PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT

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Emergency Water Conservation Information Sheet

Why?

- Voluntary water conservation efforts throughout the State have overall remained insufficient for ensuring essential water availability for all Californians
- The Sierra Nevada Mountains has experienced the lowest snowpack (5%) since keeping records of annual snow levels
- Above average temperatures throughout the winter of 2014-2015 have caused any snow to melt quickly reducing the water bank used to ensure a viable water supply into the summer
- Due to the fourth year of the drought, water supplies are significantly diminished, causing the need for emergency water conservation measures to be implemented by the State and local water agencies
- The California State Water Resources Control Board has directed all local water purveyors to enact local emergency water conservation mandates to achieve Governor Brown's emergency proclamation for a total statewide reduction 25%
- Palmdale Water District is required to reduce water consumption by 32% by February 28, 2016
- That State will fine any water agency $10,000 per day if found not in compliance with their specific reduction directive

PWD Stage 3 Emergency Watering Restrictions

- Primary use of water is for domestic use, sanitation, fire prevention, and public health & safety
- No hose washing of hardscape surfaces (i.e. sidewalks, walkways, buildings, walls, patios, parking areas…etc)
- Hardscape spraying is only permitted to eliminate conditions that are hazardous to public safety or to prepare a surface for architectural coating or painting
- Vehicle washing is permitted using an automatic shutoff nozzle attached to the hose
- The PWD highly recommends not washing vehicles at home but instead going to a commercial car wash that recycles it's water
- Decorative fountains are not permitted unless the water used is within a closed recycling system
- Water will not be served at any public business where food is sold unless specifically requested by the patron
- Public businesses that sell food will display this restriction
- All indoor/outdoor water leaks will be repaired by the user within 1 week
- **Outdoor watering is restricted to two (2) days (Wednesdays and Saturdays) ONLY**
- **Outdoor watering is not permitted between the hours of 10:00am – 6:00pm**
- Any water found running off property from outdoor watering is considered water waste and is subject to penalty
- Potable water is not permitted to irrigate turf located on public street medians
- Outdoor irrigation of new home construction and buildings is not permitted unless drip irrigation or microspray is used
- **Outdoor watering is prohibited after measurable rainfall has been recorded for 48 hours**
- Golf courses, commercial nurseries, parks, school yards, public open space, and public landscaped areas will not water more than the permitted 2 days per week (Wednesdays and Saturdays) and between the hours of 6:00am – 6:00pm

Additional Information on Back of Page

- No public watering restrictions are applied to those areas using reclaimed water
- Athletic fields are permitted to be watered between the hours of 6:00pm – 10:00am with no restrictions on watering days
- Residential vegetable gardens are permitted to be watered once daily

Water Waste

- All residents, businesses, and commercial industry can report water waste one of four (4) ways:
    - Water Waste Hotline: 661-456-1099
    - Email: waste@palmdalewater.org
    - Website water waste form
    - Download an app called: Vizsafe from your app store
        - Photographs of water waste are crucial to determine violations
- **A drought surcharge of $0.45 per unit used in Tiers (2-6) will be assessed for all non-essential usage**
- Water Waste Violation:
  Fines are assessed under the Water Shortage Emergency Plan (2010) guidance measures using progressive violation $50.00 fine:

    1. $50.00 fine
    2. $250.00 fine
    3. $500.00 fine
    4. Water disconnection and loss of service

The District recognizes that there may be mitigating or intervening circumstances that bear upon a Consumer's apparent misuse of water. Upon receipt of any notice regarding purported misuse or waste of water, the Consumer shall have five (5) working days within which to file a written request for reconsideration with the General Manager. If the Consumer is not satisfied with the Generals Manager's decision the Consumer shall have fifteen (15) days after the General Manager's decision within which to file a written appeal with the Board. The Board shall conduct a hearing on the appeal at the next Board meeting immediately following the appeal. The Board's decision following such hearing shall be final and conclusive.

PWD appreciates all of the effort that you do to conserve water every day and encourages you to continue this effort to achieve our mission of reducing water consumption by 32%. Remember that LESS IS MORE… SAVE FOR OUR FUTURE!