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City of Fresno

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The city has about a dozen water conservation specialists. One guy in particular (Don Wells) handles commercial and industrial accounts. One of the things that the city offers… our folks will go out and do a complete audit of the entire irrigation system bc that is where the dramatic drop has been.

Most of them, if water is part of their biz model--a food processing plant, car wash, golf course--they’ve already got it down to how much we have to use.

Hospitals and golf courses have gone to recycled water.

We have got extracted water, it’s all of the gray water that comes in… extrac out of recharge gates, filter once, but you can use for irrigation purposes. It’s free, and our commercial customers and come out and use it as much as they want.

A lot of customers are construction firms, bc of EPA have to reduce air pollution. (ie. No duet) Fill up tankers. They can do up to a few thousand gallons at a time.

For everybody else, Don Wells, what kind of concerns do tehse guys have. Hopefully w irrigation standpoint we can also talk about if it is w/in their own buildings, we have reduced flow equipment to keep the amount of water down to a more manageable time.

That is one thing we have found more than anything else, it’s the irrigation for landscaping. In many cases, bc in fresno water has always been easy to find an cheap to get.

The town itself, when Leland Stanford was building his railroad up and down the state, there was a spring bubbling up from the ground and fruit trees, he’s like I’m going to build a city here. The original name for Fresno was almost Green Bush Springs.

That’s why Fresno from an ag standpoint has been a leader, and a good capital for American and many people think bc of the world.

Normally have surface water from the Sierra Muontains each year.

Our challenges I what do we do with the wells bc the groundwater has dropped so much. We are running into contamination, getting some nitrate plumes seeping into our water bc of the farming.

Fresno is one of the first places in CA to start water conservation regulations. 1994 went to a 3 day a week watering schedule.

You will be able to keep a green lawn by watering 3 days a week.

We’ve got some people only watering 2 days a week. It is possible to do.

Weewnt to 2 days a week watering requirements last summer.

Our folks get it. They for the most part realize there is an issue. Until we start getting some significant rainfall in the Sierras.