

WATERLINES

WATER QUALITY AND

SERVICE ARE #1

Moulton Niguel Water
www.mnwd.com

STATE'S WATER OUTLOOK TURNS FROM BAD TO WORSE

Water rationing, rate increases and third year of drought have arrived

California's water supply outlook is dire – and it's becoming more serious by the day. Many of the state's primary reservoirs are at one-third their capacity, and Sierra snowfall, which is critical to our water supply, is just 61 percent of normal. Plus, legal decisions to protect fish species are greatly limiting the transport of much-needed water from Northern California to the southern portion of our state.



These photos of Oroville Reservoir in June 2005 (above) and April 2008 (below) are glaring evidence of California's receding water supplies.



Because of these conditions, the California Department of Water Resources has estimated that unless California has an exceptionally wet spring, water deliveries to Southern California's water agencies will be reduced by up to 85 percent.

"All of these factors add up to an era of rationing, when water conservation is of critical importance," said Moulton Niguel Water District General Manager Robert Gumerman. "To ensure adequate supply, the District has imposed mandatory conservation measures that all of our customers need to follow. Together, we can protect this precious resource."

Visit www.MNWD.com for a list of all the easy ways to follow these mandatory conservation measures.

WATER NOW MORE EXPENSIVE BECAUSE OF MET RATE INCREASE

MNWD's regional water provider, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Met), recently raised its rates by 15 percent on the water it delivers to our district. Met's rates are projected to be increased again in the near future by at least another 21 percent and perhaps as much as 36 percent.

The increased cost of water must ultimately be translated into higher rates, which will be considered in well-publicized public meetings. But by using less water, you will help ensure we have enough to meet everyone's needs, and your successful conservation efforts will be reflected on your bill, helping to minimize any rate increases. 💧

MARCH WATER HEADLINES

- CA in third year of drought
- Snowpack only 61% of normal
- State to cut water deliveries by 85%
- Water rationing measures required
- MNWD's water costs rise 15% from Met, may increase up to 36%
- Customer rate increases under consideration

WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM RULE #1

MNWD recently adopted a Water Conservation Program that includes 12 mandatory conservation measures residents and businesses **must** take to ensure a sufficient water supply during this time of drought. This month we highlight irrigation:

#1 No irrigation of lawns, landscapes or other vegetation between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.

For tips on how to use less water and to view all 12 conservation rules, please visit www.MNWD.com or call us at (949) 831-2500. 💧

A CHANGE IN TASTE, BUT NOT QUALITY OR SAFETY

Increased reliance on Colorado River leads to a slight difference in your water

MNWD customers may have noticed their water is a little harder than usual.

That's because the water supply blend we receive from our regional water wholesaler, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, now contains a greater amount of water from the Colorado River, which is classified as "harder" water because it contains a higher concentration of minerals.

The resulting water blend may taste slightly different, leave spots on cars or glassware, or potentially leave mineral deposits on your faucets or showerheads. But rest assured, it's just as safe to drink and use as the water you've been accustomed to. If you have any questions, please call us at (949) 831-2500. 💧

DON'T MISS THE CALIFORNIA-FRIENDLY LANDSCAPE WORKSHOP

Beautify your garden, use less water

When: Saturday, March 21
9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Where: MNWD Operations Headquarters
26161 Gordon Rd., Laguna Hills

Call (949) 831-2500 for more details and to RSVP

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WaterLines is a monthly publication to keep water users in the Moulton Niguel Water District informed about water-related issues and events. Your comments and suggestions are welcomed.

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YEAR-ROUND BLOOMING

March's California-friendly plant, the Cape Mallow, will bring beautiful pink flowers to your garden all year long

Does your garden lose its luster when spring flowers give way to the blistering summer sun? If you have been looking for a plant that blooms beautiful flowers all year long—no matter the season—then look no further than the Cape Mallow. Also known to as Tara's Pink or Tara's Wonder, the Cape Mallow constantly blooms showy, one-inch pink flowers, even through the hot summer months and the cold of winter, allowing it to bring color to any garden while other flowers are not in bloom.



The ever-flowering Cape Mallow is available at local nurseries.

This rapidly growing evergreen shrub can reach heights upwards of 10 feet, making it great for borders or backdrops in gardens. Cape Mallow will fill in quickly with its beautiful small green leaves and abundant flowers, giving the illusion that it has been a part of your garden for years.

This hardy plant enjoys full sun and light-to-moderate water. It requires little attention or pruning and prefers well-drained sandy or clay soil.

SAVE TIME. SAVE POSTAGE.

Paying your water bill is easier with e.Bill or Autopay

e.Bill is is MNWD's online billing statement. It allows customers to both view and pay their water bill over the computer, using a checking or savings account. A recurring payment option may also be set up to automatically deduct your monthly balance. Say goodbye to paper bills and postage stamps; with e.Bill you can manage your account 24 hours a day online. Just log on, submit your payment and we'll take care of the rest via a safe and secure system.

Autopay automatically deducts the amount of your water bill from your checking or savings account each month. You'll still receive a paper statement, and there is absolutely no charge to participate. It's that simple. Applications are available at www.MNWD.com or by calling (949)448-4060.

Make life easier. Log on to www.MNWD.com and enroll today! 💧