



# TOWN OF CAVE CREEK NEWSLETTER JULY 2024

## CAVE CREEK TOWN COUNCIL ADOPTS FISCAL YEAR 2025 BUDGET

The Cave Creek Town Council voted unanimously in favor of the FY25 budget at the June 3, 2024 Town Council meeting.

The annual budget, which covers the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025, is capped at \$57,393,797. If the Council wishes to make any changes, they can only be made within line items and the total amount of the budget must remain the same or less.

The Town's Strategic Plan guided the budget process. Focus areas include Fiscal Sustainability, Economic Vitality, Safe and Vibrant Community, Innovative and High Performing Organization, and Infrastructure.

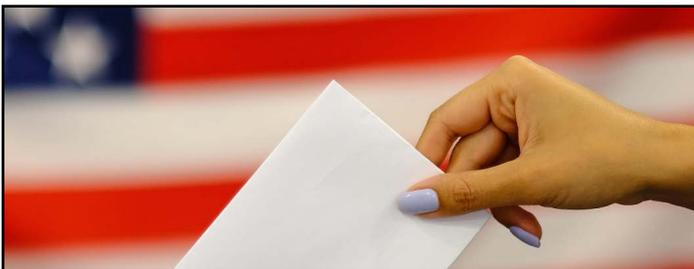
The annual budget includes summaries of revenues, expenditures, program costs by departments, state and

federal grant applications, and capital expenditures within the Town's capital improvement plan. It was publicly vetted and discussed in April and May to identify and review staff recommended budget items and new requests for consideration. Throughout the year, the town manager will monitor departmental objectives in relation to overall Town goals. Each director will monitor their budgets, which are also overseen by the finance director. The finance director provides quarterly status reports to the Town Council to ensure fiscal oversight by elected officials representing their constituents.

For details on the FY25 budget, please visit:

[CaveCreekAZ.gov/Budget](https://CaveCreekAZ.gov/Budget)

## 2024 PRIMARY ELECTION



The Town of Cave Creek will hold an election on July 30, 2024, for the purpose of electing a Mayor and 6 Council Members to serve on the Cave Creek Town Council and for consideration of renewal of a Local Alternative Expenditure Limitation - Home Rule Option (first approved by voters in May 1999 and renewed in May 2003, May 2007, May 2011, August 2016 and August 2020).

Additionally, voters will have an opportunity to consider changing the current 2 year terms for Mayor and Council to a 4-year term with term limits for Mayor and 4-year staggered terms with term limits for Council.

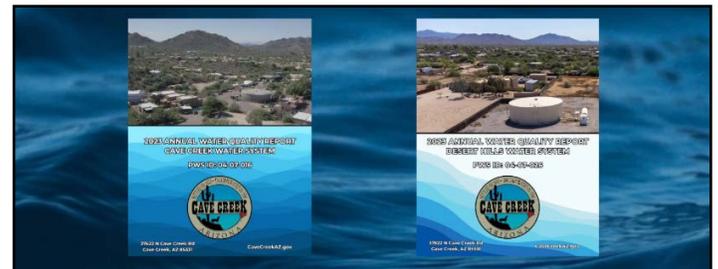
Early voting begins July 3, 2024 with in person voting beginning July 19, 2024 in our Cave Creek Council Chambers.

Additional voter information to include registration status and additional polling locations can be found at [Elections.Maricopa.gov](https://Elections.Maricopa.gov).

For more Town specific information, visit:

[CaveCreekAZ.gov/Elections](https://CaveCreekAZ.gov/Elections)

## WATER QUALITY REPORTS



A Water Quality Report, also known as a Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) or Drinking Water Quality Report, provides you with important information about the quality of your drinking water.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) requires every community water supplier to provide a CCR to its customers. All community water systems must prepare and distribute a brief annual water quality report summarizing information regarding source water, detected contaminants, compliance, and educational information.

We're happy to report that there were no violations of water quality standards for the Cave Creek or Desert Hills Water Systems in the 2023 calendar year.

The 2023 Annual Water Quality Reports (the most recent reports) can be found here:

**Cave Creek Water System**  
[CaveCreekAZ.gov/CC/CCR2023](https://CaveCreekAZ.gov/CC/CCR2023)

**Desert Hills Water System**  
[CaveCreekAZ.gov/DH/CCR2023](https://CaveCreekAZ.gov/DH/CCR2023)

# TOWN OF CAVE CREEK NEWSLETTER

## WILDFIRE SEASON IS HERE - WHAT YOU CAN DO TO PREVENT FIRES

Wildfire season is upon us. We have already experienced wild land fires in the regional area. We're reminding you to please take the necessary steps to establish defensible space to allow firefighters to defend your property. We've raised the fire danger rating in Cave Creek to **Extreme** and **Stage II Restrictions** are underway.

**The current fire danger can always be found front and center on our website.**

You may have noticed above the Fire Danger Level on our road signs "Stage I or II restrictions are underway," but what exactly does that mean?

**Stage I Fire Restrictions** are implemented any time the Fire Danger Level of Town is set to "Very High."

They include but are not limited to:

- No smoking in any outside area with combustible ground cover, outside of vehicles, outside of residential yards or outside of designated smoking areas.
- No spark generating activities outside of an enclosed building without first obtaining a permit and inspection from the Town. This includes but is not limited to welding, grinding, braising or cutting steel.
- On Red Flag Warning days as issued by the National Weather Service, all spark generating activities shall be prohibited.
- No use of ignition driven model rockets is allowed.
- No use of flame based weed removal is allowed.
- All cooking, warming or campfires in all areas must have the responsible party within sight of the flame and the fire must always be attended until the flame has been extinguished and the coals are cold to the touch.

