

Water Shortage

Contingency Plan

March East Service Area



Securing Your Water Supply

Helping our community prepare for water shortages

As customers of Western Municipal Water District, it's our commitment to keep you informed. This notice concerns a Public Hearing on a proposed update to our Water Shortage Contingency Plan. Although the update does not directly affect your water rates, it does impact the rates of other Western customers and it's important to keep all of our customers up-to-date.

Lake Oroville

Public Hearing

Feb. 18, 2015 • 6 p.m. • Western Municipal Water District
14205 Meridian Pkwy, Riverside • wmwd.com

Water Shortage Contingency Plan



Securing Your Water Supply

In your service area, water rates are not impacted or changed by updating the plan.

The proposed Water Shortage Contingency Plan's more restrictive stages would ONLY BE IMPLEMENTED IF NEEDED in continual or extreme drought or drastic emergency conditions.

With drought and emergency situations continuously threatening our water supply, Western Municipal Water District has had a Water Shortage Contingency Plan (Plan) in place since 2009 to strategically reduce water consumption in severe circumstances. Western is updating the Plan as a result of the increasingly serious drought conditions and to better coordinate the Plan with its water budget rate program applicable to other Western customers.

Because our local water supplies are insufficient to meet demand, Western Municipal Water District (Western) must purchase and import water from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD). Drought and water shortages continuously threaten both our local and imported water supplies. The Water Shortage Contingency Plan strategically reduces water consumption and meets the growing demands for water within our service territory, specifically during shortage periods.

Western is now proposing to update its Water Shortage Contingency Plan, which does not directly affect the rates in your service area. Under the proposed Plan, Western will be authorized to declare water shortage "Stages." Under each Stage, increasingly greater restrictions on water use will be implemented to address the specific water shortage conditions impacting our water supplies. These changes to the Plan will allow our customers to better manage their outdoor water use and give the District the ability to better manage scarce water supplies. The proposed Plan's more restrictive stages (Stages 3 a, b, c; 4 a, b, c and 5 a, b, c) will **ONLY BE IMPLEMENTED IF NEEDED** in continual or extreme drought, or drastic emergency conditions.

During these more restrictive Stages certain water rates within Western's existing lower tiers in areas with budget based tiered rate structures will be eliminated and customers will be required to pay the rates within the higher tiers if they exceed their water budgets. In the final Stages, outdoor water budgets and commercial water budgets will be reduced. In addition to adjusting individual water budgets during declared shortages, warning letters, notices of violation, and if necessary, daily fines for repeat violations of defined water-use restrictions and water waste may be levied against customers that ignore warnings and notices.



Notice of Public Hearing on Adjustments for Water Service Fees During Water Shortage Stages

The Board of Directors will hold a Public Hearing on Feb. 18, 2015, at 6 p.m., at Western's office, located at 14205 Meridian Parkway, Riverside, to consider adopting the updated Plan and authorizing the Board to implement adjustments to the rates **applicable to other Western customers** required during specified Stages.

Current Rate Structure

The District's water service fees for *your* service area are comprised of three components: (1) a Water Charge, which is a variable charge determined on the basis of the amount of water served to a parcel of property in hundreds of cubic feet ("HCF")* that is comprised of two components: (a) the cost of water and (b) related variable Operations and Maintenance costs; (2) a System Charge/Fire Protection Services, which is a fixed monthly charge established to pay for fixed Operations and Maintenance costs of the water system, including repairs and replacements, and is

determined on the basis of the size of the meter servicing the parcel of property receiving water service; (3) an MWD Readiness-to-Serve (RTS) Charge, which is a fixed monthly charge established to pay MWD for emergency and standby storage facilities that help ensure a safe, reliable water supply, and is determined on the basis of the size of the meter servicing the parcel of property receiving water service. **None of these charges are affected by this Water Shortage Contingency Plan.**

Water Charge - March East	Jan. 1, 2015 \$/HCF*
	\$ 4.718

Fixed System Charge - Fire Protection Services	Jan. 1, 2015 \$/Month
All Meter Sizes	\$ 26.38

* HCF stands for hundred cubic feet. This is also referred to as a billing unit; a billing unit is equal to 748 gallons of water.

MWD RTS Charge - March East	Jan. 1, 2015 \$/Month
5/8" & 3/4" Meter	\$ 3.55
1" Meter	\$ 5.75
1 1/2" Meter	\$ 11.45
2" Meter	\$ 14.15
3" Meter	\$ 17.15
4" Meter	\$ 19.90
6" Meter	\$ 22.60
8" Meter	\$ 25.60
10" Meter	\$ 28.30
12" Meter	\$ 31.30

Participate in the Process

Western's Board of Directors want you to have the information you need to consider the ways you can participate in the process:

- **Submit a Comment or Question:** Customers with comments or questions can contact the District at 951.571.7285 or outreach@wmwd.com. We're here to answer your questions.
- **Attend the Public Hearing:** The Board will formally consider the proposed updated Water Shortage Contingency Plan and its potential impacts at a Public Hearing to be held on Feb. 18, 2015, at 6 p.m. at the District Office, 14205 Meridian Parkway, Riverside
- **Submit a Written Protest:** Any tenant directly responsible for the payment of water service fees and any owner of property upon which retail water service fees are imposed may file a written protest against those portions of the Plan that impact customers' water budgets and the rates that may be imposed during specified Stages. Written protests may be submitted by mail or in person to Western at 14205 Meridian Parkway, Riverside, California 92518 Attn: General Manager, or at the Public Hearing (date and time noted above), provided they are received prior to the conclusion of the public comment portion of the Public Hearing. A valid written protest must include your name, the address at which service is received from Western, a statement of protest

against the updated Plan and your original signature. Only one protest per property will be counted. Any protest submitted by e-mail or other electronic means will not be accepted as a valid written protest. The Board of Directors will consider all written protests timely submitted and hear all oral comments to the proposed Plan and its impact on water service fees at the Public Hearing. Oral comments at the Public Hearing will not qualify as formal protests unless accompanied by a written protest. Upon the conclusion of the Public Hearing, the Board of Directors will consider adoption of an ordinance authorizing the Plan. If written protests against the portions of the Plan that impact customers' water budgets and the rates applicable during specified Stages are not presented by a majority of property owners or customers of record of the identified parcels upon which water service fees are imposed, the Board will be authorized to adopt those portions of the Plan as described herein.

Please review the information in this document closely. If you have any questions, please contact us at 951.571.7285 or outreach@wmwd.com.

Para más información sobre este Plan o si tiene alguna pregunta, por favor contacte a nuestra oficina de relaciones públicas, 951.571.7285 o outreach@wmwd.com.

What This Plan Means to You...

Although the implementation of more restrictive drought stages will not affect the water rates within your service area, you may be required to reduce your water usage in the event of a water shortage or long-term drought. In addition, ignoring future requests for reduction during a declared drought stage or disregarding the defined water waste prohibitions at any stage may result in fines and/or penalties.

