2026:

Weekly Trash Collection

Any Tribal Member living on the Reservation can be added to the weekly trash route. If you would like to be included, contact our office so that we can coordinate with you.

Recycling

The Solid Waste Team can collect your recyclables during the trash route. Each household participating in weekly collection are provided with a blue recycling bin for this purpose.

Call for Pickup

Call our Solid Waste Team to for several other types of waste collection. If we can accept it, we can collect it!

This includes:

- Bulk Waste
- E-waste
- White Waste
- Green Waste

Waste Diversion Events

Throughout the year, CTEPO will have various collection events for different types of waste. Be on the lookout for notices of these events so you can take advantage of them.

Water Quality Testing

Any Tribal Member household on the Reservation can contact our office to schedule water quality testing. CTEPO will collect the samples and provide a report for the analysis.

Air Quality Testing

CTEPO can conduct a radon detection test at your residence or provide you with a testing kit. There are a few steps to the process so please contact us if you'd like to coordinate such for your home.

Still have questions?

Contact our office with questions or if you have any other environmental concerns or suggestions you would like to share with our department.



The Hummingbird



Dress to Impress

The unique design of the hummingbird's feathers makes them the most colorful bird of them all!

Their iridescent feathers catch the light and allow them to communicate with each other.



The Hummingbird's Dance

The hummingbird flight is so fantastic it's like the bird dances across the sky in figure eights. It can fly both forwards and backwards. They are the only bird that can hover in the air for 30 seconds or more. They can fly upside down or backwards. They can dive and hover while beating their wings at up to 200 times per second!

Also! These tiny creatures soar through life. They can travel the world on their little, powerful wings. One hummingbird was recorded flying 5,200 miles!

Eat Your Heart Out

In order to keep up with their remarkable talents in flight, the hummingbird's body works just as hard.

The hummingbird has an incredibly fast heartrate with some species' hearts beating up to 1200 beats per minute. That's really fast! For reference, our hearts only beat at 80 beats per minute.

It's large chest muscles are almost a third of its entire weight. And, it consumes up to 12,000 calories every day which means they must eat every 10 minutes!

Superlatives

There are around **366** species of hummingbirds. Some species that you might see in this region include: the **Anna's**, the **Costa's**, the **Rufous**, the **Allen's**, the Black-chinned, and the **Calliope** hummingbirds. Here are some class favorites:

World's Smallest Migratory Bird
The Hummingbird

World's Smallest Bird
Bee Hummingbird

World's Largest Hummingbird
Northern Giant Hummingbird

Most Colorful Hummingbird
Anna's Hummingbird

The Globe Trotter
Southern Giant Hummingbird

A World More Beautiful Than Ours

The hummingbird has an extra cone in their eyes which allow them to perceive colors far beyond our imagination. They see the world far more vividly than we have ever experienced by being able to see ultraviolet wavelengths.

Try to imagine what it would be like to see the world the way that they can and how much more beautiful everything must feel.



Word Bank

- Allen
- Anna
- Bee
- Calliope
- Calories
- Costa
- Dancing
- Feather
- Heart
- Hover
- Iridescent
- Northern Giant
- Pectoral
- Rufous
- Southern Giant
- Ultraviolet

Word Search

R	P	Y	T	B	S	P	E	C	T	O	R	A	L	B
K	G	K	M	U	T	F	H	D	H	K	F	M	A	E
Z	B	U	O	K	N	P	Y	O	S	M	F	J	N	E
D	Q	F	U	G	A	I	T	U	V	L	H	G	N	L
P	U	F	L	U	I	R	D	T	W	E	F	Q	A	U
R	T	Y	T	Y	G	I	E	Z	M	X	R	G	P	T
I	G	R	R	J	N	D	C	A	L	L	I	O	P	E
A	J	C	A	A	R	E	F	E	B	F	Y	D	D	L
H	T	Z	V	E	E	S	R	E	H	T	A	E	F	O
A	H	S	I	X	H	C	W	X	D	N	U	P	H	B
O	L	W	O	V	T	E	L	R	C	D	Q	A	T	Z
L	G	L	L	C	U	N	H	I	E	G	S	S	N	O
E	B	O	E	D	O	T	N	G	R	U	G	T	U	Y
V	C	S	T	N	S	G	S	E	I	R	O	L	A	C
T	N	A	I	G	N	R	E	H	T	R	O	N	O	U

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