**Stage II Fire Restrictions** encompass all restrictions listed in Stage I plus the following additions and shall be implemented any time the Fire Danger Level of the Town is set to "Extreme."

- The use of flame in any outside area such as flame based weed removal is prohibited.
- Use of tiki torches or other devices that emit a flame is prohibited.
- Wood burning outdoors for cooking, warming, or campfires or the use of charcoal is prohibited.

**Here are some definitions of terms above that you may find helpful in understanding the restrictions:**

**Combustible Ground Cover** - ground cover that is able to catch fire easily.

**Vehicle** - a fully enclosed form of transportation with the windows in the upright or closed position.

**Residential Yards** - an enclosed section of private residential property that has had all combustible ground cover removed from the area.

**Designated Smoking Area** - a defined area in public spaces or commercial businesses that have been designated as an area where smoking is allowed.

**Red Flag Warning** - a forecast warning issued by the National Weather Service in the United States to inform the public, firefighters, and land management agencies that conditions are ideal for wildland fire and other combustion, and rapid spread.

In order to communicate the risk of fire to community the Town uses the National Fire Danger Warning System.

**Very High Fire Danger Level** - fires start easily from all causes and immediately after ignition, spread rapidly and increase quickly in intensity. Spot fires are a constant danger. Fires burning in light fuels may quickly develop high intensity characteristics such as long- distance spotting and fire whirlwinds when they burn into heavier fuels.

**Extreme Fire Danger Level** - fires start quickly, spread furiously, and burn intensely. All fires are potentially serious. Development into high intensity burning will usually be faster and occur from smaller fires than in the very high danger class. Direct attack is rarely possible and may be dangerous except immediately after ignition. Fires that develop headway in heavy slash or dense stands of trees may be unmanageable while extreme burning conditions lasts. Under these conditions the only effective and safe control action is on the flanks until the weather changes or the fuel supply lessens.

JULY 2024

## CODERED EMERGENCY NOTIFICATIONS



If you have not signed up for this alert system, it is highly recommend doing so and please encourage family and friends to also sign up. You and your loved ones can each sign up individually.

Please visit: [CaveCreekAZ.gov/CodeRED](https://CaveCreekAZ.gov/CodeRED) or use this QR Code to sign up.

You will not be barraged with calls. It is used only in emergencies! An Emergency Alert banner on the Town's website, [CaveCreekAZ.gov](https://CaveCreekAZ.gov), as well as the Town's social media channels are also good sources of information, but the *fastest* notification system is CodeRED.



## NEW EVACUATION ROUTE SIGNS



You may have noticed new "Evacuation Route" signs being installed around town. They are to assist residents with finding an alternate evacuation route for themselves and their horse trailers in the event of a larger wildland/interface fire. There will be approximately 30 new evacuation route signs installed.

Specifically, these should help direct residents to the newly improved Arroyo Rd. alternate route that will eventually get them to the intersection of Cave Creek Road and Galloway Road on the east side of Town.

This will provide an alternate route to School House and Spur Cross Roads that became blocked during the last fires.

## KNOW THE 3 ZONES AROUND YOUR HOME

**Immediate Zone:** 5 feet around structures: It's highly recommended that you clear a safe and defensible area five feet around structures on your property, from the furthest attached exterior point of your home or structure. Clear this area of flammable materials: stacked wood, weeds, tall grasses, dead shrubs, or any other combustibles as well as gutter.

It's also important to clear anything flammable in the **Intermediate Zone:** 5 - 30 feet as well as in the **Extended Zone:** 30 - 100 feet from dwelling feet from structures. Integrating breaks and clearing space in this zone can influence and help to decrease fire behavior.



For more information:  
[CaveCreekAZ.gov/DefensibleSpace](https://CaveCreekAZ.gov/DefensibleSpace)



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### TOWN OF CAVE CREEK CONTACTS

Town Hall Main Line: 480-488-6600  
Utilities Main Line: 480-488-6620  
Utilities *after hours* (emergency line only): 602-667-4574  
Engineering/Public Works: 480-488-6625  
Development Services Department  
Permits: 480-488-6622  
Zoning: 480-488-6633  
**For Emergencies Dial 911**

**Public Safety (Non-Emergency) Numbers:**  
Town Marshal's Office: 480-488-6636  
Maricopa County Sheriffs Dept: 602-876-1000  
Cave Creek Fire Station: 623-465-7400  
Cave Creek Fire + Medical Services Information: 480-437-3583  
Maricopa County Animal Control: 602-506-7387  
Snake Removal: Phoenix Hematological Society: 480-513-4377

For prior editions of this newsletter visit:  
[CaveCreekAZ.gov/Newsletters](https://www.cavecreekaz.gov/Newsletters)

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It's easier than ever to stay in touch with us by signing up for email updates with the Town.

Via this QR code or link below, you can sign up for general Town News emails, Town Council Meeting Information, and/or emails of interest to Town Business owners and managers. More email lists will be added in the future.

[CaveCreekAZ.gov/  
StayintheKnow](https://www.cavecreekaz.gov/StayintheKnow)



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