



SACRAMENTO COUNTY
WATER AGENCY

For Immediate Release

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Sacramento County Water Agency Asking Customers to Cut Water Use by 10 Percent

Bureau of Reclamation Reduces Water Allocations

(Sacramento, CA) – The Sacramento County Water Agency is asking its customers to reduce water use by 10 percent through the peak water demand months of August and September in response to a 25 percent reduction in the Water Agency's Central Valley Project water allocation.

Due to dramatically dry conditions, the Bureau of Reclamation notified the Water Agency in late July that its Central Valley Project water supply allocation will be cut by 25 percent, based on the historical use. Because of the high volume of water used during this summer's dry conditions, this mid-year reduction means the Water Agency has used its full allocation of Bureau water for the year. The Central Valley Project supply is the Water Agency's sole source of surface water, leaving it totally dependent on groundwater to meet customer demands for the remainder of the year.

"Conserving water immediately is important to assure a continued reliable supply of water to our customers. And if dry conditions persist into next year, conservation measures will become even more extensive in the future," says Principal Engineer for Sacramento Water Agency, John Coppola. "The wise use of water by our customers will continue to be an essential element in assuring that available supply can reliably meet water demand."

Peak water use occurs between the hours of 5 a.m. – 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. – 8 p.m., and so the Water Agency is asking its customers to make a particular effort to reduce the amount of indoor and outdoor water use during those times, especially during the hottest days, in order to relieve strain on the water system. The Water Agency is advising its customers that they may experience lower than normal water pressure through September, especially during peak demand periods.

Here are some water savings tips people can do TODAY to do their part to conserve water:

1. Reduce irrigation times by 10 minutes per cycle
2. Run the dishwasher and washing machine only when full.
3. Turn off water when brushing teeth.
4. Use a broom instead of a hose to clean driveways and sidewalks.
5. Don't leave the hose running while washing your car – use a self-closing nozzle.
6. Install covers on pool and spas to reduce evaporation.
7. Call the Water Agency at (916) 772-2226 for a free water audit.

"Managing Tomorrow's Water Today"