

CHECKLIST · LAS VEGAS

Moving to Las Vegas Checklist: The First 90 Days (2026)

What newcomers need to do in order, the deadlines and where each job is done. Print it and tick it off.

SHORT ANSWER

The first ten days are federal: **if you are subject to address reporting, tell USCIS within 10 days**, and if you have a case in immigration court, tell the court **within 5 days**. In this valley the trap comes out of the envelope: **you can move and have the city on your envelope never change**, even when you have crossed from a municipality into unincorporated county land. **What triggers the duty is the move itself, not the envelope**. Week one is about the city, and here there are **five separate providers**: electricity from one company, natural gas from another, water from a separate district, sewer from the city and refuse from a contracted hauler. In the same week learn two things: **whether your address is inside or outside the city limits**, and **your assigned watering day**. The second one costs money: the watering rule here is permanent and the fee escalates.

The first 10 days

TASK	WHERE OR HOW
☐ Report your address to USCIS	As a general rule required for most non-citizens including green card holders, within 10 days ; holders of A and G visas and visa waiver visitors are outside it. uscis.gov/addresschange
☐ Update every pending case separately	Filing an AR-11 does not by itself update the address on a pending application; enter the receipt number of each one
☐ If you have an immigration court case	Within 5 days on Form EOIR-33/IC: respondentaccess.eoir.justice.gov . There is one court in the state and it is in this city
☐ If you have a reporting requirement	Also report the address through portal.ice.gov ; if you hold an appointment notice, the address on that notice is the one that counts
☐ If you hold a status-neutral card there is a second job	The address change on that card is made in person , so it needs an appointment. The federal notification does not replace it
☐ Do not treat postal forwarding as a notification	A postal change of address does not update the agency's record, and giving an address to a state or county body does not satisfy the federal duty

THERE ARE THREE WAYS OF MOVING IN THIS VALLEY, AND ALL THREE REQUIRE A REPORT

- **From inside the city boundary into unincorporated county land.** Your envelope still says Las Vegas, but everything from zoning to business licensing, code complaints and refuse contracts now answers to a different counter. **The federal duty still arises.**
- **From one unincorporated area to another.** No official name changes and the ZIP code may stay the same. **You have still moved.**
- **A short move within the valley.** Changing streets in the same neighborhood is reportable too.
- **Renting a post office box is not a solution,** because the agency wants the address where you actually live.
- One thing changed in 2026: take into account the federal rule that **took effect on 29 June 2026** and reworked alien registration and what counts as evidence of registration, readable in [the Federal Register record](#).

Week one: five providers, three legal regimes

ITEM	PROVIDER	REGIME AND COMPLAINT DOOR
Electricity	Nevada Power Company d/b/a NV Energy	Inside the regulator's scope; complaints to the regulator
Natural gas	Southwest Gas Corporation (a separate company, a separate bill)	Inside the regulator's scope; complaints to the regulator
Water	Las Vegas Valley Water District	Outside it, sets its own rules; complaints to the county commission
Sewer	City of Las Vegas (inside the city limits)	The counterpart is the property owner from the start; no tenant account exists
Refuse	Republic Services of Southern Nevada (exclusive franchise)	Outside it; the counterpart is the local business license department

And the single most useful sentence in this guide is this: **one household sits under three separate legal regimes, and you can tell which door to use from the provider's name.** The regulator states on its own page that an entity whose name contains **authority, district or mutual** is not one it regulates; the word **district** in the water agency's name tells you which door to use. **Do not confuse this with cities in the north of the state:** there electricity and gas come from the same company, here they are **two separate companies and two separate bills.**

TASK	WHERE OR HOW
☐ Make three separate calls	Electricity, gas and water, and open each with the question what do you accept as alternative identification
☐ The number question on water	The district asks only for the last four digits of a number and states on its own page that resident aliens may be required to provide a passport, a state identification number and/or a matrícula consular , and that international customers may be required to provide a passport number. An expired passport is not accepted

