

Subject: Urgent - Water District Requests Customers Conserve Water

Your Water District is experiencing unprecedented high water use this summer and there is an **urgent** need for all customers to eliminate water waste and reduce water use when practical. Your help will ensure that the Water District can continue to meet the community's water needs.

Some examples of simple and practical things you can do are:

- **Reduce or eliminate outdoor irrigation** – Limit irrigation to no more than 2 days a week and reduce the amount of time of irrigation. Irrigation is about 40% of our water community's water use in the summer. It's the easiest way to make a big difference.
- **Resist the urge to wash down decks and driveways** – Decks and driveways get dusty and messy with trees debris, but washing them down can easily use more water than flushing a toilet 50 times. Additionally, washing down a driveway is a prohibited use of water as defined by the District's water conservation ordinance.
- **Check your Stop & Drain valve for leaks** – When you operate the valve, ensure the valve is fully open or closed. You can verify that the valve is fully 'on' or fully 'off' by placing your ear next to the operating handle and listening for running water; quiet is good.

Your water system is continuing to work efficiently and meet demands and there is plenty of water in the lake, but demands are closely approaching our treatment and pumping capacity. Our normal water production this time of year has historically been about 109,000 gallons per day. This July, we averaged about 151,000 gallons per day – **an almost 40% increase over normal**. And, this year our water use isn't just high on the weekends, it's higher every day of the week. Reducing water use this summer will ensure that the Water District can more reliably meet your needs and effectively react to any unexpected events.

We recognize that the extraordinarily high water use is likely the result of shifting living arrangements due to COVID-19 and may be a transient condition. Regardless, efficient water use is always a good idea and is consistent with the District's adopted Water Conservation Ordinances.

Your community needs your assistance conserving water this summer to ensure that the capacity of your water system is not overwhelmed. If you have any questions or would like assistance with implementing water conservation measures, please contact the Water District Office at: 530-426-7800, or email us at: info@slcwd.org

Sincerely,
Michael Lindquist
SLCWD Board President

Additional information regarding water conservation:

A few years ago the District adopted water conservation ordinances – they can be accessed at <https://slcwg.org/governance/ordinances> and are located in Chapter 2, Section XI. For your reference, we included a portion of the ordinance in this email.

DIVISION XI WATER CONSERVATION

Section 11.01 Water Conservation and Management Requirements. In order to preserve the natural resources within the District, water conservation must be practiced on a regular, year round basis. The following water conservation measures shall be observed by customers at all times:

- (a) Water from the District's water distribution system shall not be allowed to pool, pond or run-off of applied areas;
- (b) Water leaks from any and all owner equipment and facilities are prohibited;
- (c) Water shall not be allowed to continually run in any unoccupied premises;
- (d) Potable water shall not be applied to any driveway or sidewalk;
- (e) Using a hose that dispenses potable water to wash a motor vehicle, unless the hose is fitted with a shut-off nozzle, is prohibited;
- (f) Using potable water in a fountain or decorative water feature, unless the water is recirculated, is prohibited;
- (g) Outdoor irrigation during, and 48 hours following, measurable precipitation and at intervals other than as established by the Board is prohibited;
- (h) Irrigation with potable water outside of newly constructed homes and buildings in a manner inconsistent with regulations or other requirements established by the California Buildings Standards Commission and the Department of Housing and Community Development is prohibited; and
- (i) Outdoor irrigation of ornamental landscapes or turf with potable water shall be limited to no more than two days per week (Tuesday and Saturday for addresses ending with an odd number and Wednesday and Sunday for addresses ending with an even number).