



ENVIRONMENT

2NEWS ON KJZZ

Snowpack (Aired 1/5/2018 @ 7pm, 2:00 minutes) – A lack of snowpack around the state is cursing Southern Utah. Water experts say that this could be the worst water year seen for generations. The viewer learns where the snowpack is at right now, how much snow it will take to get things back on track, and what it means for summer if the snowpack is below average.

Snow impact on businesses (Aired 1/9/2018 @ 7pm for 2 minutes) – Park City businesses are thriving despite a weak snowpack this year. Businesses are finding visitors aren't bailing on their vacations, just they aren't skiing as much. More people are walking around Main Street and spending money they planned on spending on ski lift tickets. However, small businesses like landscaping and gardening companies are struggling to find work.

SLC No Plastic Bags (Aired 01/10/2018 @ 9pm, 2:30 minutes) – A major change is coming to the Salt Lake City recycling program. Customers will no longer be able to toss plastic bags into the blue recycling bins. The recycling facility asked Salt Lake official to stop accepting the bags because they're messing up the machinery. The new restriction also includes any kind of soft plastic like saran wrap and Ziploc bags. This story lets our viewers of about the change in recycling rules, explains when the changes go into effect and give alternative drop off locations for the newly banned items.

Weather Changes (Aired 01/11/2018 @ 9pm, 2:30 minutes) – While the rest of the country is dealing with freezing cold, record snow totals and bomb cyclones Utah is having a rather dry winter. Temperatures in the 40's in January and no snow on the ground could have a big impact on the state in the months to come. Rain falling on frozen ground can mean flooding, frozen ground also means the water isn't absorbed into the aquifer and that means less water is available during the record-breaking, dry summer heat. This story examines why these the weather changes are happening, how the lack of winter weather could impact viewers this spring/summer and lets them know that the next few months could be wild when it comes to weather because the system is so unsettled.

UTA Free Fare Day (Aired 1/15/2018 @ 7pm, 2:00 minutes) – The numbers are in, and UTA officials say their attempt to get people to get more people riding the public transit, worked. UTA saw a 23% ridership increase on "Free Fare Friday" last month. The biggest increase was on front runner trains. The ridership



increase is equivalent to removing more than 15,500 cars off Utah roads. This would help cut pollution on a bad air day in the state. The viewer learns what UTA was doing to try and cut cars on the road, and help the air in Utah.

Zion compost (Aired 1/16/2018 @ 7pm for 2 minutes) – The Environmental Protection Agency gave Zion Lodge an award for winning the EPA’s 2017 “Food Recovery Challenge.” For years, lodge employees have been keeping the extra food they got from their restaurant kitchen and turning it into useable compost. The lodge had a goal of throwing away zero waste and has been closely working with the EPA sharing data of their project for years. EPA estimates the lodge helped in the diversion of 30,000 pounds of waste from going into the landfill.

Tanker Fire (Aired 01/18/2018 @ 9pm, 5:00 minutes) – Dozens of emergency crews are responding to a massive tanker fire on I-15. The truck, which was carrying diesel fuel, caught fire on the busy section of the freeway as drivers watched from their cars. The truck driver was able to get out safely but the road will be shut down for hours. This breaking news story shows our viewers exactly what is shutting down the freeway, explains what is being done to get the fire out and lets those at home know what they can expect for their morning commute.

Riverdale Landslide (Aired 01/19/2018 @ 9pm, 2:30 minutes) – While many people welcome the snowfall, some homeowners in Riverdale are left wondering if it will send their homes down an eroding hillside. This is an ongoing concern and even the neighbors across the street are worried. Those living in the neighborhood are concerned for their friends whose homes are in danger but they also say their homes are losing value because of the landslide. This story gives an update from geologists on how long they think the land could continue to shift and explains how the landslide is affecting property values in the area.

Snow Pack (Aired 1/22/2018 @ 7pm, 2:00 minutes) – The snow is melting faster than it is coming in. This weekend’s mid-winter storm did add to the snowpack, but we’re still a long way from average. The snow we have is great for skiers, but climate experts say last weekend’s storm really won’t do much for our water supply next season. The viewer learns about the status of Utah’s snowpack, and how even though we got a lot of snow – it didn’t help as much as you’d think it would.

Sandy trash problem (Aired 1/24/2018 @ 7pm for 2 minutes) – A new proposal is in the works to hold developers accountable for their trash. Residents have been upset with the amount of construction debris flooding Dimple Dell Park from nearby developments. Sandy’s Community Development Committee are drafting a proposal that would require proper containment of dumpsters and trash on development sites. The proposal is now heading to the Planning Commission. The ordinance is expected to go before councilors within the next two months.



Wasted recycling (Aired 1/29/2018 @ 7pm for 2 minutes) - Utah recycling officials say China has basically closed its door on accepting recyclables from the United States and it's taking a toll on facilities. Recycled Earth in Ogden sees the problem is contamination of recyclables, which can cause problems in processing. Contamination happens when non-recyclable items are mixed in with recyclables items, when recyclable items are placed in the wrong recycling bins or recyclables aren't cleaned before disposal.

Damaged roads (Aired 1/29/2018 @ 7pm for 2 minutes) - Salt Lake City Council Members will spend the next week reviewing a study indicating that more than two-thirds of Salt Lake City's roads are in poor or failing conditions. Residents who have lived near some of the worst roads in the city said they would support a small tax increase if it means keeping roads safe. Council members say road projects have not been funded adequately since before the recession. They would like to see enough funding to provide \$20 million a year over the next 10 years.

DABC Glass Recycling (Aired 2/5/2018 @ 7pm, 2:00 minutes) The DABC is kicking off a new glass recycling initiative at state liquor stores. The Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control says residents want more ways to recycle their glass. So they teamed up with Moment Recycling on a pilot program to put glass recycling pods in the parking lots of liquor stores. The first pod will be installed at the 300 West State Wine Store. If successful, the program could expand. The viewer learns about a way to recycle glass, and how the DABC is answering calls from residents for a way to do it.

Proposed landfill (Aired 2/6/2018 @ 7pm for 2 minutes) - A landfill on the shores of the Great Salt Lake in Box Elder County is making waves with residents before it's even accepted any trash. The proposed landfill in Promontory Point is just minutes away from residents and the Great Salt Lake. If the landfill is approved, it would be taking in coal ash which has environmentalists concerned. The Department of Environmental Quality is currently reviewing the permit. In the meantime, public meetings are being held at Weber State University.

Dix Ditches Reptiles (Aired 02/06/2018 @ 9pm, 2:30 minutes) – A shocking move by a well-known reptile rescuer as police say he dropped his animals off at his employer's shop and never came back to care for them. Jim Dix has left dozens of venomous snakes, poisonous spiders, alligators, lizards and turtles. His boss says Dix asked if he could temporarily store the animals at his facility two weeks ago and now he is asking the authorities to step in and help the animals. This story explains why Dix claims he left his animals behind, lets



wildlife official explain what their game plan is and explains why the business owner would agree to house the animals.

Riverdale Landslide (Aired 02/06/2018 @ 9pm, 2:20 minutes) – City leaders have unanimously voted to officially declare the Riverdale landslide an emergency. The declaration is the first step towards getting state and federal funding for the residents affected by the eroding land. But some people are upset that the city isn't doing enough to help them. They say city officials recently informed them that FEMA won't step in until at least 25 homes are affected and right now only three are in danger. This story keeps our viewers up to date on an ongoing issue in Weber County, lets them know what they can expect if they ever find themselves in a similar situation and give details about what happens next in this ongoing battle.

Inversion Woes (Aired 02/06/2018 @ 9pm, 2:30 minutes) – New research shows air pollution can have negative effects on pregnant moms and their growing babies. The new studies suggest prospective parents should think about the forecast like any other part of their pre-conception health care. During inversions particulates in the air enter your lungs and ultimately your blood stream causing inflammation that can make you feel sick. And could alter the growth of a baby in utero. This in-depth story explains the newly released research, gives viewers suggestions on how to keep their unborn baby safe and gives details about other activities that can increase baby's exposure to pollution while in the womb.

Provo Cougar (Aired 02/12/2018 @ 9pm, 2:15 minutes) – Police are now warning people about a cougar that's prowling the foothills of Provo and killing pets. People are being asked to keep small pets inside after one woman discovered three dead animals on her property. She called animal control and they removed the half-eaten carcasses of a dog, a cat and a raccoon. Wildlife officials believe a cougar, which has been prowling the neighborhood over the last few weeks, killed the animals. This story alerts are viewers to a potential danger, explains what officials are doing to try and prevent any more animal deaths and give details on how they can protect their own animals until the cougar is caught.

