

City of San Diego
NOTICE OF STAGE ONE
VOLUNTARY COMPLIANCE - WATER WATCH

On July 28, 2008 the Mayor declared a Water Emergency pursuant to Municipal Code Sections 67.3801 – 67.3811. In addition, the City Council determined that a water shortage could exist based upon increased demand or limited supply. As a result, Stage 1 Voluntary Compliance - Water Watch is being implemented and San Diegans are being asked to voluntarily save water and increase their water conservation efforts whenever possible. (See official Resolution, below.)

This declaration is based on: (1) the historic dry conditions in the regions from which San Diego imports its water (2) the judicial actions limiting the movement of water through the Bay-Delta to Southern California (3) the need to increase conservation to meet current-year demand goals (4) the increased consumption of customers (5) the Governor's Declaration of Drought Emergency throughout the State (6) the need for increased public awareness of ensure every opportunity to conserve water voluntarily is provided.

Under this Stage 1 Voluntary Compliance – Water Watch, San Diegans are being asked to voluntarily eliminate certain water use behaviors which would otherwise be mandatory under a Stage 2 – Water Alert.

The following actions are voluntary, and highly encouraged during Stage 1 Voluntary Compliance - Water Watch:

(1) Lawn watering and landscape irrigation, including construction meter irrigation, should be used only if:

(A) a hand-held hose equipped with a positive shut-off nozzle is used, or

(B) a hand-held container is used, or

(C) a drip irrigation system is used.

Commercial nurseries, commercial sod farms and similarly situated establishments should curtail all nonessential water use.

(2) The washing of automobiles, trucks, trailers, boats, airplanes and other types of mobile equipment, should be done only with a hand-held bucket or a hand-held hose equipped with a positive shut-off nozzle for quick rinses.

Washing may be done at any time on the immediate premises of a commercial car wash or commercial service station, or by a mobile car wash or on-site car wash using high pressure washing equipment. Restrictions on these washings are excused where the health, safety and welfare of the public are contingent upon frequent vehicle cleanings, such as garbage trucks and vehicles to transport food and perishables.

(3) No overfilling of swimming pools, spas, ponds and artificial lakes

(4) Irrigation of golf courses, parks, school grounds and recreation fields is permitted only during designated hours on designated days.

(5) Limit the use of water from fire hydrants to fire fighting, related activities or other activities necessary to maintain the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of San Diego.

(6) All restaurants to serve water to their customers only when specifically requested by the customers.

(7) Do not use water to wash down sidewalks, driveways, parking areas, tennis courts, patios or other paved areas, except to alleviate immediate fire or sanitation hazards.

(8) Only operate Ornamental fountains that recirculate water.

(9) Construction operations receiving water from a construction meter or water truck shall not use water unnecessarily for any purposes other than those required by regulatory agencies.

In addition, under a declared water emergency, wasteful or unreasonable use of water is strictly prohibited. Under the water emergency,

(1) Customers shall not let water leave their property by drainage onto adjacent properties or public or private roadways or streets due to excessive irrigation and/or uncorrected leaks.

(2) Customers must immediately repair any water leaks.

(3) Customers must not use water to wash down sidewalks, driveways, parking areas, tennis courts, patios or other paved areas, except to alleviate immediate safety or sanitation hazards.

San Diegans are being asked to curtail their indoor and outdoor water usage in any way they can. For tips on saving water and a complete list of water conservation programs offered by the City of San Diego Water Department, please visit www.sandiego.gov/water. You may also call (619) 515-3500.

Following is the Resolution declaring the Stage 1 Voluntary Compliance – Water Watch:

RESOLUTION NUMBER R-303973
A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL
DECLARING A STAGE 1 WATER WATCH
PURSUANT TO SAN DIEGO MUNICIPAL CODE
SECTION 67.3806.

WHEREAS, a lack of rainfall and court-ordered pumping restrictions on the State Water Project are straining the City's water supply sources, as explained in Report to City Council No. 08-114; and,

WHEREAS, the San Diego County Water Authority's campaign to encourage water conservation, known as the 20 Gallon Challenge, has only yielded a 3% reduction in water use over historic levels; and,

WHEREAS, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger declared a statewide drought emergency on June 4, 2008; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of San Diego, that a general water supply shortage could exist due to increased demand or limited supply, as set forth in Municipal Code section 67.3803(a); and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor or his designee is hereby authorized to declare and implement a Stage 1 Water Watch, calling for voluntary conservation measures, based on the determination that the possibility exists that the City of San Diego Water Department will not be able to meet all of the water demands of its customers pursuant to Municipal Code section 67.3806(b).