

Westlands Water District

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April 16, 2015

This notice contains important information about the following:

- Water Users Should Closely Monitor Water Supply
- Outdoor Use of M&I Water Prohibited and Other Mandated Conservation Measures

Water Users Should Closely Monitor Water Supply

Due to the Bureau of Reclamation's announcement of an initial allocation of zero percent for south-of-Delta CVP agricultural water service contractors for 2015-2016, it is anticipated that the overall water supply available to water users will again be significantly limited. With this in mind, water users should closely monitor their use of water supplies. The District's Rules and Regulations provide that water service must be discontinued when a water user has exhausted its available water supply. Further, the unauthorized using or taking of water is prohibited and may subject the water user to civil or criminal prosecution. As always, District staff is available to assist water users in managing their available supplies in order to avoid overuse.

Outdoor Use of M&I Water Prohibited and Other Mandated Conservation Measures

The Bureau of Reclamation has provided notice that it would supply water for municipal and industrial (M&I) uses within the District again this year. This water, however, is substantially less than the quantity required to meet the normal historical demands for M&I water use within the District. The District delivers water 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 the 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 to the District is of the utmost importance. Further, the Governor's recent Executive Order mandates statewide water reductions of all municipal uses. As a result, the District's prohibition against all outdoor use of M&I water which was instituted last year shall remain in effect. In addition, restaurants shall only provide water to patrons upon their request. Some other conservation methods are also encouraged: repair leaky faucets and toilets, install low-flow shower heads and toilets (or place a brick in the tank to displace water), take showers instead of baths, wash only full loads of laundry (or adjust the setting to the proper load size), and wash 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.