TASK	WHERE OR HOW
☐ The number question on electricity and gas	The regulator's own answer: companies set their requirements in their own tariffs, some may require a number, but many provide an alternative such as a driver's license number
☐ Know your deposit rights	For electricity and gas the ceiling may not exceed one and a half times the estimated average monthly bill; installments must be allowed ; the deposit must be returned after twelve consecutive months of on-time payment , with interest; for elderly customers the ceiling is halved . A newcomer has no credit history, so in practice you pay a deposit and get it back later
☐ Once the bills are in your name you hold two documents	Those two are the residency proof asked for in the license application and in school enrollment
☐ Find out which side of the line your address sits on	Look at the county's own jurisdictional boundary map or query your address in the county mapping service. It decides which door you use for everything from a code complaint to a building permit
☐ Get the library card	The system is the Las Vegas-Clark County Library District . A standard card asks for valid photo identification and proof of current address; a separate card type for people who cannot verify an address is reported , limited to five items at a time, and the document we read states no expiry. We keep the hedge heavy : the system's site never opened, so confirm the terms at a branch
☐ Start school enrollment for the children	One district county-wide. A driver license does not count as proof of address, photocopies of the child's identity document are not accepted , and there is a separate option for families with no proof of address

WATERING DAYS ARE ASSIGNED TO THE ADDRESS, AND SUNDAY IS BANNED IN EVERY SEASON

- **The rule is permanent**, not a temporary drought measure. The seasonal calendar: **1 November to 28/29 February, one assigned day** a week; **1 March to 30 April, three assigned days**; **1 May to 31 August, every day except Sunday**; **1 September to 31 October, three assigned days**.
- **You do not choose the days**; the district assigns them to your address and notifies you. In summer, **spray irrigation between 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.** is also prohibited.
- **What counts as water waste**: water **running or spraying off the property**; failing to repair a faulty device or supply line **after knowing about it for forty-eight hours**; breaching the rules on washing vehicles, driveways, car parks, pavements and streets; draining **pool or spa water off the property** where a sewer connection is available; spray irrigation during the prohibited midday window in summer; breaching the misting rules and the **assigned watering group**.
- **There are exemptions, but one thing is never exempt**. Hand watering with a hose, **drip and low-flow systems**, watering newly planted landscape for up to fourteen days and a supervised test of the irrigation system are exempt from the day and time limits. Against that, **water running off your property has no exemption at all**. However you applied it, water reaching the pavement or the street is a violation.
- **Run the sprinklers once on day one and watch them**. A head spraying onto the pavement can bring you a fee for a fault you did not create, and reporting the fault **within forty-eight hours** is your obligation.

The water waste fee: it escalates, and it looks back

VIOLATION	AMOUNT ON A TYPICAL RESIDENTIAL METER
First	Notice and a period to correct
Second	\$80
Third	\$160
Fourth	\$320
Fifth	\$640
Sixth and beyond	\$1,280

- **On larger meters the amounts are higher**, and there is a far heavier schedule for water theft.
- **Which step you land on is set by your violation history over the previous eighteen months**, so a violation from a year ago can raise today's fee.
- **The fee is not the only sanction**: the district writes that it may exercise other authority including issuing a **misdemeanor citation**, and service can also be shut off.
- **There is an appeal and you should use it**: a violation and a fee can be challenged before an **independent hearing officer**. File in time and keep the repair records for your irrigation system.

WHO PAYS, THE TENANT OR THE OWNER: THE WATER FEE HAS A CHAIN

- **The fee is charged to whoever holds the account**. In a single-family home where the account is usually in the tenant's name, the fee goes to the tenant; in an apartment building where the operator holds it, the fee goes to the operator while the tenant uses the water.
- **And this is where the chain forms**: where the waste is not resolved, the district may require the **owner of record** to take over the account, and the debt is owed by both customer and owner and creates a **lien on the property**. So even where the bill sits with the tenant, unresolved waste pulls the owner in.
- **For sewer the counterpart is the owner from the start**; there is no sewer account for a tenant to open.
- **Who pays what must be set out in your lease by statute**. How utility charges are divided between the parties is one of the mandatory subjects of a written lease; **read that clause before you sign**.
- **Three verified things on tenancy**: a deposit may not exceed **three months of rent**, at the end of a tenancy the landlord must give an **itemized written accounting** and return the balance **within thirty days**, and a late fee may not exceed **five percent of the periodic rent**. The detail is in [the renting section of the state guide](#).

