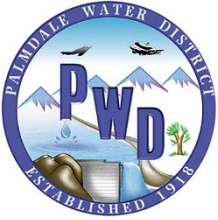


# PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT

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September 10, 2015

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Mike McNutt, PIO: 661-456-1041 (w), 614-390-7930 (c), email: [pio@palmdalewater.org](mailto:pio@palmdalewater.org)

## PWD Intensifies Water Waste Penalties

Palmdale, CA – Palmdale Water District water wasters are no longer receiving warnings for violations of water conservation regulations. The Palmdale Water Board approved an update to the resolution governing watering restrictions in order to reach the State mandated water consumption reduction of 32%. First offenses will receive a \$50.00 fine, followed by a \$250.00 fine for a second offense, \$500.00 for a third offense, and water shut-off for a fourth.

Most District customers, including businesses, residents, municipal facilities, and industry are following the guidelines put in place beginning June 1, 2015. However, watering on off days and times, in addition to other water waste complaints, are frustrating the community as violators disregard water use restrictions and put the unnecessary burden of achieving the State's mandatory reduction numbers on those who follow the guidelines.

"While most District customers are reducing water consumption by making sacrifices such as allowing lawns to go brown, not washing their vehicles as frequently, and changing daily routines and habits to conserve water, some continue to think that these restrictions do not apply to them," said Mike McNutt, Public Information Officer and Water Conservation Director. "The updated water waste violation resolution focuses on those customers who are riding on the coat tails of those making the sacrifices."

Non-compliance of the mandated 32% consumption reduction will result in fines to the District of \$10,000 per day beginning in early 2016. District employees will be increasing efforts to catch violators by driving throughout the service area early mornings, overnight, on weekends, and during regular business hours. Violators will be provided a door tag with information on which guideline has been disregarded.

"Long-term water reliability and ensuring that our customers receive clean, healthy, and affordable water is the mission of the Palmdale Water District," said Matt Knudson, Assistant General Manager. "We live in a different California than we did 10 years ago with water conservation as our new normal. Our water problems are complex, but if we rally together as a community, we can achieve great things."

The Water District is asking the community to continue pushing to conserve water where they can and to report water waste or watering at non-designated times by calling 661-456-1099 or emailing at [waste@palmdalewater.org](mailto:waste@palmdalewater.org). For more information regarding the Palmdale Water District's watering restrictions, visit [www.palmdalewater.org](http://www.palmdalewater.org).

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