



moulton niguel water district

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
JANUARY 2017

State Releases Long-Term Water Efficiency Draft Framework

With a new year comes new water news. In late 2016, State agencies released a draft plan, "Making Water Conservation a California Way of Life," describing the State's plans for achieving long-term water efficiency and identifying drought preparedness goals that will meet the 'new normal' drought conditions that California will undoubtedly continue to face in the future.

The foundation of the framework is focused on using water more wisely, eliminating water waste, and strengthening local drought resilience. There will continue to be a **permanent ban on wasteful practices** such as hosing down your driveways, using non-recirculating water in a decorative water feature, and excessively watering lawns. Additionally, there will be increased support for resources and technology that helps detect water leaks, which can help prevent excessive water loss.

The latest recommendations from state agencies include **new water efficiency standards**, rather than a broad percentage reduction in urban water use, implemented at the local level. A shift towards collecting and sharing data across agencies will be on the forefront as *local* agencies look to customize water demands based on local conditions such as weather, landscape, and population. The data gathered will be useful in developing programs and providing information to our customers to help encourage efficient use of water.

While still in the early planning stages, the framework is a necessary step towards achieving a greater goal of ensuring everyone receives **safe and reliable water**. The final draft is expected to be released January 2017, which will identify potential legislative or regulatory changes that may be needed to implement the framework, while the first implementation step to set standards will take place in 2018. For more information, the report is available at: <http://www.water.ca.gov/wateruseefficiency/conservation/>.

What Does This Mean for Me and My Water District?

Water providers will be responsible for more monitoring and reporting, more robust drought, financial and communications plans, and a more comprehensive Water Shortage Contingency Plan to ensure they have a reliable water supply for our communities today, and in the future.

Even when drought conditions were at its worst and Governor Brown was issuing first-of-its-kind mandatory watering restrictions, we did not implement any restrictions on watering days as we understood that our customers have different needs. Rather, we have a water budget-based rate structure, which provides calculated monthly water budgets based on individual needs to allow for efficient water use. We remain in Stage 2 of MNWD's Water Shortage Contingency Plan, which require our customers to stay within their calculated water budgets.

We are living in a new, dry era where we must use water efficiently and eliminate water waste. We encourage our customers to continue to **live within their budgets** and use water efficiently, particularly outdoors where up to 70 percent of water is used.

Get involved! We offer a variety of **FREE** and informative **water conservation programs, classes, and resources** on how to make conservation a part of your daily routine. Visit www.mnwd.com/watersavingtips for details.

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DO'S & DON'TS

FOR THE NEW YEAR AND BEYOND!



DO'S



Adjust your sprinkler timer seasonally.



Use a commercial car wash service that recirculates its water.



Install water-efficient devices.

DON'TS



Hose down your driveway or other hardscapes.



Keep your faucet running when brushing your teeth or shaving.



Water your landscape after it rains.

For more information, visit www.mnwd.com

FOLLOW US ONLINE!



Make These **WATER CONSERVATION TIPS** a Part of Your New Year's Resolution!

- ◆ **Reduce outdoor watering** - Plants and lawns don't need as much water as you think, especially this season as our days are shorter.
- ◆ **Look for leaks** - Indoor and outdoor leaks can cause unnecessary water waste. Be sure to check for them and fix them.
- ◆ **Develop a watering schedule** - Use our water calculator at mnwd.com/wateringcalculator, to ensure you're using the right amount of water for your landscape needs.

Interested in **WATER CONSERVATION INCENTIVES?**

Turf Removal: Replace your lawn with beautiful California friendly plants and save hundreds of gallons of water each month.

Weather Based Irrigation Controller: Upgrade your old controller with a new one that automatically adjusts watering times for hotter weather and shuts down the system when it rains.

Rotating Sprinkler Nozzles: Use water efficient sprinkler nozzles to reduce overwatering and runoff.

Learn more about our indoor and outdoor water conservation programs for residents & businesses at mnwd.com/rebates.

DON'T KNOW WHERE TO START?

Contact us to request a **free**, one-time home savings survey by calling **949. 831. 2500** or visiting mnwd.com/homesavings today!