



**SAN DIEGANS
WASTE
NO WATER**
ALL DAY. EVERY DAY.

THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO
PUBLIC UTILITIES



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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New Outdoor Watering Times Start June 1 *Efforts to Reduce Water Waste Also Include Valuable City Rebates*

SAN DIEGO – One of the permanent water-waste restrictions enacted by the City in the wake of recent drought conditions, when outdoor watering is allowed, changes on June 1. All irrigation and hand watering must occur **before 10 a.m. and after 6 p.m. on June 1 through the end of October** to reduce evaporation during the warmer summer and fall seasons. Residents with automatic irrigation are encouraged to water in the very early hours of the morning. In the effort to continue long-term water waste reduction, the City also offers a number of tools and resources, including valuable cash-back rebates for eligible customers, to help *San Diegans Waste No Water*.

“Residents, and City Departments I am proud to say, are continuing to eliminate water waste and we want to encourage that behavior year-round and especially during the region’s warmer months” said San Diego Mayor Jerry Sanders. “It wasn’t too long ago that we were dealing with water cutbacks and had to rethink our water-use behaviors. We must always remember the value of water, use it wisely and never waste it,” added Sanders.

Examples of Tools and Resources Available to Eliminate Waste

- City water customers can take advantage of **free residential and commercial water surveys** through the Public Utilities Department to pinpoint water-saving options at your home or business, including identifying possible leaks. On average, an American home wastes more than 10,000 gallons of water every year due to running toilets, dripping faucets, and other household leaks. Also featured on the City’s website is a **Landscape Watering Calculator** that can help you determine the exact amount of water your landscaping needs. For a survey appointment and more information, call **(619) 570-1999**, email **water@sandiego.gov** or visit the City’s website at **www.sandiego.gov/water/conservation**.
- Summer is near and the City’s Public Utilities Department has new **residential and commercial outdoor rebate programs to help customer save in a big way**. By maintaining a healthy garden, City water customers may be eligible for cash-back rebates for residential smart controllers, micro-irrigation and rainwater harvesting (rain barrels). Funded primarily by state grants competitively sought and obtained by the City, the rebates are available to eligible single-family, multi-family and commercial customers on a first-come, first-served basis. Visit the City’s website at **www.sandiego.gov/water/conservation** for detailed information, guidelines and applications.
- It is very important to **report any water leaks**, and citizens can play an important role in preserving our water and maintaining our water system. Water loss is often caused by leaks from service lines, main breaks, and fire hydrants knocked over by a vehicle. The City counts on residents to help proactively identify and report all types of leaks or other problems on the City water system. To report leaks, call the City’s **24-hour emergency hotline** at **(619) 515-3525**.

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- Customers are also **encouraged to report water waste**. Perhaps a broken sprinkler head is observed or an irrigation system timer that is set to water too long or is spraying into the street. The City would like to know about it so that staff can contact the owners/operators of the system and make them aware of the problem. In addition, chronic wasters could be fined. Just send the City the location and the date and time the waste was observed. Customers can provide their contact information for follow up questions or remain anonymous. Either send an email to waterwaste@sandiego.gov or call **(619) 515-3500 (press 5)** or **(619) 533-7485**. Customers may also print a copy of the City's **Prevent Water Waste flyer**, available on the City's website.

A Reminder of the City's Permanent Water-Waste Restrictions:

Watering Times

- The time of day when watering is allowed (before 10 a.m. and after 6 p.m. from June to October, and before 10 a.m. and after 4 p.m. from November to May) is a permanent restriction. This does not apply to irrigation as required by a landscape permit; for erosion control; for establishment, repair or renovation of public use fields; for landscape establishment following a disaster; for renovation or repair of an irrigation system; and for nursery and commercial growers using hand held containers, positive shut off nozzles, or drip/micro-spray systems.

Excessive Irrigation and Leaks

- City of San Diego water customers must prohibit excessive irrigation and must immediately correct leaks in their private water systems. The City's regulations now state that customers "shall not allow water to leave their property due to drainage onto adjacent properties or public or private roadways or streets or gutters due to excessive irrigation and/or uncorrected leaks."

Washing Down Sidewalks and Paved Areas

- Customers cannot use a running hose to wash down sidewalks, driveways, parking areas, tennis courts, patios or other paved areas, except to alleviate immediate safety or sanitation hazards, unless that hose is connected to a water efficient device such as a commercial water broom.

Swimming Pools and Fountains

- Overfilling of swimming pools and spas is strictly prohibited.
- All decorative water fountains must use a re-circulating pump.

Car Washing

- Vehicles may only be washed at a commercial car wash or by using a hose with an automatic shutoff nozzle or with a hand-held water container.

Cooling Systems

- The City will not provide new water service connections for customers using single pass-through cooling systems.

Conveyer Car Wash and Commercial Laundry

- All new conveyer car wash and commercial laundry systems connections will be required to employ a re-circulating water system.

Restaurants, Food Establishments, Hotels and Motels

- 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.

For more information on the City's permanent water-waste restrictions and a comprehensive listing of available conservation resources and tips, visit **WasteNoWater.org** or call the Public Utilities Department at **(619) 515-3500**.