# WATER-USE RESTRICTIONS



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FACT SHEET

Since June 1, 2015, state mandates require the City of San Diego reduce its water usage by 16 percent. The City is required to report total customer water usage to the State Water Resources Control Board for the previous month on the 15th of every month through February 13, 2016. Up to 50 percent of residential water-use is outdoors and it represents the best opportunity to help meet the 16 percent state water reduction mandate.

#### Reduce Outdoor Irrigation: Water Only Two Days Per Week\*

On May 14, 2015, the San Diego County Water Authority adopted restrictions for the irrigation of ornamental lawns. These restrictions include limiting irrigation to no more than two days per week across the region. As of July 1, 2015, the following irrigation schedule is mandatory for City of San Diego residents:



\* For systems with multiple stations, water 5 minutes per station. The 5-minutes-per-day time limit does NOT apply to landscape irrigation systems using water-efficient devices, including drip and micro-irrigation systems and stream rotor sprinklers. However, these systems should follow the two-day-per-week schedule.

## Water at the Right Time of Day

Water only after 6 p.m. and before 10 a.m., to reduce evaporation and get the most out of your watering.

## Tree Care

It is critical that trees on your property are properly watered in times of drought to ensure environmental and public safety.

For more information, visit WasteNoWater.org.





2015.06.30

## Mandatory Water-Use Restrictions

- Use a hand-held hose equipped with a positive shut-off nozzle or timed sprinkler system to water landscaped areas.
- Fix all leaks upon discovery.
- Overfilling of swimming pools and spas is strictly prohibited
- All decorative water fountains must use a re-circulating pump and can only run for maintenance. All ornamental fountains must be shut off and only run for maintenance purposes.
- Do not 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 (curbs, gutters, streets, alleys, and inlets).
- Wash automobiles, trucks, trailers, airplanes and other types of transportation equipment before 10 a.m. or after 6 p.m. only and only with the use of storm water best management practices.
- Residential car washing best management practices include:
  - Use a shut-off nozzle or bucket
  - Wash vehicles directly on landscaped areas or direct wash water to landscaped areas
  - Use biodegradable soaps
  - Capture, collect and contain wash water with a berm, shop vacuum, mop or with other appropriate means
- Potted plants, non-commercial vegetable gardens and fruit trees may be watered on any day at the following times:
  Before 10 a.m. or after 6 p.m.
- Irrigation is permitted any day at any time as follows:
  - o 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
- Irrigation is prohibited during a rain event. A rain event is defined as a period during or with 48 hours after measurable precipitation of 1/8 of an inch or more recorded at the nearest reporting weather station to you.
- Use 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 Public Utilities 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 shall not use water beyond normal construction activities.
- Restaurants and other food establishments shall only serve and refill water for patrons upon request.
- Guests in hotels, motels, and other commercial lodging establishments shall be provided the option of not laundering towels and linens daily.

#### Enforcement

The City is enforcing all mandatory water-use restrictions with staff from the Public Utilities Department and the Transportation & Storm Water Department. Notices of violation and/or administrative citations will immediately be issued when evidence of water waste is found. For more information, visit **WasteNoWater.org**.



