



# Westlands Water District

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March 14, 2014

*This notice contains important information about the following:*

- **Conservation of M&I Water is Needed Throughout the District**

## **Conservation of M&I Water is Needed Throughout the District**

This week the Bureau of Reclamation provided notice that it would provide approximately 1,400 acre-feet of water for municipal and industrial (M&I) uses within the District this year. This quantity of water is substantially less than the quantity required to meet demands for M&I water within the District. In a normal year the District delivers up to 6,000 acre-feet to M&I customers, which include our growers' houses, shops and processing facilities; small and large businesses such as restaurants, hotels, and retail stores; and the Naval Air Station Lemoore.

To fill this gap between the available water supply from Reclamation and our customers' needs, the District is seeking to acquire additional supplies. It is also encouraging some agencies to request additional water from Reclamation for health and safety purposes. Given the extremely dry hydrology throughout the state, however, the outcome of these efforts are uncertain at this time. Therefore, conservation of the water that has been made available is of the utmost importance.

Last month, the District announced a prohibition against all outdoor use of M&I water. To augment this action, the District must also direct that restaurants only provide water to patrons upon their request.

In addition, the District requests that water users voluntarily reduce all in-door consumption by 25%. This can be accomplished through a number of common sense actions such as repairing leaky faucets and toilets, installing low-flow shower heads and toilets (or placing a brick in the tank to displace water), taking showers instead of baths, washing only full loads of laundry (or adjusting the setting to the proper load size), and washing only full loads in dishwashers.

These water conservation measures will remain in place for an indeterminate time. The District will update M&I water users when additional information regarding the sufficiency of the District's water supply becomes available. Please call your Customer Service Representative at (559) 241-6250 if you have any questions.