

## Summary of New Requirements

- The conservation savings for all urban water suppliers (serving more than 3,000 connections) are allocated across nine tiers of increasing levels of residential gallons per capita per day (R-GPCD) water use to reduce water use by 25 percent statewide and will take effect June 1st. For specific information on the tiers and the suppliers in each tier, please visit [here](#).
- Smaller water suppliers (serving fewer than 3,000 connections) must either reduce water use by 25 percent, or restrict outdoor irrigation to no more than two days per week. These smaller urban suppliers, that collectively serve less than 10 percent of Californians, must submit a report on December 15, 2015 to demonstrate compliance.
- Commercial, Industrial and Institutional properties that are not served by a water supplier (or are self-supplied, such as by a groundwater well) also must either reduce water use by 25 percent or restrict outdoor irrigation to no more than two days per week. No reporting is required but these properties must maintain documentation of their water use and practices.
- The new prohibitions in the Executive Order apply to all Californians and will take effect immediately upon approval of the regulation by the Office of Administrative Law. These include:
  - Irrigation with potable water of ornamental turf on public street medians; and
  - Irrigation with potable water outside of newly constructed homes and buildings not in accordance with emergency regulations or other requirements established by the Building Standards Commission and the Department of Housing and Community Development.
- These are in addition to the existing restrictions that prohibit:
  - Using potable water to wash sidewalks and driveways;
  - Allowing runoff when irrigating with potable water;
  - Using hoses with no automatic shutoff nozzles to wash cars;
  - Using potable water in decorative water features that do not recirculate the water;
  - Irrigating outdoors during and within 48 hours following measureable rainfall; and
  - Restaurants serving water to their customers unless the customer requests it.
- Additionally, hotels and motels must offer their guests the option to not have their linens and towels laundered daily and prominently display this option in each guest room.

## **Enforcement**

In addition to other powers, local agencies can fine property owners up to \$500 a day for failure to implement the water use prohibitions and restrictions. The State Water Board can issue informational orders, conservation orders or cease and desist orders to water suppliers for failure to meet their conservation standard. Water agencies that violate cease and desist orders are subject to a civil liability of up to \$10,000 a day.

## **Next Steps**

Following Board adoption, the regulation will be submitted to the Office of Administrative Law, which has 10 days to approve or deny the regulation. If approved by the Office of Administrative Law, the regulation will take effect immediately and remain in effect for 270 days from that date.

For more information, please visit the [Emergency Water Conservation](#) website.

To learn more about the state's drought response, visit [Drought.CA.Gov](#).

Every Californian should take steps to conserve water. Find out how at [SaveOurWater.com](#).