

# City Enters Drought Alert Status

## New Mandatory Water Use Restrictions Go Into Effect Nov. 1

**SAN DIEGO** – At the recommendation of Mayor Kevin L. Faulconer, the City Council voted Monday to enact a Drought Alert status, the second phase of citywide conservation that calls for mandatory water use restrictions to begin Nov. 1 in response to the severe drought conditions statewide.

“Working together as a community, San Diego has done a tremendous job in the past in responding to the call for water conservation,” Mayor Faulconer said. “For that, we say thank you, and now we must ask for your continued help as we face the uncertainty of future rainfall and water supplies at critical levels.”

The City implemented its voluntary Drought Watch stage on July 1, 2014. Earlier this month, Mayor Faulconer recommended moving to the next level of water conservation based on several factors, including a significant decline in ground water reserves throughout California, a drop in water reservoirs for the San Diego region, a lack of rainfall and diminished prospects for a strong El Niño, and a severe heat wave for the San Diego region in August and September.

The Drought Alert stage doesn't contain a sunset clause and will stay in effect as long as the City deems necessary.

Relevant to most residents under the Drought Alert stage are the restrictions that mandate assigned watering days, which are dependent on your address. There are also restrictions on what time of day residents can water and how long they can water:

### Assigned Watering Days

- Residences with odd-numbered addresses    Water only on Sundays, Tuesdays & Thursdays
- Residences with even-numbered addresses    Water only on Saturdays, Mondays & Wednesdays
- Apartments, condos & businesses    Water only on Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays

### Time of Day and Time Limits

- From November 1 through May 31, water only between 4 p.m. and 10 a.m. for only 7 minutes at each station when using a standard sprinkler system.
- From June 1 through October 31, water only between 6 p.m. and 10 a.m. for only 10 minutes at each station when using a standard sprinkler system.

**Other water use restrictions that become effective under Drought Alert status are:**

- Use a hand-held hose equipped with a positive shut-off nozzle or timed sprinkler system to water landscaped areas.
- Stop operation of ornamental fountains, except to the extent needed for maintenance purposes.
- The washing of automobiles, trucks, trailers, airplanes and other types of transportation equipment is only allowed during the following times:
  - Between 4 p.m. and 10 a.m. from November 1 to May 31.
  - Between 6 p.m. and 10 a.m. from June 1 through October 31.
  - Washing is permitted at any time at a commercial car wash.
- No irrigation is allowed during rain events.
- Potted plants, non-commercial vegetable gardens and fruit trees may be irrigated on any day during the following times:
  - Between 4 p.m. and 10 a.m. from November 1 through May 31
  - Between 6 p.m. and 10 a.m. from June 1 through October 31.
- 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 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 activities.

These restrictions are in addition to permanent, mandatory water use restrictions in effect at all times since 2011. For a list of all current restrictions, as well as conservation resources, rebate programs and other valuable information, visit [www.wastenowater.org](http://www.wastenowater.org).

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