



MAYOR KEVIN L. FAULCONER
CITY OF SAN DIEGO

DROUGHT ALERT FACT SHEET

On March 17, 2015, the State Water Resources Control Board voted to prohibit watering outdoor landscapes during and within 48 hours after measurable rainfall. Other mandatory regulations approved by the state are already in effect in San Diego.

DROUGHT ALERT STATUS

By moving to “Drought Alert” status on Nov. 1, 2014, the voluntary measures that had been in effect since July 2014 became mandatory. It also calls for additional measures to be taken. The mandatory measures are listed below.

- **Limit lawn watering and landscape irrigation using sprinklers to no more than three days a week on a schedule established and posted by the City.**
 - Residences with odd-numbered addresses would be allowed to water on Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays.
 - Residences with even-numbered addresses would be allowed to water on Saturdays, Mondays and Wednesdays.
 - Apartments, condominiums and businesses would be allowed to water on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.
 - During the months of June through October, the limit is no more than 10 minutes per assigned day.
 - During the months of November through May, the limit is no more than 7 minutes per assigned day.
- **Use a hand-held hose equipped with a positive shut-off nozzle or timed sprinkler system to water landscaped areas.**
- **The washing of automobiles, trucks, trailers, airplanes and other types of transportation equipment is allowed only during the following times:**
 - Before 10 a.m. or after 6 p.m. during the months of June through October.
 - Before 10 a.m. or after 4 p.m. during the months of November through May.
- **Irrigation is not allowed during a rain event.**
- **Stop operating ornamental fountains except to the extent needed for maintenance.**
- **Potted plants, non-commercial vegetable gardens and fruit trees may be irrigated on any day during the following times:**
 - Before 10 a.m. or after 6 p.m. during the months of June through October.
 - Before 10 a.m. or after 4 p.m. during the months of November through May.
- **Irrigation is permitted any day at any time as follows:**
 - As required by a landscape permit.
 - For erosion control.

- For establishment, repair or renovation of public use fields for schools and parks.
- For landscape establishment following a disaster.
- **Use of recycled or non-potable water for construction purposes when available.**
- **Use of water from fire hydrants will be limited to firefighting, meter installation by the Water Department or other activities necessary to maintain the health, safety and welfare of San Diegans.**
- **Construction operations receiving water from a fire hydrant or water truck will not use water beyond normal construction activities.**
- **Fix all leaks upon discovery**
- **Overfilling of swimming pools and spas is strictly prohibited.**
- **All decorative water fountains must use a recirculating pump.**
- **Restaurants and other food establishments shall only serve and refill water for patrons upon request.**
- **Guests in hotels, motels, and other commercial lodging establishments will be provided the option of not laundering towels and linens daily.**
- **Customers cannot use a running hose to wash down sidewalks, driveways, parking areas, buildings, awnings, windows, tennis courts, patios or other hard surface areas, except to alleviate immediate safety or sanitation hazards. A water-efficient device, such as a commercial water broom, must be used and all wash water must be prevented from entering the storm drain system (curb gutters, streets, alleys, and inlets).**

ENFORCEMENT

The City of San Diego is enforcing the new mandatory measures by utilizing existing resources at no additional budgetary impact to water ratepayers. About 10 staff members in the Public Utilities Department are tasked with enforcement, which largely calls for educating the public and working with residents and businesses to comply. The City has shifted responsibilities for some workers and filled existing budgeted vacancies to ensure proper and adequate enforcement.