

Rancho California Water District

WATER SHORTAGE CONTINGENCY PLAN



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Rancho California Water District

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Message from the Board of Directors

Since the District's formation in 1977, the Rancho California Water District (RCWD/District) has remained steadfast in its commitment to provide a reliable supply of high-quality water, wastewater and reclamation services. Through leadership and representation, and working closely with our neighboring agencies, the District continues to plan for and meet the ever-changing needs of a growing and diverse community.

RCWD is responsible for conserving the available water supply, protecting the integrity of water supply facilities (infrastructure), and implementing a contingency plan in times of drought, water supply reductions, failure of water distribution systems, other emergencies, and regulatory statutes, rules and regulations by state and federal agencies that have jurisdiction over the District. Particular emphasis is placed protection of public health, sanitation, fire protection, and general public welfare. As such, this Water Shortage Contingency Plan adopts regulations and restrictions on certain water use to conserve and manage the area's unique water resources that are essential to ensure the continued viability of the community.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Stephen J. Corona

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On The Cover: Using less water can be beautiful. Rancho California Water District partnered with Western Municipal Water District and other sponsors to recognize water-efficient residential landscapes in the 2014 Western Water Wise Landscape Contest. Rancho California Water District customer, Jay Finnell, was the third place 2014 regional winner.



Water Shortage Contingency Plan

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RCWD Water Shortage Contingency Plan

Section 1: Purpose and Principles of Plan

1.1 Water Code Sections 10632 and 10826

The Rancho California Water District (RCWD/District) has developed a Water Shortage Contingency Plan (WSC Plan) in accordance with California Water Code Section 10632. Section 10632 states that water agencies must develop an urban watershortage contingency plan in the event of drought, water supply reductions, failure of a water distribution system, other emergencies, or regulatory statutes, rules, regulations or policies reducing water supplies by state and federal agencies with jurisdiction over the District. The contingency plan must demonstrate the ability of an agency to meet demands under a supply shortage of up to 50 percent. Emphasis is placed on protection of public health, sanitation, fire protection, and the general public welfare.

The District has also developed the WSC Plan in accordance with Water Code Section 10826. Section 10826 requires "water shortage allocation policies" to be included an Agricultural Water Management Plan (AWMP). The District's AWMP, adopted in December 2012, includes reference to the District's WSC Plan and associated agricultural water shortage allocation policies.

As such, this WSC Plan adopts regulations and restrictions on outdoor water use through Water Shortage Stage 4 and on indoor water use in Water Shortage Stage 5, including domestic (residential), commercial/institutional/industrial, landscape, parks and golf courses, and agriculture. Recycled water users may be exempt from some restrictions in this WSC Plan, depending on the availability of recycled water.

1.2 MWD Water Surplus and Drought Management Plan

The District currently receives approximately 65 percent of its total water supply (treated and untreated) from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD). This imported water is delivered through water connections of the Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD) and Western Municipal Water District of Riverside County (WMWD). Both EMWD and WMWD are member agencies of MWD, and, therefore, the District is subject to MWD's plans and policies during a water shortage.

To deal with periods of water surplus and drought, MWD developed its Water Surplus and Drought Management Plan (WSDM Plan). MWD strategically manages water in times of surplus to ensure there is an adequate supply during a shortage. The WSDM Plan defines surplus and shortage conditions as follows:

<u>Surplus:</u> Supplies are sufficient to allow MWD to meet full service demands, make deliveries to all interruptible programs, and deliver water to regional and local facilities for storage.¹

<u>Shortage:</u> Supplies are sufficient to allow MWD to meet full service demands and make partial or full deliveries to interruptible programs, sometimes using stored water

¹ Since adopting its WSDM Plan, MWD has phased out the interruptible Interim Agricultural Water Program and has discontinued its interruptible water replenishment rate class; however, the language of the WSDM Plan still refers to "interruptible programs".

and voluntary water transfers.

<u>Severe Shortage:</u> Supplies are insufficient to meet full service demands and MWD is required to make withdrawals from storage, call on its water transfers, and possibly call for extraordinary drought conservation.

<u>Extreme Shortage:</u> Supplies are insufficient to meet full service demands and MWD is required to allocate its available imported supplies to its member agencies.

The following actions represent MWD's plan for dealing with supply shortages in the general order they would be implemented:

- 1. Draw on stored water in Diamond Valley Lake
- 2. Draw on out-of-region groundwater storage
- 3. Reduce/suspend discounted long-term groundwater and surface storage replenishment deliveries
- 4. Draw on contractual groundwater storage programs within the region
- 5. Draw on State Water Project terminus reservoir storage
- 6. Call for extraordinary drought conservation and public education
- 7. Call on water transfer options contracts and purchase transfers on the spot market
- 8. Allocate MWD's firm imported supplies to its member agencies

1.3 MWD Water Supply Allocation Plan

In the event that MWD would implement all eight actions of its WSDM Plan listed above, MWD would then begin to allocate its firm imported water supplies to its member agencies.

In February 2008, MWD approved its Water Supply Allocation Plan (WSAP). The WSAP serves as the current policy for allocating water supplied to MWD's member agencies in times of declared water shortages with the goal of reducing the quantity of water used within MWD's service area to conserve supply. The WSAP includes specific formulas for calculating MWD supply allocations to each member agency and also includes implementation elements needed for administering water supply allocations. The WSAP allocates supplies based on the needs of the water agencies throughout the service area.

In December 2014, MWD made adjustments to its WSAP to address the current unprecedented drought conditions and water needs within the MWD service area. The adjustments include: (1) update the Base Period of consumptive demands from Calendar Years 2004-2006 to Fiscal Years Ending 2013 and 2014; (2) update the Conservation Demand Hardening Credit to a method based on member agency per capita water use (gallons per capita per day [GPCD]) reductions with considerations for the early enforcement of mandatory conservation ordinances and requirements; (3) add a separate allocation for drought-impacted groundwater basins; and (4) replace the current WSAP Penalty Rates with an Allocation Surcharge based on marginal costs of water conservation programs.