THE SHUTOFF BAN IS TRIGGERED BY TEMPERATURE, NOT A CALENDAR

- If the forecast for a **twenty-four hour period** shows **105 Fahrenheit or above** or **15 Fahrenheit or below**, a disconnection for non-payment is **postponed**. **We write those two figures with confidence**, because they appear in both the regulation and the tariff the company has filed with the regulator.
- **This is a postponement, not a cancellation**. The debt stays; only the disconnection moves.
- **Lower thresholds for elderly and disabled households appear in the regulation but not in the company's published tariff**. The tariffs predate the regulation and the two do not agree at this point. If your household includes someone **62 or older** or a person with a disability, the threshold **may be lower**; we do not state it as settled and we tell you to ask your company. The same regulation also requires **at least forty-eight hours notice** to those households.
- **The gas exemption is conditional**. The tariff states the heat postponement does not apply to the gas utility **unless natural gas is essential for air conditioning** at that dwelling. Do not drop the condition.
- **Water and refuse are entirely outside this regime**. Do not defer a water bill because a heat wave has arrived.
- **Three protections do not depend on temperature: ten days written notice** before disconnection and a **second notice at least forty-eight hours** beforehand; **no disconnection at weekends, on public holidays or the day before one**; and a **thirty-day postponement** on a written statement signed by a physician, public health official or advanced practice registered nurse, in which case the company must offer **up to ninety days of installments**. The provisions are in [the utilities section of the state guide](#).

Within 30 days

TASK	WHERE OR HOW
☐ Vehicle registration and insurance	An emissions test is required here , but the coverage is a drawn area, not a county line. There is no insurance grace period and a one-day lapse can lead to suspension. The invisible cost of delaying registration: the out-of-state plate tariff at park gates
☐ Set up the tax side	No state income tax is withheld from your pay and you file no state return . But the tax is not absent, it has moved: you pay 8.375 percent at the till and the property tax burden is real. Do not carry that rate to another county
☐ Ask the card question before you start work	Some jobs require a separate card issued by a police agency , and you cannot get it before you have the job ; the application form is handed to you and signed by your employer . When you receive the offer, ask whether the position requires a card
☐ Register with a sliding-fee health center	Before a problem arises. A sliding-fee clinic is not a free clinic and you have to ask for the discount by name. We publish no address, hours, telephone number or fee scale ; take them from the clinic's own site and confirm by telephone before you travel. Ask directly whether immigration status is asked , because the list of organizations says nothing about it
☐ Do not delay the health application	The marketplace is the state's own ; applications and eligibility decisions sit with a separate body and run through a portal. Do not merge the age limits: 21 on the Medicaid side and 19 in the children's program. Expect to see the former agency name in the letters

TASK	WHERE OR HOW
☐ Choose the right marriage counter	No waiting period and no blood test; the main bureau is open seven days a week from 8 a.m. to midnight and the office writes that it is open all holidays, no exceptions . The fee is \$102 and checks are not accepted . Being in the same county does not mean going to the same counter : some offices do not issue licenses
☐ Start early if you need a birth certificate	At the county agency the first copy is \$38 , each additional copy \$25 , processing runs two to four weeks , and personal checks are not accepted . The county holds birth records from 1973 onward ; anything earlier cannot be obtained there at all
☐ Report a city problem	On the city side the city's own app and code enforcement lines; in the unincorporated area the channel is called Fix It Clark County . The county's own warning: it writes that your information may be disclosed even if you ask to remain anonymous . That is not a promise of protection

AT THE COUNTY ASSISTANCE COUNTER THE OBSTACLE IS NOT THE NUMBER, IT IS THE ID

- **The county's own assistance office** asks applicants for a **valid, unexpired Nevada government-issued photo ID showing a Clark County address**. That is not a number requirement; it is an **identity card** requirement.
- **And this is where the status-neutral card can fail you**. The top portion carries the agency's own notation **Not Valid for ID**. **Whether the county accepts the card could not be verified from the agency's own page**, so we say neither that it passes nor that it fails; **but think through your second identity option before you go to that counter**.
- **The assistance items we could find** are rent, burial and out-of-state transport plus certain homemaker services. **We found no indigent medical care program**. The county also expects an applicant to have applied first, where applicable, for Medicaid, unemployment insurance and other federal benefits.
- **In an emergency the rule is different**: under federal law a hospital emergency department must screen and stabilize **regardless of ability to pay or immigration status**. Do not postpone hospital because you fear the bill.
- **Before you or a family member applies for a benefit, drops one, or moves between programs, speak to an immigration attorney**.

