

Following are highlights from Governor Jerry Brown's executive order:

- ✓ Cut urban water use by 25%;
- ✓ Replace 50 million square feet of lawns throughout the state with drought tolerant landscaping in partnership with local governments;
- ✓ Direct the creation of a temporary, statewide consumer rebate program to replace old appliances with more water and energy efficient models;
- ✓ Require campuses, golf courses, cemeteries and other large landscapes to make significant cuts in water use; and
- ✓ Prohibit new homes and developments from irrigating with potable water unless water-efficient drip irrigation systems are used, and ban watering of ornamental grass on public street medians.

RESOURCES

California Department of Water Resources

1416 9th Street, Sacramento CA 95814

.... 916.653.5791

.... water.ca.gov

Save Our Water

.... saveourwater.org

Office of Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr.

.... gov.ca.gov

full text of Governor Brown's Executive Order B-29-15

.... gov.ca.gov/docs/4.1.15_Executive_Order.pdf



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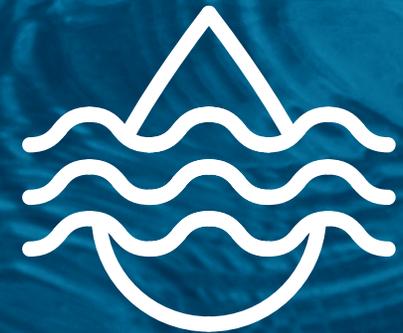
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WATER CONSERVATION



TIPS



State of Emergency

In response to California's unprecedented historic drought, Governor Jerry Brown has ordered the first mandatory water cutbacks in history, a directive that will affect cities and towns state-wide. In declaring a drought State of Emergency in 2014, Governor Brown called on state officials to take all necessary actions to prepare for water shortages. His Executive Order of 2015 will, among other things, require the State Water Resources Control Board to impose restrictions that will cut state-wide urban water use by 25% compared with 2013 usage.

This year's routine snow survey indicated the state's snowpack to be just 5% of average, breaking the previous records of 25% in 1977 and 2014.

With the state facing the most significant water shortage in modern history, Californians will continue to be challenged to meet their water needs. Water conservation is always important in California, but this year no Californian can afford to waste water. **We all need to do our part.**

Here are some water-saving steps suggested by the California Department of Water Resources to help you conserve:

OUTDOORS

- ✓ Adjust sprinklers so that they are level, the right height and spray the right direction to eliminate runoff into the gutter.
- ✓ Put a layer of mulch down in the garden to keep soil moisture in and weeds out.
- ✓ Adjust the sprinkler timer as the weather changes.
- ✓ Install a rain shut-off sensor on your automatic sprinkler system.
- ✓ Sweep pavement and driveways instead of hosing them down.
- ✓ Water at night or early morning to prevent excessive evaporation.
- ✓ Don't water when windy or raining.
- ✓ Use a shut-off valve on hoses.
- ✓ Use an automatic shut-off nozzle when washing cars or go to a water-recycling car wash.
- ✓ Check your pool and equipment for leaks.
- ✓ Cover swimming pools to reduce evaporation.

IN THE KITCHEN

- ✓ Keep a pitcher of water in the fridge for cold drinking water instead of running water until it cools.
- ✓ Wash fruits and vegetables in a bowl instead of under running water.
- ✓ Thaw foods in the fridge, not under running water.
- ✓ Install aerators on faucets to reduce flow.
- ✓ Wash full loads in the dishwasher.

IN THE LAUNDRY ROOM

- ✓ Run the clothes washer with full loads only.

IN THE BATHROOM

- ✓ Turn off the faucet when brushing teeth or shaving.
- ✓ Install low-flow showerheads or those that can be turned off while soaping up.
- ✓ Take shorter showers and shallow baths.
- ✓ Check toilets for leaks by placing food coloring in the tank; if color shows up in the bowl without flushing, there is a leak, most likely with the flapper valve.
- ✓ Replace gaskets, flapper valve or other worn parts in toilets.
- ✓ Don't use the toilet as a wastebasket.
- ✓ Replace old toilets with new low-flush models. Your local water supplier may offer rebates and incentives for new toilets.

OTHER TIPS

- ✓ Call your water supplier to see what assistance they may be able to give. Some offer water-wise house calls, rebates and free water-saving devices.
- ✓ Fix leaks and problems with plumbing and irrigation equipment.

LONG-TERM ACTIONS

- ✓ Replace water-using appliances such as dishwashers and clothes washers with high-efficiency Energy Star models that save energy and use less water.
- ✓ Plant drought tolerant trees and shrubs.
- ✓ Reduce the size of your lawn area, or, if possible, replace with drought-tolerant landscaping.
- ✓ Replace worn and inefficient sprinklers with more efficient equipment.