

# Drought Continues, Action Required



Securing Your Water Supply

Information as of April 10, 2015

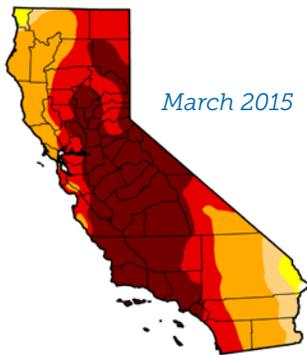
**As severe drought conditions persist and state mandates are evolving, reduced water use is vital. Proposed state-enforced restrictions will likely be intensified soon.**

We support the Governor's mandate of limiting Californians' water use by 25 percent; concerns abound about the proposed framework to meet that goal.

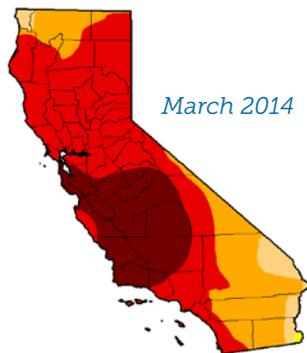
After four consecutive years of drought, Governor Brown issued an Executive Order April 1, 2015, to address this serious situation, implementing a new water-saving mandate of a 25 percent reduction in urban water usage statewide. Although your efforts have resulted in a notable reduction in water use, the Governor's mandate could result in steeper reduction requests. The State Water Resources Control Board's proposed framework, which is being created to meet the Governor's mandate, would potentially require Western – and you, our customers – to reduce water use 35 percent **MORE**. We believe the framework is unfairly calculated, and we will be submitting comments to affect change to this critical mandate.

Credit should be given for the work you have already done to reduce water use.

California Drought Map



March 2015



March 2014

Intensity:

- Abnormally Dry
- Moderate Drought
- Severe Drought
- Extreme Drought
- Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary.



Lake Oroville

We will keep you informed.

Right now, please continue your diligence in using water efficiently at your homes and businesses. Current Mandatory Restrictions/Stage 1:

- **Landscape watering is prohibited on all days of the week from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.**
- **Irrigation run-off from property must be eliminated.**
- **Hoses must have automatic, shut-off nozzles.**
- **All leaks, improperly adjusted sprinklers, or other water conduits/fixtures that need repair must be corrected within 96 hours of District notification.**
- **No washing down sidewalks, driveways, patios or other paved or hard surface areas.**
- **Turn off landscape irrigation during or within 48 hours of rain. (New!)**

Western allows for two notices of violation, then a \$100 penalty per day would apply.

# What Can I Do?



Lake Mathews

With almost no snowpack and low reservoir levels, water supplies imported to Western are running very low. It's important that we all stick to the mandatory water restrictions.



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- **DO check** Western's website regularly for the most up-to-date information: [wmwd.com](http://wmwd.com).
- **DO stay** within your water budget. Visit [yourwaterbudget.wmwd.com](http://yourwaterbudget.wmwd.com) to verify billing factors such as persons per household and irrigated area.
- **DO ask** Western for help if you're having trouble staying in budget each month. Visit [yourwaterbudget.wmwd.com](http://yourwaterbudget.wmwd.com) to sign up for an evaluation that will assist if you're over budget.
- **DO replace** lawn that you don't need with water-wise landscaping. Many residents have already been paid \$2 per square foot for participating in Western's lawn replacement program. Visit [westernurfreplacement.com](http://westernurfreplacement.com) for program guidelines.
- **DO replace** inefficient sprinklers on your lawn if you're not replacing it. Western provides up to 25 free to every customer. Visit [FreeSprinklerNozzles.com](http://FreeSprinklerNozzles.com) for more information.
- **DO water** trees and shrubs with drip irrigation instead of overhead sprinklers. Increase irrigation efficiency by visiting Western's demonstration garden to see drip irrigation in action. The garden is located at 450 E. Alessandro Blvd. in Riverside and is open daily 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- **DO shorten** showers and replace older showerheads with more water-efficient models. In May, Western will be giving away new showerheads to the first 2,500 customers who bring a current water bill to the District's Meridian office.
- **DO capture** water! You can also pick up a free Western bucket to capture shower water while it warms! You can use it to water your plants.
- **DO wash** only full loads of laundry and dishes. If you're in need of a new clothes washer, use Western's rebate and receive a discount on a high-efficiency model that uses less water and detergent, which saves you money. Visit [socialwatersmart.com](http://socialwatersmart.com) for information.
- **DO take** your car to a carwash that recycles the water. Use a hose with an automatic shut-off nozzle for washing your car at home, and if you don't have one, bring your current water bill to the District's Meridian office and ask for one—they're free!

We can all make a difference by working together. We urge all of our customers to continue to use water in the most efficient manner possible.

For more info, visit

[wmwd.com](http://wmwd.com)



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