IF YOU BOUGHT A HOME: THE PROPERTY TAX CAP DOES NOT ARRIVE AUTOMATICALLY

- The cap on an owner's primary residence is **three percent**; homes the owner does not occupy, land and commercial property may take a cap of **up to eight percent**. **Only one property in all of Nevada may be chosen as the primary residence.**
- **In this county the procedure is a postcard:** the county's assessment office mails a card to qualifying owners and the task is one sentence, **sign it and return it as soon as possible.**
- **Recording a deed drops the cap.** Recording any document of ownership removes the three percent abatement; if the document number changes, **a new card must be completed** to keep it the following year. A refinance alone, where it creates no document of ownership, does not affect the abatement.
- **We print both dates:** the county gives **30 June 2027** as the deadline for correcting owner information for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, and a **15 June** date also appears on the same office's page under the heading for exemption renewal cards. **Plan to the earlier one.**
- **If no card arrives, do not wait:** call the assessment office and ask whether your property is recorded as a primary residence. **We could not verify which identification or taxpayer number the cap claim asks for** and we do not guess.
- There is a separate route for rental homes: the county mails rental affidavit letters each year **in April or May.**

Within 90 days

TASK	WHERE OR HOW
☐ Plan your Türkiye matters	Nevada falls within the jurisdiction of the Consulate General in Los Angeles and there is no Turkish mission in the state. Good news: the Consulate General is in the same time zone , so you do not need to convert its published hours. The detail is in our consulate guide
☐ Start early if you need an apostille	There are four separate doors , and sending a document to the wrong one means the packet comes back. We publish no fee, turnaround or procedure , because the state authority's sites did not open this round
☐ Voter registration and jury duty	Registration and voting belong to U.S. citizens only ; do not tick a citizenship box on any form and do not fill in registration forms handed to you at the door. If a jury summons arrives, call the court named on the letter and do not throw the summons away
☐ Ask a lawyer before applying for a public benefit	The federal public charge rule that took effect on 18 September 2026 widened the officer's discretion; the same rule states that benefits received before that date are assessed under the older rule . Put two dates in the calendar: 18 September 2026 and 1 January 2027
☐ Know what makes Nevada different on health	From 1 October 2026 federally matched full coverage is open to four status groups, but Nevada elected the federal option for lawfully residing children and pregnant people years ago . Lawfully residing is not the same as holding any status ; discuss your own position with your lawyer
☐ Keep your tax records	Copies of federal filings are frequently requested in green card and citizenship applications. Because Nevada has no state return, the federal record is all you hold

Numbers to know in Las Vegas

SUBJECT	FIGURE
The city limit break point	Sahara Avenue. The county writes in its own text that most residents south of that avenue are not within a city boundary
School district	One district county-wide · grade placement by age as of 1 August
Shutoff ban thresholds	105 °F or above or 15 °F or below · a postponement , not a cancellation · water and refuse are outside it
Water waste fee	\$80 · \$160 · \$320 · \$640 · \$1,280 · the step is set by the previous 18 months · Sunday banned in every season
Insurance minimum	\$25,000 / \$50,000 / \$20,000 · no grace period · lapse penalties \$250 to \$1,250
Emissions	Annual · result valid 90 days · 2026 ceiling \$75.50 gasoline, \$90 diesel · waiver threshold \$450
Credential fees	Status-neutral card \$22.50 , 4 years · standard license \$41.50 , 8 years · test \$25 , retest \$10
Transit	Single ride \$2.00 · 24 hours \$5.00 · 30 days \$65.00 · no change given, no passes sold on board
Sales tax	8.375 percent in Clark County · employer tax 1.17 percent statewide
Marriage license	\$102 · no checks · main bureau 7 days, 8 a.m. to midnight
Birth certificate	First copy \$38 , additional copies \$25 · 2 to 4 weeks · county records from 1973 onward
Work card	67 dollars from 1 October 2026 , plus 40 dollars for a federal check where required · 5 years · notice within 5 days on a change of employer
Court filing window	7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., one continuous window · faxes and unsolicited electronic filings not accepted
Property tax cap	Three percent on a primary residence · up to eight percent otherwise · the procedure is a postcard

