



## RESIDENTS

# What Clark County Climate Vulnerability Assessment findings are important for residents to know?

Clark County is experiencing worsening impacts from climate hazards, including wildfire, extreme heat events, flooding, and drought. The Clark County Climate Vulnerability Assessment (CVA) was conducted to understand the vulnerabilities of key systems, services, and people in Clark County to a changing climate, and to develop strategies to become more resilient.

## How Will Climate Change Impact the Region?

The CVA identifies the following climate hazards will impact Clark County:



### EXTREME HEAT

The 2.3 million people living in Clark County will be highly vulnerable to extreme heat as some regional projections indicate that the **number of days over 115°F could increase by 10 times by the end of the century.**<sup>1</sup>



### DROUGHT

**Drought is expected to continue to impact the region's water supply**, which may result in increasing restrictions for indoor and outdoor water consumption.



### WILDFIRE

**Local wildfires will become larger, more frequent, and more intense**, especially near Mt. Charleston, and growing regional wildfires will significantly impact air quality for Clark County residents.



### FLOODING

**Precipitation is expected to fall in less frequent, but heavier, bursts**, which may result in flash flood events that can damage property and disrupt transportation or supply chains.

<sup>1</sup> Clark County. (2021). Climate Summary for Clark County, Nevada. Prepared for Clark County by Kim Lundgren Associates, Inc. and Adaptation International.



## Where Are Residents Most at Risk?

The CVA identifies the most significant climate impacts facing residents and the services and infrastructure they use every day.

RISKS		HEAT	DROUGHT	WILDFIRE	FLOODING
Disruptions to Power and Communications	Disruption to services	☀️		🔥	💧
	Spikes in energy costs	☀️		🔥	
Impacts to Human Health	Impacts to those experiencing homelessness	☀️		🔥	💧
	Impacts to those with preexisting conditions	☀️		🔥	
	Impacts to those without vehicle access	☀️		🔥	💧
Reduced Access to Public Spaces/Services	Spaces not designed to withstand impacts	☀️	🦋	🔥	💧
	Spaces inaccessible due to outdoor conditions	☀️		🔥	💧
Challenges for Rural Communities	Limited access to emergency resources	☀️		🔥	💧
	Increased exposure to climate hazards			🔥	💧
Challenges for Indigenous Populations	Institutional, social, and economic barriers that limit adaptability to climate change	☀️	🦋	🔥	💧
	Loss of culturally significant sites	☀️	🦋	🔥	💧
Employment and Income	Reduced work hours due to hazard	☀️		🔥	💧

## How Can Residents Take Action?

The CVA emphasizes the urgency of climate impacts and identifies opportunities to increase resilience. Residents may prepare for increase their resilience by taking some of the following measures:

- **Conserve water** by installing low-flow fixtures, stopping water leaks, following irrigation restrictions, and planting drought-tolerant plants.
- **Install onsite backup power** to increase resilience during power disruptions and **lower energy use** during peak hours on hot days.
- Sign up for **emergency alerts**.<sup>1</sup>
- **Offset higher energy costs** by taking advantage of the **weatherization assistance program**<sup>2</sup> or **State**<sup>3</sup> and **utility**<sup>4</sup> energy assistance programs.
- **Create an emergency preparedness kit and plan** to stay safe during an extreme weather event.

<sup>1</sup> Clark County Emergency Alerts: <https://public.coderedweb.com/CNE/en-US/BF1085069456>

<sup>2</sup> Weatherization Assistance Program: <https://housing.nv.gov/programs/Weatherization/>

<sup>3</sup> State Energy Assistance Program: [https://dwss.nv.gov/Energy/1\\_Energy\\_Assistance/](https://dwss.nv.gov/Energy/1_Energy_Assistance/)

<sup>4</sup> NV Energy Energy Assistance Program: <https://www.nvenergy.com/account-services/assistance-programs>

### Example Action: Drought-Tolerant Landscaping

Outdoor water use, especially landscaping irrigation, accounts for a large portion of residential water use. Reducing outdoor water use can play a critical role in reducing the region’s water consumption. Residents should follow irrigation restrictions and replace landscaping around their homes with **drought-tolerant plants**<sup>5</sup> that require little irrigation to save water.

<sup>5</sup> Southern Nevada Water Authority Regional Plant List: <https://www.snwa.com/assets/pdf/water-smart-plant-list.pdf>

