



CITY OF REDDING

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PRESS RELEASE

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City water savings needed both indoors and outside

Water conservation in the City of Redding during October slipped to slightly over 16 percent compared to 2013 – well below the 36 percent mark mandated by the state. As a result City water officials are asking for renewed conservation – particularly inside the home as winter nears.

Warmer weather in October this year compared to 2013 likely contributed to less conservation. Redding customers reduced water use by 25.5 percent in September and have reduced use by nearly 28 percent since June 1 of this year. Because the conservation rate is slipping, City officials are concerned that the state may penalize the City of Redding Water Utility.

The City of Redding is required to report monthly to the state on its water use and amount of conservation. If it falls short of the required 36 percent, it must provide specific information about what it is doing to achieve that mark. The state Water Resources Control Board has the power to fine water agencies up to \$10,000 per day for failing to conserve. Last week, the State Water Resources Control Board fined four cities \$61,000 apiece for failing to meet state mandates for conservation. The cities, Indio, Beverly Hills, Redlands and Coachella Valley, missed conservation mandates by 9 percent to 11 percent.

Redding water officials urge customers to reduce or stop outdoor irrigation by adjusting sprinkler timers. Recent rains and cool weather significantly reduce the need for ongoing irrigation. However, as outdoor irrigation historically declines, the need to reduce water use by 36 percent remains and will require increased indoor savings.

The most productive savings can be realized by the following:

– Reducing showers to five minutes or less. Turning the water off while using soap or shampoo means additional savings.

- Replacing older toilets with new efficient ones. The state offers a \$100 rebate for making the switch. More information is available at saveourwaterrebates.com .
- Reduce the amount of clothes-washing each week and/or make sure to run the machine with a full load. The same practice applies to dishwashing.

- Replace faucet aerators with new more efficient versions. Also, check for leaks in faucets, both inside and outside the home.

For more conservation tips, go to: <http://www.cityofredding.org/departments/public-works/public-works-utilities/water-utility/water-saving-tips>

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