Tonga Cyclone (Aired 02/13/2018 @ 9pm, 2:15 minutes) – One group of Utahn's are now trying to help people in Tonga who were hit by a category five cyclone. Officials say people were as prepared as they could be, but Tonga is a third-world country and there's only so much you can do to prepare. Now Utah's Tongan community is planning to collect items to be shipped to the island country. This story explains why organizers believe sending supplies is more



helpful than donating money, shows our viewer the devastation done by the storm and gives them information about how viewers can help.

New landfill (Aired 2/15/2018 @ 7pm for 2 minutes) - The owner of a new controversial landfill near Promontory Point says they plan on accepting trash by the end of 2018. Many Utah community members have voiced their concerns about the new trash site, but the owner says they will be running a safe operation. The owners say they have gone beyond the federal standards and have all the advanced technologies to make the landfill safe. Because the landfill has been approved to collect hazardous waste, environmentalists and residents are opposed to it. They believe it's not in an appropriate location.

Winter roads (Aired 2/19/2018 @ 7pm for 2 minutes) - Parts of central and southern Utah got pounded with several inches of snow leaving sludge and ice on the roads. That made the commute for tens of thousands of Utahans very difficult. The Utah Highway Patrol said roads were incredibly busy President's Day weekend and combining that with all the snow, it created a very dangerous environment for drivers. There were over 200 accidents reported in northern Utah.

Brian Head Firewood (Aired 2/20/2018 @ 7pm for 2 minutes) - You can now get free firewood inside Dixie National Forest thanks to Cedar City Ranger District of the U.S. Forest Service. The firewood is being offered on the land burned by the Brian Head fire last summer. Those that want the free wood need a permit with tags and a designated place to harvest the free wood. The Dixie National Forest rangers say taking the firewood helps the rehabilitation of the scorched environment and improves aesthetics.

American Fork Alliance (Aired 2/23/2018 @ 7pm for 2 minutes) - In an effort to preserve American Fork Canyon, a local non-profit organization is giving outdoor enthusiasts a chance to buy in. The American Fork Canyon Alliance group goal is to maintain public access to the canyon, so they purchased a plot of land on top of Miller Hill surrounded by Snowbird resort. Now, the group is leasing the land out to the public to help pay for it. Snowbird is working on plans to expand the resort, something the Alliance wants to make sure is done with local recreationists in mind.

Lawmakers on Air Quality (aired 2/26/18 @ 7pm, 1 minute 15 seconds) – Air quality is a major issue for people in Utah and it has now reached a level of concern at the government level. House bill 101 is a bill that aims to help clean the air by targeting diesel powered vehicles. 4 out of 5 counties required driver to check the emission level and the new law would make it a requirement for all counties. People at the department of environmental quality say it is a step in the right direction towards helping the air quality. The house bill will require Utah



county to create a pilot program and then it will go to the floor. This was significant because air quality is a major issue for the government and for people in Utah. It affects their health and livelihood and this bill is one way to help clear the air in Utah. It showed viewers that the government is doing something to improve the air quality and how they want people in Utah to do the same.

Water treatment (Aired 2/26/2018 @ 7pm for 2 minutes) – A new city project in St. George will re-examine the growth in southern Utah and whether there's enough water to supply everyone. The city is planning the construction of a new water treatment plant that would eventually utilize many unused water wells. The project will allow more future real estate developments in the future. The addition of water is not expected to raise water rates for the public.

Save migrating birds (Aired 3/1/2018 @ 7pm for 2 minutes) – The Tracy Aviary launched their "Lights Out Salt Lake" initiative to encourage residents to turn off lights and shut blinds from 11 p.m. to 6 a.m. during the months that birds migrate. Tracy Aviary says during the months of March through May and August through October, songbirds are some of the most at-risk species due to migration timing. Bird experts find many die when they run into windows. The aviary says up to a billion birds die each year in building collisions, and turning off the lights can save them.

Riverdale Landslide (Aired 3/9/2018 @ 7pm for 2 minutes) – Another Riverdale homeowner could soon be out of a home because of a massive landslide. Fire officials said more land was lost behind the homes again because of recent snowstorms. Already three homes are under mandatory evacuation. The fourth home is under voluntary evacuation, but the homeowner says at any moment that can change. She is currently packing her home to prepare for that day.

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