



CITY OF REDDING

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PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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City of Redding eases some water restrictions

The City of Redding is easing restrictions on water use in response to a wet winter and spring and a decision by the State Water Resources Control Board to suspend mandatory statewide 25-percent reduction in water use.

Effective immediately, the current mandatory “Stage 2” City restrictions are reduced to “Stage 1,” which calls for voluntary water conservation by customers. Such conservation includes irrigating only between the hours of 9 p.m. and 7 a.m. and on specific days depending on the address. Other measures, such as irrigation that results in runoff to the adjacent non-irrigated areas, applying water to driveways and sidewalks for routine cleaning, and irrigating within 48 hours after a measureable rainfall are also encompassed in state mandates, which now have been made permanent statewide.

The mandatory Stage 2 restrictions were implemented by the Redding City Council in August 2014 in response to the ongoing state drought. Last year (2015) the City was ordered by the state to reduce water consumption by 36 percent as part of far-reaching conservation measures. Since June 1, 2015, City customers had reduced consumption by approximately 31 percent compared with the same period in 2013-14. The City Water Utility is appreciative of the excellent effort Redding customers put forth to conserve a significant amount of water during the extreme drought.

Based on the above-average rainfall last fall and winter and resultant replenishment of area reservoirs and groundwater basins, the City of Redding Water Utility believes the supply available will comfortably meet projected demands of its customers for 2016.

Although the North State received above-average rainfall, the rest of the state did not receive the same amounts and remains in drought with water shortages expected. There is an expectation at the state level that it will take at least a few years for California to fully recover, and that this expectation includes the belief that stronger water conservation practices should become a way of life in California.



Therefore, in an effort to help preserve and protect finite water resources and respond to the state expectations and regulation, the City has initiated Stage 1 of its Water Shortage Plan that requests its water utility customers on a voluntary basis to continue outdoor limiting outdoor landscape irrigation to the three days a week and between the hours of 9 p.m. to 7 a.m. along with maintaining water waste best management practices identified in the Redding Municipal Code (RMC 14.09.050). The Water Utility will be required to continue reporting its resulting water use to the State Water Board.

For more information, please contact Public Works Director Brian Crane at 245-7155.

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