

MNWD APPROVES WATER-USE REGULATIONS IN FACE OF REDUCED SUPPLIES

Customers required to change behaviors to help meet drought's challenge

Southern California is officially in a serious drought, and the need for significant water conservation efforts has hit home. Two dry years and court-ordered cutbacks on the region's water supplies have led the Moulton Niguel Water District's (MNWD) Board of Directors to implement a strict Water Conservation Program, which outlines a series of immediate mandatory conservation measures to ensure sufficient supplies are in place to serve our customers. Also included in the program are potential next steps if additional conservation becomes necessary.

What does this mean for you? Simply put: Each of us will become a part of the solution by becoming more careful about the water we use.

The Conservation Program includes "12 Mandatory Water Conservation Regulations" that you will be asked to follow, including:



Making Conservation a Way of Life: MNWD's 12 Mandatory Water-Use Regulations

- Irrigation of lawns, landscapes or other vegetation is prohibited between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.
- Watering is limited to no more than 15 minutes per day, per station. This does not apply to drip irrigation, high-efficiency sprinkler systems or work to repair irrigation systems.
- Excessive watering resulting in runoff is prohibited
- No hosing down hard or paved surfaces
- All major leaks, breaks or malfunctions must be fixed in a timely manner
- Fountains and decorative water features must use re-circulated water
- A bucket or hose with a positive shutoff nozzle must be used when washing vehicles
- Restaurants must serve water only upon request
- Hotels must provide the option to not launder linens daily
- New water service will not be provided to structures using single pass cooling systems
- Commercial laundry and car wash systems must re-circulate their water
- Restaurants must wash dishes using water-conserving spray valves

(Cut these out and place on your refrigerator until they become habits.)

Your cooperation with these rules will help ensure a sufficient water supply for all of our customers and enable the District to remain eligible for State grants and low-interest loans, which help to keep water rates low. The District will soon begin issuing written warnings, followed by fines for customers in violation of these important guidelines.

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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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Please immediately begin following the steps to the left, and call us at (949) 831-2500 or visit www.MNWD.com if you have any questions.

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MNWD APPROVES WATER-USE REGULATIONS – continued from front

In addition to the new regulations, the program also outlines a series of four Water Supply Response Levels, which are mandated by our regional water supplier, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Met). These levels may be enacted by MNWD and call for increasing amounts of conservation if our supply outlook changes over time. MNWD is currently asking our customers to voluntarily conserve 10 percent, but if conditions become worse, this voluntary request could be followed by a mandatory Level One “Water Watch” status.

The chart below displays the Water Supply Response Levels and details of each step’s required degree of conservation. These challenging times now require a change in our water-use habits, but remember that conserving water saves you money, protects the environment and ensures sufficient supplies to meet our region’s needs. 💧

<p>Current Level</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10% voluntary reduction • 12 Mandatory Water Conservation Resolutions 	<p>Level One Water Watch</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10% mandatory reduction • All non-essential watering shall cease • Leaks must be fixed in five days 	<p>Level Two Water Alert</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to 20% mandatory reduction • Watering limited to three assigned days per week • Golf courses must convert to recycled water within 30 days • Leaks must be fixed in 72 hours 	<p>Level Three Water Critical</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to 40% mandatory reduction • Watering limited to two assigned days per week • Cars must be washed at commercial facilities • Leaks must be fixed within 48 hours • Water service not supplied to most new construction 	<p>Level Four Water Emergency</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More than 40% mandatory reduction • Watering limited to one assigned day per week • Discontinued service to repeat violators • Leaks must be fixed within 24 hours
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A COLORFUL APPROACH TO CONSERVATION

The California Poppy is a water-wise addition to your landscape

One of the best ways to help out California during the drought is to place water-wise, California-native plants in your garden. And what better way to show that you’re part of the Golden State’s water conservation team than to plant California’s State Flower – the California Poppy.



MNWD California-Friendly Plant of the Month: California Poppy.

The poppy’s flower covers the gold spectrum, from pale yellows to deep oranges. The stem of the plant is a light blue-green, with leaves branching upward from the base. The blooms are about two inches wide, while the stem can reach from 18 to 24 inches tall.

Although the seeds should be put in sandy, well-drained soil, it is important to keep the ground moist during germination, which usually takes 15 to 30 days. Once the plant has matured, it will need very little water and lots of room to grow. To maintain its striking appearance, be prepared to regularly trim back dead flowers. 💧

SAVE SOME BLUE WITH YOUR GREEN THUMB

MNWD will help make your garden a water-saving sanctuary

MNWD, in partnership with the Municipal Water District of Orange County, will be offering a California-Friendly Landscape Workshop this March. Participants will learn how to beautify their gardens while cutting the amount of needed irrigation water. Let the experts teach you water-saving techniques in landscape design, plants, sprinkler systems, watering and fertilizers.

What: California-Friendly Landscape Workshop

When: Saturday, March 21, 2009

Where: MNWD Operations Headquarters
26161 Gordon Road
Laguna Hills, CA 92653

Cost: \$10 per person and \$15 per couple

Time: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The cost of the workshop includes lunch and conservation materials. For more information or to RSVP, please call Customer Service at (949) 831-2500. 💧