The District will work with EMWD and WMWD to determine its allocation of available MWD imported supply during shortages. Further, the District will effectively manage imported water purchases and when Allocation Surcharges are imposed on the District for exceeding allocations as a result of customers exceeding their water budgets during times when MWD implements its WSAP. Such excessive water use is a violation of the water shortage stages of this WSC Plan and is subject to MWD's Allocation Surcharge allocated to customers based on a pro-rata share. This action is further described in Section 4.2.

1.4 Principles of District's Water Shortage Contingency Plan

The overall principle of the District's WSC Plan is to reliably meet water demands during shortages caused by droughts, supply reductions, and emergency conditions. The WSC Plan recognizes the following priorities for potable water:

- · Public safety, health and welfare
- Economic sustainability
- Quality of life for the District's customers
- Statutory and regulatory requirements

The potable water use regulated and/or prohibited under this WSC Plan is considered to be non essential use. Continued use of such water during times of water shortage or other emergency supply conditions are deemed to constitute a waste of water and will be subject to appropriate Allocation Surcharges, monetary assessments and fines as described in Section 4 of this WSC Plan.

In the event that the reduction in water sales as a result of implementation of the WSC Plan negatively impacts the coverage of the District's fixed costs obligations, the District will utilize its drought reserves to offset revenue losses from the reduced sales (see Section 5 of this WSC Plan).

1.5 Public Notice and Coordination with Other Water Agencies

The District will periodically provide the public with information about the WSC Plan, including its implementation. Such information will include, but not be limited to, stages of action, restrictions on water use, water budget reductions, water-saving tips, and potential Allocation Surcharges, monetary assessments and fines for noncompliance of prohibited activities for water conservation, water use efficiency, and failure to achieve water budget reductions defined in the WSC Plan and the Water Conservation Policy.

Local media outlets the District may use include the following:

Media Source	Media Type
City of Temecula Channel 3	Television
The Press Enterprise	Newspaper & Online
The Union Tribune	Newspaper & Online
The Patch	Online
Valley News	Newspaper

In addition, the District will strive to coordinate implementation of its WSC Plan with MWD, EMWD, and WMWD. This will be necessary to ensure efficient regional water management during periods of water supply shortage.

RCWD Water Shortage Contingency Plan

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Section 2: Authorization and Application of WSC Plan

2.1 Authorization of WSC Plan

The water shortage contingency measures of this WSC Plan shall apply to all persons, customers, and property using water provided by the District. The terms "persons" and "customers" used in this WSC Plan include individuals, home and property owners, corporations, businesses, agencies, associations, and all other legal entities.

A declaration of a water shortage condition as outlined below shall become effective immediately, and shall be made by public announcement and published in a newspaper of general circulation.

While Stage 1 Water Supply Watch measures remain in effect at all times, there are three basic conditions which can trigger the declaration of further Water Shortage Stages of the WSC Plan. At the time a water shortage condition is identified, the General Manager shall recommend the appropriate Shortage Stage and corresponding water budget decrease based on an analysis of current and available water supplies and anticipated demands. Except as provided below, the Board shall consider and adopt a resolution declaring the appropriate Shortage Stage and measures to be implemented thereto.

Condition No. 1: Long- and Short-Term Water Supply Deficiencies

The District's General Manager shall request the Board of Directors (Board) to authorize and implement provisions of the WSC Plan when the demand for District water is anticipated to be in excess of District's available water supply. The request shall be made at a regular or special meeting of the Board where findings will dictate the necessity, if any, to implement the measures of the WSC Plan. The Board will have the authority to adopt a resolution to initiate or terminate the appropriate shortage stage and any of the measures described in the WSC Plan.

Condition No. 2: Immediate Emergency Water Shortage Response

An immediate emergency water shortage defined as an unexpected or catastrophic event including, but not limited to, a regional power outage, earthquake or other disaster, or major other event that prevents or interrupts adequate water to be delivered to customers. By adopting this WSC Plan, the Board authorizes the General Manager to declare the extent of the immediate water shortage emergency and to indicate which measures of the WSC Plan are needed.

Condition No. 3: Emergency Declaration of State or Federal Agency

Upon the declaration of a water shortage emergency by resolution or other appropriate authoritative process of a state or federal agency with jurisdiction over the District, the District shall respond to the requirements set forth in the governing statutes, rules, regulations, or documents.

2.2 Criteria for Water Shortage Stages

The District will continue to monitor water demands and supplies on a regular basis and shall determine when conditions warrant initiation or termination of each shortage stage and water conservation measures to be implemented thereto of the WSC Plan as follows:

Stage 1 – Water Supply Watch Criteria: The term Water Watch acknowledges that while near term regional supply and storage conditions may from time to time improve due to wet weather, there are continued long term challenges that warrant continued wise and efficient use of water. These include ongoing regulatory restrictions on pumping from the Bay-Delta region for the State Water Project, which makes up a significant portion of RCWD's imported water supply. In addition, our mediterranean climate and average rainfall of 14 inches in our service area make ongoing efficient water use imperative.

RCWD and other retail water agencies in California have been mandated by the State to work with customers to achieve a 20 percent reduction in per capita water use by the year 2020. Under Stage 1 conditions, customers are requested to continue to use water efficiently, maximize recycled water use, practice sensible voluntary water conservation and take advantage of the District's indoor and outdoor water conservation incentive programs to eliminate water waste. It should also be noted that water waste is in violation of California Law and District's Water Conservation Policy at any Stage.

<u>Stage 2 – Water Supply Alert Criteria</u>: There is a probability that the District may not be able to meet all of the water demands of its customers. This may correlate to MWD's WSDM Plan stage of "Shortage" and the MWD WSAP'sRegional Shortage Levels 1 through 2, may mean local groundwater levels are lower than normal, or the District is mandated by a state or federal regulatory agency with jurisdiction over the District to reduce water use. Imported water supply shortages for the District are expected. Additional voluntary water use reduction measures will be called upon during this stage. Some nonessential outdoor water-use restrictions in the residential, commercial, and agricultural sectors may be implemented.

Stage 3 – Water Supply Warning Criteria: Water supply shortages (local or imported) for the District are expected to continue and possibly worsen, or the District is mandated by a state or federal regulatory agency with jurisdiction over the District to reduce water use. This may correlate to MWD's WSDM Plan stage of "Severe Shortage" and the MWD WSAP's Regional Shortage Levels 3 through 4. Some restrictions on certain non-essential outdoor residential, commercial, agricultural, and landscape water use will be implemented. The District will work to achieve an appropriate balance of water budget decreases to Domestic and Landscape customers as water shortages increase. Allocation Surcharges, monetary assessments and/or fines for non-compliance of such restrictions will be imposed.

Stage 4 – Extreme Water Supply Warning Criteria: Water supply shortages (local or imported) are expected to worsen, or the District is mandated by a state or federal regulatory agency with jurisdiction over the District to reduce water use. This may correlate to MWD's WSDM Plan stage of "Extreme Shortage" and the MWD WSAP's Regional Shortage Levels 5 through 6. If Stage 4 is the result of an extended drought and has been triggered by Condition No. 1 of Section 2 of this WSC Plan, the District will explore increased incentives for implementation of demand management measures that will have immediate and substantial impacts on water demands. More severe restrictions on non-essential outdoor water use will be implemented. The District will work to achieve an appropriate balance of water budget decreases to all customer classes including Domestic, Landscape, CII, and

Agricultural customers as water shortages increase. Significant Allocation Surcharges, monetary assessments and/or fines for non-compliance of such restrictions <u>will</u> be imposed.

<u>Stage 5 – Water Supply Emergency Criteria</u>: Water supply shortages (local or imported) are expected to worsen, or the District is mandated by a state or federal regulatory agency with jurisdiction over the District to reduce water use. This may correlate to MWD's WSDM Plan stage of "Extreme Shortage" and the MWD WSAP's Regional Shortage Levels 7 through 10 or may be as a result of an emergency situation resulting in the inability of the District's water distribution system to deliver all of the District's supply. Restrictions on all non-essential outdoor and indoor water use will also be implemented. The District will work to achieve an appropriate balance of water budget decreases to all customer classes as water shortages increase. Allocation Surcharges, monetary assessments and/or fines for non-compliance of such restrictions will be imposed.

RCWD Water Shortage Contingency Plan

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Section 3: Supply Shortage Contingency Measures

Section 3 presents the shortage contingency measures the District may impose during each Shortage Stage for its domestic (household/residential), landscape, commercial/institutional/industrial (CII), agricultural and agricultural/domestic or other mixed use (residential/commercial) customers. Recycled water customers that use recycled water for outdoor irrigation are subject to the terms and conditions of their Recycled Water User Agreement and the District's On-Site Recycled Water Irrigation Systems Manual (Section 3.5).

Through timely communication, using various local media outlets, the District will provide updates regarding supply conditions and WSC Plan Stages. The District is not responsible for any customer issues that may arise from the implementation of the WSC Plan or adjustment in timing of the WSC Plan's Stages.

The following presents a summary of the Shortage Stages and the associated water budget reductions that may be imposed. Further details of each Shortage Stage water conservation/water use reduction measures are presented on the following pages.

Water Shortage Stages and Water Budget Reductions						
Water Chartage Stage	% Water Budget Reduction					
Water Shortage Stage	Customer Type					
	Domestic ¹	CII ²	AG^3			
Stage 1: Water Supply Watch	None	None	None			
Stage 2: Water Supply Alert	None	None	None			
Stage 3: Water Supply Warning – Mandatory Water Waste Reduction						
3a – No budget reduction	None	None	None			
3b – Tier 3 budget reductions	Tier 3 - 50%	None	None			
3c – Tier 3 budget reductions	Tier 3 - 100%	None	None			
Stage 4: Extreme Water Supply Warning – Mandatory Outdoor Water Reduction						
4a – Tier 2 and Tier 1 budget reductions	Tier 2 - 10-49%	Tier 1 - 10%	Tier 1 - 10%			
4b – Tier 2 and Tier 1 budget reductions	Tier 2 - 50-99%	Tier 1 - 20%	Tier 1 - 20%			
4c – Tier 2 and Tier 1 budget reductions	Tier 2 - 100%	Tier 1 - 45%	Tier 1 - 45%			
Stage 5: Water Supply Emergency – Mandatory Outdoor and Indoor Water Reduction						
5a – Tier 1 budget reductions	Tier 1 - 10%	Tier 1 - 55%	Tier 1 - 55%			
5b – Tier 1 budget reductions	Tier 1 - 30%	Tier 1 - 60%	Tier 1 - 60%			
5c – Tier 1 budget reductions	Tier 1 - 50%	Tier 1 - 70%	Tier 1 - 70%			

¹ Single Family and Multi-Family residential

² Commercial, industrial and Institutional

³ Agricultural

3.1 Stage 1: Water Supply Watch

Under Stage 1 conditions, customers are requested to continue to use water efficiently, maximize recycled water use, practice sensible voluntary water conservation and take advantage of the District's indoor and outdoor water conservation incentive programs to eliminate water waste. Water waste violates California Law and the District's Water Conservation Policy at this and any other Shortage Stage.

In order to comply with requirements of state legislation and Water Conservation Best Management Practices, it shall be a violation of the District's Water Conservation Policy at any time to make, cause, or permit the use of water for residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural, institutional/governmental, or any other purpose in a manner constituting water waste.

All Customer Classes

Customers shall abide by the following <u>water conservation requirements at all times</u> in all water Shortage Stages:

- 1. Refrain from hosing down driveways and other hard surfaces, except for health or sanitary reasons.
- 2. Repair faucets, toilets, pipes and other potential sources of water leaks.
- 3. Irrigate landscape only between 6 p.m. and 9 a.m. Customers with weather-based irrigation controllers are exempt from this requirement. This provision does not apply when:
 - a. Manually watering during the establishment period of a new landscape;
 - b. Supervised spot watering is done to address landscape issues;
 - c. Temperatures are predicted to fall below freezing:
 - d. Testing/repairing an irrigation system;
 - e. Using drip and point-to-point irrigation systems; and
 - f. A longer watering window is needed due to system constraints.
- 4. Adjust and operate all landscape irrigation systems in a manner that will maximize irrigation efficiency and avoid over watering or watering of hardscape and resulting runoff.
- Prevent excessively irrigating any lawn or landscape area that would cause the sheeting of water to flow; eliminate water runoff from lawns or landscape areas into any gutters, streets, or alleys.
- 6. Do not use decorative fountains unless they are equipped with a re-circulating system.
- 7. When Installing plumbing fixtures, use low-flow devices, except for those that require high-flow fixtures for health and/or sanitary reasons. Where possible, install pool and spa covers to minimize water loss due to evaporation during non-operating days.
- 8. Do not allow water to run while washing vehicles, including autos, trucks, trailers, motor homes, boats or others. Use a hose with an automatic shutoff valve to avoid runoff into gutters, streets or alleys. Use a hose equipped with an automatic shutoff valve or other device that causes it to cease dispensing water immediately when not in use.
- 9. When installing new landscaping, refer to the Water Use Classification of Landscape Species (WUCOLS). Plant low-water California Friendly® Landscapes. Non-functional turf areas are not recommended. Turf lined channels are only permitted when justified by environmental regulations.
- Refrain from watering during rain, or high winds by turning off irrigation timers.

All existing and future District customers in violation of these water conservation requirements, consistent with Section 2 General Provisions of the District's Water Conservation Policy, or with excessive runoff that would cause water to flow from property into any gutters, streets, or alleys are subject to fines. Fines are detailed in Section 4 and in the Water Conservation Policy in Appendix A.

3.2 Stage 2: Water Supply Alert

- Stage 1 water conservation requirements remain in effect for all customer classes
- Additional voluntary water use reduction measures for all customer classes
- No Allocation Surcharges or mandatory restrictions are imposed

All Customer Classes

Additional <u>voluntary water use reduction measures</u> are requested of <u>all customer</u> <u>classes</u> as follows:

Outdoor Voluntary Water Use Reduction Measures

- 1. Eliminate sprinkler overspray from driveways and sidewalks. Divide irrigation runtimes into multiple cycles to eliminate runoff water that leaves the landscaped area.
- 2. Install a self-adjusting "Smart" irrigation controller. Ensure the controller has a manual mode that will allow compliance with higher stages of this WSC Plan.
- 3. Tune-up your irrigation system by checking for and repairing leaks and damaged sprinklers.
- Use a broom instead of a hose to clean driveways, sidewalks and other hardscape surfaces, except for California Department of Health Services prescribed health or sanitary reasons.
- 5. Install pool and spa covers to minimize evaporative water loss.
- 6. CII and Landscape customers, including but not limited to, parks, school grounds, highway medians, commercial landscaping, and golf courses are restricted to irrigation applications between 6 p.m. and 9 a.m. These irrigators are advised to adjust automatic irrigation timers according to changing weather patterns and landscape requirements.
 - a. Customers irrigating with recycled water will be exempt from watering restrictions imposed, provided signage on the site conforms to recycled water use requirements and is clearly visible.
 - b. Customers that can demonstrate the use of an active "Smart" irrigation controller that is currently on the Irrigation Association's Smart Water Application Technology approved irrigation controller list will be exempt from the watering restrictions imposed in Stages 2 through 4.

Indoor Voluntary Water Use Reduction Measures

- 7. Wash only full loads of laundry and/or dishes.
- 8. Shorten showers and turn off faucets while brushing teeth or shaving.

The District recognizes the importance of agriculture to the local economy and strives to help sustain the economic viability of the agricultural industry within its service area through implementation of a variety of water use efficiency measures. The District recognizes agricultural properties as commercial enterprises; therefore, this WSC Plan regards agricultural water users similarly to commercial water users. For farms/agricultural users with homes on the property, the WSC Plan regards these agricultural accounts as commercial water users with some residential/domestic use.

Agricultural Customers

The following <u>voluntary water use reduction measures</u> are requested of <u>all agricultural</u> <u>customers</u>:

- 9. When possible, irrigate crops during the cooler nighttime hours to minimize evaporative water loss.
- 10. Tune-up agricultural irrigation systems by checking for and repairing leaks and damaged sprinklers/drippers.
- 11. Eliminate sprinkler overspray from driveways, access roads, etc.
- 12. Install a soil moisture monitoring device such as a tensiometer or a capacitance probe. Use these devices to decide how often to irrigate.
- 13. Use weather data and/or an irrigation scheduling calculator to determine irrigation runtimes. This information can be found on various websites.

To assist customers in complying with the voluntary water use reduction measures, enhanced outreach and customer support and communication programs will be implemented.

No Allocation Surcharges or monetary assessments (see Section 4) or mandatory restrictions will be imposed during Stage 2. All existing and future District customers in violation of the Stage 1 water conservation requirements in effect at all times, consistent with Section 2 General Provisions of the District's Water Conservation Policy, or with excessive runoff that would cause water to flow from property into any gutters, streets, or alleys are subject to fines. Fines are detailed in Section 4 and in the Water Conservation Policy in Appendix A.

3.3 Stage 3: Water Supply Warning – Mandatory Water Waste Reduction

- Stage 1 water conservation requirements remain in effect for all customer classes.
- Rolling water budgets are suspended
- Decreases in Tier 3 inefficient use water budgets are imposed for Domestic and Dedicated Landscape customers
- Stage 2 indoor voluntary water use reduction measures remain in effect
- Mandatory outdoor water use reduction measures for all customer classes
- Variances for specific activities are suspended
- Fines for non-compliance are imposed

The General Manager shall recommend the appropriate Shortage Stage and corresponding water budget decrease based on an analysis of current available water supplies and anticipated demands. The Board shall consider and may adopt appropriate water budget reductions.

Stage 3a: Rolling water budgets² are suspended; No variances or adjustments will be approved for filling swimming pools, establishing or expanding landscape area, leaks not repaired within 48 hours, and existing outdoor water budgets.

Stage 3b: Domestic and Landscape Tier 3 water budgets are decreased by 50%.

Stage 3c: Domestic and Landscape Tier 3 water budgets are decreased by 100%.

All Customer Classes

Stage 3 <u>mandatory outdoor water use reduction measures for all customer classes</u> are as follows:

Outdoor Mandatory Water Use Reduction Measures

- 1. Irrigate lawns and landscape only between 6:00 p.m. and 9:00 a.m. Customers with weather-based irrigation controllers are exempt from this restriction.
- No application of potable water to outdoor landscapes (turf and ornamental landscapes) during a rainfall event and up to 48 hours after measurable rainfall. Measureable rainfall for the region is defined as greater than or equal to 0.5 inches.
- 3. Do not allow irrigation water to leave the landscaped area.
- 4. If new landscaping is installed, landscaping meeting the specifications of California Friendly® landscaping, as defined by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Be Water Wise Program³, is recommended and must comply with the local Water Efficient Landscape Design Standards Ordinance.
- 5. Use a broom instead of a hose to clean driveways, sidewalks and other hardscape surfaces, except for California Department of Health Services prescribed health or sanitary reasons.
- 6. Eliminate sprinkler overspray from driveways and sidewalks. Divide irrigation runtimes into multiple cycles to eliminate runoff water that leaves the landscaped area.

² A Rolling Water Budget allows customers who pay for water in higher, inefficient tiers in one month to receive a credit on their water bill in a future month when they are more efficient than their water budget based on a monthly year-to-date comparison of water budget to actual use. Water budgets reset and start over on July 1 of each year.

³ California Friendly® means native and water efficient landscape or gardens; accomplishes water efficiency without sacrificing beauty. See the California Friendly® Garden Guide at Bewaterwise.com

- 7. Tune-up irrigation system by checking for and repairing leaks and damaged sprinklers.
- 8. Do not allow hoses to run while washing motor vehicles (including autos, trucks, trailers, motor homes, boats or others). Use a hose equipped with an automatic shutoff valve or other device that causes it to cease dispensing water immediately when not in use.

It is recommended that all customers install self-adjusting "Smart" irrigation controllers and ensure the controller has a manual mode to allow compliance with higher Shortage Stages.

Commercial, Institutional, and Industrial Customers

Stage 3 mandatory water use reduction measures for all CII customers are as follows:

- 9. CII and Landscape customers are advised to adjust automatic irrigation timers according to changing weather patterns and landscape requirements.
 - a. Customers irrigating with recycled water will be exempt from watering restrictions imposed, provided signage on the site conforms to recycled water use requirements and is clearly visible.
 - b. Customers that can demonstrate the use of an active "Smart" irrigation controller that is currently on the Irrigation Association's Smart Water Application Technology approved irrigation controller list will be exempt from the watering restrictions imposed in Stages 2 through 4.
 - c. Exceptions may be granted as necessary to provide for the health and welfare of the community, pursuant to state and federal regulations, e.g., dust control.
- 10. Commercial car wash operators will work to ensure most of the water used is captured and reaches the municipal wastewater system so that it can be recycled for reuse in community landscapes. Car wash operators shall work with the District to distribute discount coupons or other incentives to discourage the washing of vehicles in private driveways.
- 11. No CII entity shall allow the use of its premises for charity or fundraising car washes.
- 12. Drinking water shall not be served other than upon request in eating or drinking establishments, including but not limited to restaurants, hotels, cafes, cafeterias, bars, or other public places where food and drink are served and/or purchased.
- 13. Operators of hotels and motels shall provide guests with the option of choosing not to have towels and linens laundered daily. The hotel or motel shall prominently display notice of this option in each bathroom using clear and easily understood language.

Agricultural Customers

Stage 3 <u>mandatory water use reduction measures for all agricultural customers</u> are as follows:

- 14. When possible, irrigate crops during the cooler nighttime hours to minimize evaporative water loss.
- 15. Tune-up agricultural irrigation systems by checking for and repairing leaks and damaged sprinklers/drippers.
- 16. If a new crop, in addition to that already planted, is installed, it must be done in accordance with industry-accepted irrigation best management practices (i.e., the system must contain pressure compensation and regulation devices) to guarantee excellent distribution uniformity.
- 17. Do not allow irrigation water to leave the planted crop area.

The following <u>voluntary water use reduction measures</u> remain in effect for <u>all</u> <u>agricultural customers</u> for irrigation efficiency:

- 1. Install a soil moisture monitoring device such as a tensiometer or a capacitance probe. Use these devices to decide how often to irrigate.
- 2. Use weather data and/or an irrigation scheduling calculator to determine irrigation runtimes. This information can be found on various websites.

Fines for non-compliance will be imposed for flagrant or repeat violations, in additional to Allocation Surcharges or other monetary assessments for excessive use (see Section 4). All existing and future District customers in violation of the Stage 1 water conservation requirements in effect at all times, consistent with Section 2 General Provisions of the District's Water Conservation Policy, or with excessive runoff that would cause water to flow from property into any gutters, streets, or alleys, are subject to fines. Fines are detailed in Section 4 and in the Water Conservation Policy in Appendix A.

3.4 Stage 4: Extreme Water Supply Warning – Mandatory Outdoor Water Reduction

- Stage 1 water conservation requirements remain in effect for all customer classes
- Stage 2 and 3 mandatory water use reduction measures remain in effect for all customer classes
- Stage 2 Indoor voluntary water use reduction measures remain in effect
- Stage 3 Agricultural voluntary water use reduction measures remain in effect
- Rolling budgets remain suspended
- Decreases in Tier 2 efficient use water budgets for Domestic and Dedicated Landscape customers and in Tier 1 efficient use water budgets for Agriculture and CII customers are imposed
- Variances for health and safety only
- No new water meters allowed, except for health and safety, unless water demand is offset to a net zero increase
- Fines for non-compliance are imposed, in addition to Allocation Surcharges or other monetary assessments for excessive use

The General Manager shall recommend the appropriate Shortage Stage and corresponding water budget decrease based on analysis of current available water supplies and anticipated demands. Where a range of water budget reduction is shown, the General Manager shall recommend the appropriate water budget reduction in that Stage. The Board shall consider and may adopt appropriate water budget reductions.

Domestic and Landscape

Stage 4a: Tier 2 water budgets are decreased by 10% to 49%

Stage 4b: Tier 2 water budgets are decreased by 50% to 99%

Stage 4c: Tier 2 water budgets are decreased by 100%

Agricultural and CII

Stage 4a: Tier 1 water budgets are decreased by 10%

Stage 4b: Tier 1 water budgets are decreased by 20%

Stage 4c: Tier 1 water budgets are decreased by 45%.

All Customer Classes

Stage 4 <u>additional mandatory water use reduction measures for all customer classes</u> are as follows:

- 1. Washing of personal vehicles at home (including autos, trucks, trailers, motor homes, boats or others) is prohibited.
- 2. No water for decorative fountains may be used, even if it has a recirculating system.
- 3. The District recommends the installation of pool and spa covers to minimize evaporative water loss.
- 4. Upon the declaration of a water shortage emergency, no new water meters allowed, except for health and safety, unless water demand is offset to a net zero increase. Achieving net zero water increase is when potable water use of proposed development is no greater than current demand within the District's service area prior to installation

of the new meters. The District will separately develop a "Net Zero Water Increase Program." The objective of the Program shall be to provide a means to continue sustainable growth during continuing water shortage conditions.

It is recommended that all customers install self-adjusting "Smart" irrigation controllers and ensure the controller has a manual mode to allow compliance with higher Shortage Stages.

Commercial, Institutional, and Industrial and Agricultural Customers Stage 4 <u>additional mandatory water use reduction measures for all CII and Agricultural customers</u> are as follows:

- 5. Recycled water customers must comply with requirements listed in Section 3.6.
- 6. No new hydrant-construction or temporary construction meter permits will be issued by the District.

Fines for non-compliance will be imposed for flagrant or repeat violations, in addition to allocation surcharges or other monetary assessments for excessive use (see Section 4). All existing and future District customers in violation of the water conservation requirements in effect at all times, consistent with Section 2 General Provisions of the District's Water Conservation Policy, or with excessive runoff that would cause water to flow from property into any gutters, streets, or alleys are subject to fines. Fines are detailed in Section 4 and in the Water Conservation Policy in Appendix A.

3.5 Stage 5: Water Supply Emergency – Mandatory Outdoor and Indoor Water Reduction

- Stage 1 water conservation requirements remain in effect for all customer classes.
- Stages 2, 3 and 4 mandatory water use reduction measures remain in effect for all customer classes
- Stage 3 Agricultural voluntary water use reduction measures remain in effect
- Additional mandatory water use reduction measures for all customer classes
- · Rolling budgets are suspended
- Decreases in Tier 1 efficient use water budgets for Domestic and Dedicated Landscape customers and further reductions in Tier 1 efficient use water budgets for Agriculture and CII customers are imposed
- Variances for health and safety only
- The District recommends the installation of pool and spa covers to minimize evaporative water loss.
- No new water meters allowed, except for health and safety
- Fines for non-compliance are imposed

The General Manager shall recommend the appropriate Shortage Stage and corresponding water budget decrease based on analysis of current available water supplies and anticipated demands. The Board shall consider and may adopt appropriate water budget reductions.

Domestic and Landscape

Stage 5a: Tier 1 water budgets are decreased by 10%Stage 5b: Tier 1 water budgets are decreased by 30%Stage 5c: Tier 1 water budgets are decreased by 50%

Agricultural and CII

Stage 5a: Tier 1 water budgets are decreased by 55%Stage 5b: Tier 1 water budgets are decreased by 60%Stage 5c: Tier 1 water budgets are decreased by 70%

All Customer Classes

Stage 5 additional mandatory measures for all customers are as follows:

Outdoor Mandatory Water Use Reduction Measures

- 1. <u>No</u> irrigation of lawns, landscapes and/or ornamental gardens. Vegetable gardens under 5,000 square feet in area grown for personal consumption are exempt.
- 2. Recycled water customers must comply with Section 3.5.
- 3. Water for refilling recreational swimming pools and spas is prohibited.
- 4. No replacement water may be provided for ponds or lakes. Aeration equipment should be managed in such a way as to eliminate evaporative loss of water.
- 5. Turn off all decorative fountains, even if it has a recycling (recirculating) system, and consider using any remaining water to irrigate landscape. Make sure to empty completely so standing water does not attract insects.
- 6. Limit use of misting devices.

Indoor Mandatory Water Use Reduction Measures

- 7. Wash only full loads of laundry and/or dishes.
- 8. Fix leaky faucets, toilets, showerheads, pipes and other water plumbing immediately.
- 9. Shorten showers and turn off faucets while brushing teeth or shaving.

Commercial, Institutional, and Industrial Customers

Stage 5 <u>additional mandatory water use reduction measures for all CII customers</u> are as follows:

- 10. No water for commercial car washes.
- 11. All hydrant construction and temporary construction meter permits will be rescinded by the District.
- 12. No planting of new landscaping (seed, sod, or other plant materials).

Agricultural Customers

Stage 5 <u>additional mandatory water use reduction measures for all Agricultural customers</u> are as follows:

- 13. All hydrant construction and temporary construction meter permits will be rescinded by the District.
- 14. No planting of crop acreage in addition to existing acreage.

Fines for non-compliance <u>will</u> be imposed for flagrant or repeat violations, in addition to allocation surcharges or other monetary assessments for excessive use (see Section 4). All existing and future District customers in violation of the water conservation requirements in effect at all times, consistent with Section 2 General Provisions of the District's Water Conservation Policy, or with excessive runoff that would cause water to flow from property into any gutters, streets, or alleys are subject to fines. Fines are detailed in Section 4 and in the Water Conservation Policy in Appendix A.

3.6 Recycled Water Customers

District water customers that use recycled water for outdoor irrigation are subject to the terms and conditions of their Recycled Water User Agreement with the District, which includes specific provisions for:

- Watering windows (time of day)
- Runoff control
- Quantity of use, including applicable conservation or other restrictions

Applicable regulations, guidelines, and requirements have been established by the District to protect public health and safety and to ensure compliance with all State and Federal rules and regulations pertaining to the on-site use of recycled water. Non-compliance with any applicable regulations and requirements may result in termination of water service and/or or fines.

Recycled water customers may also reference the District's On-Site Recycled Water Irrigation Systems Manual (2009), available at www.ranchowater.com under Engineering Documents. The Manual includes a list of "Do's and Don'ts", which include the following:

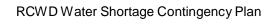
The following <u>mandatory</u> measures will be imposed at all times, in addition to terms and conditions of each Recycled Water User Agreement:

DO's

- 1) Install and maintain signs at all points of entry (pedestrian and vehicular); signs must conform to the Recycled Water User Agreement requirements and be clearly visible;
- 2) Install and maintain labels and tags on recycled and potable water systems;
- 3) Operate irrigation system:
 - a. Between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m. if automatically controlled (unless other restrictions apply),
 - b. At other times if manually controlled and supervised (by a dedicated site supervisor) to make sure that recycled water doesn't come in contact with the public,
 - c. At any time if use site is restricted to the general public:
- 4) Use quick couplers instead of hose bibs:
- 5) Immediately contact the District if any of the followed has occurred:
 - a. A recycled water line break, spill or off-site discharge of recycled water,
 - b. A violation of water recycling requirements,
 - c. A cross-connection between the recycled and potable water systems; and
- 6) Educate/train site workers on safe use and restrictions of recycled water.

DON'Ts

- 1) Don't drink recycled water;
- 2) Don't use recycled water to wash hands or any other part of the body;
- 3) Don't remove recycled water identification signs, tags or labels;
- 4) Don't cross-connect two dissimilar water systems (recycled to potable);
- 5) Don't allow recycled water to contact drinking fountains or eating areas;
- 6) Don't allow recycled water to pond or puddle;
- 7) Don't allow recycled to runoff the use site property by either overspray or over watering;
- 8) Don't use recycled water on an unapproved site;
- 9) Don't put hose bibs on recycled water systems;
- 10) Don't use the same equipment on both recycled water and domestic water systems (for example, quick couplers, tools, etc.); and
- 11) Don't modify any water system without prior approval of the District.



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Section 4: Enforcement and Variances

Measures called for in the stages of the District's WSC Plan will be primarily enforced through fines, Allocation Surcharges, and monetary assessments. In extreme cases, certain types of outdoor water service may be discontinued until the emergency situation is over.

4.1 Fines

The District's Water Conservation Policy (Policy) (Appendix A) declares that because of the prevailing conditions in the State, it is necessary and appropriate for the District to adopt, implement and enforce a water conservation program to ensure sufficient water for human consumption, sanitation, and fire protection. The District further finds that waste or unreasonable use or unreasonable method of use of water shall be prevented and that water conservation practices shall be encouraged at all times.

Water Waste Provisions

The Policy establishes general provisions of conservation and water use efficiency that are in effect at all times. These general provisions are consistent with the WSC Plan and include the following:

- 1. Refrain from hosing down driveways and other hard surfaces, except for health and sanitary reasons.
- 2. Repair faucets, toilets, pipes and other potential sources of water leaks.
- 3. Irrigate landscape only between 6 p.m. and 9 a.m.
- Adjust and operate all landscape irrigation systems in a manner that will maximize irrigation efficiency and avoid over watering or watering of hardscape and resulting runoff.
- 5. Prevent excessively irrigating any lawn or landscape area that would cause the sheeting of water to flow; eliminate water runoff from lawns or landscape areas into any gutters, streets, or alleys.
- 6. Do not use decorative fountains unless they are equipped with a recirculating system.
- 7. When installing plumbing fixtures, use low-flow devices, except for those that require high-flow fixtures for health and/or sanitary reasons.
- 8. Where possible, install pool and spa covers to minimize water loss due to evaporation during non-operating days.
- 9. Do not allow water to run while washing vehicles. Use a hose with an automatic shutoff valve to avoid runoff into gutters, streets or alleys.

It is important to note that conservation measures in addition to these general provisions are required to be taken by customers as part of higher WSC Plan Stages.

Enforcement

Water users who violate of any of the general provisions or additional measures required as part of the applicable WSC Plan Stage are subject to the enforcement of this Water Conservation Policy.

Violations which are related to the malfunction of water conveying hardware or devices are subject to the following enforcement:

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- a. For a first violation, the District shall issue a written notice of fact of such violation to the customer. The customer shall then be allowed a period of 10 days following issuance of the written notice to correct the violation described therein before a second violation will be issued.
- b. For a second violation, the District shall issue a written notice of fact of such violation to the customer. The customer shall then be allowed a period of 10 days following issuance of the written notice to correct the violation described therein before a third violation will be issued.
- c. For a third violation, the District shall issue a written notice of fact of such violation to the customer when a second violation has not been corrected within a period of 10 days following issuance of the second violation notice. A fine in the amount of \$50.00 shall be added to the customer's water bill upon issuance of a third violation. The customer shall be allowed a period of 5 days following issuance of the written notice to correct the third violation before a fourth violation will be issued.
- d. For a fourth violation the District shall issue a written notice of fact of such violation to the customer when a third violation has not been corrected within a period of 5 days following issuance of the third violation notice. A fine in the amount of \$100.00 shall be added to the customer's water bill upon issuance of a fourth violation. The customer shall be allowed 5 days following issuance of the written notice to correct the fourth violation before a fifth violation will be issued.
- e. For a fifth violation the District shall issue a written notice of fact of such violation to the customer when a fourth violation has not been corrected within a period of 5 days following issuance of the fourth violation notice. A fine in the amount of \$200.00 shall be added to the customer's water bill upon issuance of a fourth violation. The customer shall be allowed 5 days following issuance of the written notice to correct the fifth violation before a sixth violation will be issued.
- f. For a sixth violation, the District shall issue a written notice of fact of such violation to the customer when the fifth violation has not been corrected within a period of 5 days following issuance of the fifth violation notice. A fine of \$500.00 per day shall be added to the customer's water bill following the issuance of the sixth violation notice until the violation is corrected.

Violations that are **not** related to the malfunction of water conveying hardware or devices, but are related to actions taken by a water user including, but not limited to, hosing down driveways, are subject to the same enforcement procedures outlined above with the exception that the expected timeframe for correction of the violation is immediate.

Customers shall pay all water bills and fines in accordance with the due dates stated on their bills. An Appeals Process is offered to customers that disagree with the fines assessed. If the appeal is upheld in favor of the customer, appropriate monies will be refunded. Details of the Appeals Process are included in the Policy (Appendix A).

