



As a result of the prolonged drought, Governor Newsom recently asked Californians to reduce water usage by 15%. In addition to the Governor's conservation request, 9 counties were added to the State's drought emergency declaration. The emergency declaration now applies to 50 of the State's 58 counties.

A 15% reduction in water usage state-wide will save about 850,000 AF or enough to supply about 1.7 million households. Given West Kern's unique delivery pattern and large number of industrial customers, meeting the 15% reduction target will be challenging, however, we can all play a part to manage this vital resource. Ways to conserve water were provided in the Consumer Confidence Report recently sent to all customers and are outlined again below.

- Equip hoses with shut-off nozzle.
- Take shorter showers.
- Run dishwasher and washing machine when full.
- Avoid hosing down driveways, street/parking lot, sidewalks, or buildings unless necessary for health or safety.
- Avoid excessive watering that runs off onto sidewalks, streets or gutters.
- Avoid irrigating residential and commercial landscape between the hours of 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Adjust watering times to avoid runoff.
- Wash motor vehicles, trailers, boats and other types of equipment using a bucket and/or a hand-held hose with a shut-off nozzle, high pressure/low volume wash system, or at a commercial site that recirculates water on-site. Avoid washing vehicles during hot conditions when additional water is required due to evaporation.
- Restaurants should serve water only upon request.
- Hotels, motels, and other commercial lodging establishments should offer customers the option of not laundering towels and linens daily.
- Pools, spas, and ornamental fountains/ponds should be recirculating and leak proof. Drain and refill only as necessary for health, maintenance or structural reasons.
- Repair all leaks within twenty-four (24) hours of notification by the District unless other arrangements are made with the General Manager.

While the Governor's recent request to reduce water usage is not mandatory, it does remind us that wise use of water, at all times, should be the rule, not the exception.

Respectfully;

Greg A. Hammett
General Manager