

# State Drought Response

Presented by Stephanie Locke  
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# State Water Board Emergency Regulations

- State Water Board amended and re-adopted drought-related emergency water conservation regulations in March
- Additional drought actions for 2015:
  - Prohibition on irrigation of turf or ornamental landscapes during and 48 hours following measurable precipitation
  - Increased reporting requirements by water supplier
  - Water served only upon customer request
  - Hotel towel/linen reuse programs required
- Current Water Waste regulations remain, including 2-day per week watering schedule (Wednesday and Saturday)
- California Energy Commission adopted lower requirements for faucets and urinal water efficiency

# Executive Order Mandating Statewide Conservation

- On April 1, 2015, Governor Jerry Brown issued an Executive Order mandating a statewide 25 percent reduction on potable urban water use through February 2016.
- The April 1 Executive Order requires mandatory conservation for the first time in the State's history.
  - Governor Brown: Conserving water now will forestall impacts if it does not rain next year.
- State Water Board is in the process of adopting regulations to implement the Governor's Order.
  - District commented during first comment period
  - Second round of comments due April 22, 2015

# Proposed Emergency Regulations – June 1<sup>st</sup>

- Areas served by Cal-Am will have the lowest conservation standard
  - 8% conservation standard when less than 65 GPCD
  - Cal-Am residents used **51.3 GPCD** during Jul-Sep 2014
  - Monthly comparison to 2013
  - Carry forward savings through February 2016
  - Cumulative review in March 2016
- California Water Company (Salinas), Marina Coast Water District, Alco Water Service, and City of Watsonville all have higher conservation standards
- Small water systems (between 15 and 3,000 customers) must reduce by 20 percent or limit irrigation to 2 days per week.
- Reporting requirements for all suppliers.

# Proposed Emergency Regulations – June 1<sup>st</sup>

Also prohibited:

- Prohibits irrigation with potable water of ornamental turf on public street medians is prohibited
- Irrigation with potable water outside of newly constructed homes and buildings not delivered by drip or microspray

# District Actions in Response

- District will continue conservation efforts with Cal-Am
  - Currently about 10.6 percent below 2013 (June 2014-March 2015)
  - Update status monthly
  - Will be proposing amended conservation and rationing plan in May
  - Water waste enforcement (Hotline # 831-658-5653)
  - Conservation outreach
- MPWMD staff is focusing on verifying commercial compliance with water efficiency requirements and large water users

# What You Can Do

- Rebate Program funded
  - Take advantage!
- Pick up FREE water saving devices at MPWMD and Cal-Am
- Upcoming workshops (dates available on website)
  - Irrigation system controller programming, June 24
  - Water Wise Workshops (Cistern Installation and Graywater), July 18
  - Demonstration installation of a cistern and collection system, July 25
  - Residential Water Efficiency, TBD
  - Non-Residential Water Efficiency, TBD
  - American Rainwater Catchment Systems Association (ARCSA), TBD
- May is Water Awareness Month



# Pat Yourself on the Back

Cal-Am residential customers (with 3 people in the house) with water bills below \$50



**We think you're doing a great job!**

For conservation ideas, see our website at [www.MontereyWaterInfo.org](http://www.MontereyWaterInfo.org) or call 831-658-5601