

Drought Update
Contra Costa Water District
5/31/16

Two-Day Per-Week Irrigation Limit Eliminated, Water Use Prohibitions Made Permanent

5/18 The temporary drought charge and mandatory water-use reductions for roughly a quarter million people in Central Contra Costa County will go away next month after the Contra Costa Water District Board of Directors voted today to reverse most of last year's water-use restrictions.

Here are the changes:

- **Elimination of a Mandatory Conservation Target**

For the past year we required you to conserve a specific percentage of water when compared to your 2013 use. This requirement has been eliminated.

- **Elimination of Temporary Price Adjustment**

Last year, the District implemented a temporary price adjustment, seen on your bill as "Drought Charge." In keeping our promise to customers, this temporary price adjustment ends June 4.

- **Elimination of Two-Day Per-Week Limit on Outdoor Irrigation**

You are no longer required to limit outdoor watering to two days per week. Wasteful water uses, like creating excess runoff or watering between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., remain prohibited. [Look here for a guide to effectively watering your landscape](#)

- **Water-use Prohibitions Made Permanent**

We've made the common sense water-use prohibitions permanent. This promotes long-term conservation and prohibits wasteful uses of water that most of our customers no longer do. To enforce the prohibitions, we're keeping in place the established fines.

Turn to our [Water Conservation](#) section of the website to help you find ways to continue to save water, rebate information, along with money & water-saving coupons for car washes & mulch.

"We are asking people to continue using water wisely. Our customers exceeded the call for conservation and we are grateful."

CCWD Board President Lisa M. Borba

Prohibited Uses of Water

- failing to repair a leak in the customer's water system;
- permitting excessive water run-off from the customer's premises;
- watering outdoor landscapes in a manner that causes excessive runoff such that water flows onto adjacent property, non-irrigated areas, private and public walkways, roadways, parking lots, or structures;
- watering of outdoor landscapes during and up to 48 hours after measurable rainfall;
- watering outdoor landscapes between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.;

- using of a hose to wash a motor vehicle, except where the hose is fitted with a shut-off nozzle or device attached to it that causes it to cease dispensing water when not in use;
- washing driveways, sidewalks, parking areas, patios or other outdoor area, unless the failure to do so would create a hazard to the health and safety of any individual or the public;
- using potable water for non-recirculating fountains or other non-recirculating decorative water features;
- irrigating ornamental turf in public street medians with potable water;
- irrigating landscapes outside of newly constructed homes and buildings in a manner inconsistent with regulations or other requirements established by the California Building Standards Commission and the Department of Housing and Community Development;
- or otherwise failing to put water received from the District to reasonable and beneficial use.

Fines: To enforce the prohibitions, we're keeping in place the established fines: