



home > city hall > press releases

Drought Regulations & Water Saving Tips

Following is information about new water regulations recently adopted by the State of California which will impact your water use. The purpose of the regulations is to reduce water use while maintaining public health and safety needs during the ongoing drought.

These rules go into effect and will need to be followed by all Perris water consumers as of **August 1, 2014**.

As of that date, it will be prohibited by State law to do the following unless done to address an immediate health and safety need;

1. **Watering of outdoor landscapes that cause runoff to adjacent property non- irrigated areas, private and public walkways, roadways, parking lots or structures.**
2. **Using a hose to wash a motor vehicle, unless the hose is fitted with a shut off nozzle or other device which stops water flow when not in use.**
3. **Directly applying water to any hard surface such as driveways or sidewalks.**
4. **Using potable water in a fountain or other decorative water feature unless the water is recirculated.**

Under State law, a violation of these rules is an infraction, punishable by a fine of up to \$500 for each day of violation. In addition, outside landscape irrigation is restricted to no more than two days per week.

The City will inform you of any updated information which affects your water use. This information along with water saving tips will also be posted on the City Web Site. You can call the City Water Service Contractor **Severn Trent Services** at (951)-940-4036 for any questions.

Thank You for your support in this critical matter in saving water in our community.

More Information...

See the [original letter](#) from the City of Perris Public Works Department.

Visit www.saveourh2o.org for more information about the drought and more water saving tips.

20 Water Saving Tips

Here are 20 simple ways to save water - and use it wisely.

1. Check your sprinkler system frequently and adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered and not the house, sidewalk, or street.
2. Minimize evaporation by watering during the early morning hours.
3. Use a layer of organic mulch around plants to reduce evaporation and save hundreds of gallons of water a year.
4. Divide your watering cycle into shorter periods to reduce runoff.
5. Only water your lawn when needed. You can tell this by simply walking across your lawn. If you leave footprints, it's time to water.
6. Direct rain gutter spouts and other runoff towards shrubs and trees, or collect and use for your garden.
7. Use drip irrigation for shrubs and trees to apply water directly to the roots where it's needed.
8. Install a rain shut-off device on your automatic sprinklers to eliminate unnecessary watering.
9. Reduce the amount of grass in your yard by replacing it with shrubs, ground cover, rock, granite, and/or mulch.
10. Water only as rapidly as the soil can absorb the water.
11. Use a broom instead of a hose to clean your driveway or sidewalk.
12. Don't water your lawn on windy days. After all, sidewalks and driveways don't need water.
13. Water your plants deeply but less frequently to create healthier and stronger landscapes.
14. Fertilizers increase water consumption. Apply the minimum amount of fertilizer needed.
15. Remember to weed your lawn and garden regularly. Weeds compete with other plants for nutrients, light, and water.
16. Next time you add or replace a flower or shrub, choose a low water use plant.
17. Use a screwdriver as a soil probe to test soil moisture. If the soil is moist, you probably do not need to water.
18. More plants die from over-watering than from under-watering. Only water plants when necessary.
19. Aerate your lawn. Punch holes in your lawn about six inches apart so water will reach the roots rather than run off the surface.
20. Make sure your sprinklers are not misting in order to prevent water lost due to evaporation and wind drift.

For more information regarding the California drought declaration and even more water-saving tips, please visit www.saveourh2o.org.

Media Contact

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