A WEEKEND PLAN: CHEAP, BUT NOT FREE

- **Genuinely free:** the **county wetlands park** east of the valley (trails open daily dawn to dusk), the **federal fossil monument** north of the valley (in the agency's own words no fee or pass is required for access), and the library card itself. **Do not put the monument's administrative mailing address into a satnav;** the agency labels it, in its own words, not to be used for navigation purposes.
- **State park entry follows the plate:** at two large parks near the valley it is **\$10.00** per vehicle and **\$15.00** for a vehicle without Nevada plates. At the state historic park on the city's founding site **museum admission is \$3.00** with children 12 and under free; the newest park north of the valley is **\$3.00 per person**. **There is no free walk-in:** anyone entering on foot, on horseback or by bicycle pays **\$2 per person**. Some parks do not take cards.
- **There is a library park pass, but two per library.** A Nevada library card holder borrows it for a week, it works **at all 27 state parks**, covers one vehicle carrying up to eight people, and **covers museum admission at this city's own state historic park**. **But we do not write that it is there:** the agency's own release states each public library has been provided with two passes, and **we could not verify this year's participation by the system serving this city**. Ring your branch. **The pass does not work on federal land.**
- **The federal recreation area around the lake charges:** a private vehicle is **\$25.00** covering one to seven days; walking or cycling in is **\$15.00 per person**; the park-specific annual pass is **\$45.00**. The line a family needs: in the agency's own words, **children under 16 do not need an entrance pass**.
- **Federal fee-free days:** the two remaining in 2026 are **27 October 2026** and **11 November 2026**. Other charges such as timed entry can still apply on those days.
- **Heat is a safety matter, in the agencies' own language:** the park service writes for the lake area that it cannot be emphasized enough that hiking from late spring to early autumn can be **VERY DANGEROUS** because of extreme heat, and recommends delaying hiking plans to cooler seasons. The same agency says to carry **at least one gallon, about four liters, of drinking water per person per day** and to **drink even when you are not thirsty**, and the same page states there are **no lifeguards and no designated swim beaches**.

THE REAL WARNING IN THIS CITY FOR A HOUSEHOLD WITH CHILDREN

- **A hotel pool can lawfully be an over-21 venue.** The regulator's own text defines a class of venue that **bars patrons under the age of 21 from entering**, and the same definition lists that venue's dancing area as possibly being **a swimming pool or a pool deck**.
- **What that means in practice:** a family that books a hotel on the strength of its pool photographs may find their children cannot go in. **Ring the hotel before you book**, ask whether the pool has an age limit, and ask whether there is a separate pool on the same property open to children.
- **The gaming age is a separate and stricter item:** for under-21s it is not only playing that is barred but also **loitering** in gaming areas. In practice: a child may walk through a casino floor with a parent to get from one place to another, but may not stop, stand or sit at the machines or the tables. **We could not read the statute text**, so we neither quote it nor print a penalty.
- **There is a night curfew too, but we do not print the hours.** It is reported that a night-time curfew applies to under-18s and that the rules on the resort corridor are tighter; **the sources disagree about the hours and about which nights apply, and we could not read the county code**.

IF YOU ARE NOT A CITIZEN, REMEMBER

- Do not tick a citizenship box on any form and do not register to vote. If a jury summons arrives, do not leave it unanswered; call **the jury office of the court named on the letter**, not a general number.
- Before you or a family member applies for a benefit, drops one, or moves between programs, speak to an immigration attorney.
- Check your entry record: i94.cbp.dhs.gov. Your work authorization, some filing eligibilities and, in this state, part of the validity of your cards turn on it.
- If a green card application is pending, do not leave the country without advance parole.
- If you are detained, ask to speak to a lawyer before discussing your status, and if you are a Turkish citizen ask that the consulate be notified.



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