4.2 Allocation Surcharges and Monetary Assessments

Allocation Surcharges may be imposed if customers exceed their water budgets during times of

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water shortage (local or import) or when MWD implements its Water Supply Allocation Plan⁴. Such excessive water use is a violation of the water shortage stages of this WSC Plan and is subject to an Allocation Surcharge. Any Allocation Surcharge will represent MWD Allocation Surcharge imposed on the District for exceeding its allocations. The total MWD Allocation Surcharge would be allocated to customers who exceed their efficient water budget.

a) Domestic (Single Family), Multi-Family, and Landscape

For Water Shortage Stages 3, 4 and 5 of the WSC Plan, domestic, multi-family and landscape customers may have their water budgets reduced to coincide with available local and imported supply. For example, if MWD implements a reduction of any level, RCWD will determine the appropriate water budget reduction to be imposed, if any, based on the Water Shortage Stage declared. Based on the rate structure for domestic, multi-family, and landscape customers, they may therefore be charged Tier 2 or Tier 3 rates sooner than before. If these customers exceed their water budgets and begin paying Tier 2 or Tier 3 rates, they may also have to pay Allocation Surcharges. Any Allocation Surcharge will represent the MWD Allocation Surcharge imposed on the

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⁴ MWD developed its Water Supply Allocation Plan (WSAP) in 2008 in consideration of guidelines established in its Water Surplus and Drought Management (WSDM) Plan (1999), with the objective of creating an equitable needs-based allocation in times of declared water shortages. MWD updated its WSAP in December 2014 to revise its base period of consumptive demand, account for conservation demand hardening and drought-impacted groundwater basins, and replace the Penalty Rates with Allocation Surcharges. The WSAP seeks to balance the impacts of a shortage at the retail level while maintaining equity on the wholesale level for shortages of MWD supplies.

District (the total MWD Allocation Surcharge would be allocated to customers based on a pro-rata share). All Allocation Surcharges collected will be used for additional administration of the WSC Plan, to pay MWD for Allocation Surcharges assessed to the District, to implement additional demand management measures during an extended water shortage, as well as to replenish the Drought Cash Reserve for the District (see Section 5).

b) Commercial, Institutional, Industrial (CII) and Agricultural Customers

For Water Shortage Stages 4 and 5 of the WSC Plan, commercial, institutional, industrial and agricultural customers may have their water budgets reduced to coincide with available local and imported supply. For example if MWD implements a reduction of any level, RCWD will determine the appropriate water budget reduction to be imposed, if any, based on the Water Shortage Stage declared. Based on the rate structure for CII and agricultural customers, they may therefore be charged Tier 2 rates sooner than before. If these customers exceed their water budgets and begin paying Tier 2 rates, they may also have to pay Allocation Surcharges. Any Allocation Surcharge will represent MWD Allocation Surcharges imposed on the District (the total MWD Allocation Surcharge would be allocated to customers based on a pro-rata share). All Allocation Surcharges collected will be used for additional administration of the WSC Plan, to pay MWD for Allocation Surcharges assessed to the District, to implement additional demand management measures during an extended water shortage as well as to replenish the Drought Cash Reserve for the District (see Section 5).

In addition to Allocation Surcharges, monetary assessments may be imposed if customers exceed their water budgets during times of water shortage (local or imported).

4.3 Variances

The District may, in writing, grant a temporary variance from any fines, Allocation Surcharges and monetary assessments, or restrictions imposed by the WSC Plan if it is determined that failure to grant such variance would cause an emergency condition adversely affecting the health, sanitation, or fire protection for the public or the person requesting such variance, and under the following conditions, which are consistent with Section 5 of the District's Water Conservation Policy (see Appendix A):.

- Compliance with the WSC Plan cannot be technically accomplished during the duration of a water supply shortage or other condition for which the WSC Plan Shortage Stage is in effect.
- 2. Alternative methods or technology used as part of a District-sanctioned trial or test study can be implemented which will achieve the same level of reduction in water use.
- 3. Doctor-approved health circumstances, illness or injury will be considered on a case-bycase basis.
- 4. No variances will be issued, beginning in Shortage Stage 3a of the WSC Plan, for filling swimming pools, establishing or expanding a landscape area, leaks not repaired within 48 hours, and existing outdoor water budgets.
- 5. Variances will be considered for health and safety issues only in Shortage Stages 4 and 5.

A written variance shall be accepted by the District, and may be denied at the sole discretion of the District.

All variances must be requested in writing anytime after WSC Plan's staged implementation. The following information must be provided:

- Name, contact phone number, service address and customer account number of petitioner;
- 2. Purpose of water use (e.g., domestic, commercial, agriculture);
- 3. Specific provision(s) of the WSC Plan from which the petitioner is requesting relief:
- 4. Detailed statement as to how the provision of the WSC Plan adversely affects the petitioner or what damage or harm will occur;
- 5. Description of the relief requested;
- 6. Period of time for which the variance is sought; and
- 7. Any alternative water use restrictions (e.g., indoor use) that the petitioner is taking or proposes to take to meet the intent of the WSC Plan.

Section 5: Revenue and Rate Impacts

Currently, the District has a Cash Reserve Policy to deal with risk. One element of that reserve policy is a Drought Reserve. The Drought Reserve takes into account changes in the District's water supply operational costs and the reduced revenues from lower water sales. This reserve will be used to minimize any potential rate impacts caused by the implementation of the District's WSC Plan.

Any Allocation Surcharges, monetary assessments and fines collected through non-compliance of the WSC Plan will be partially used to replenish this Drought Reserve, implement additional demand management measures during an extended water shortage, contribute to increased administration costs, and pay for any MWD Allocation Surcharges assessed to the District.



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Section 6: District's Emergency Actions

The Water Code Section 10632 requires actions to be undertaken by the urban water supplier to prepare for, and implement during, a catastrophic interruption of water supplies including, but not limited to, a regional power outage, an earthquake, or other disaster.

The District operates in an area where the probability of an earthquake is high. Depending on the severity, an earthquake may damage the water system. The District's Emergency Response Plan provides a framework for an organized response to an earthquake emergency. The primary objectives of the WSC Plan are to maintain the functionality of the water distribution system, assess the system and if necessary make rapid repair to any damage, and prevent any further damage. The District's response to an earthquake will be directed by the General Manager.

The following are the District Response Phases in the event of an Earthquake:

- Phase I <u>Inspection</u>: A rapid inspection to determine injuries and any damage which might affect the distribution system.
- Phase II <u>Report Back</u>: Emergency communications flow: additional inspection procedures.
- Phase III Repair: Coordination of maintenance forces.
- Phase IV <u>Management Procedures</u>: Key Management responsibilities for the emergency.
- Phase V <u>Operating/Maintenance/Engineering</u>: Outlines procedures for division staff.

Prior to Phase I inspections, system operators and inspectors report to the Emergency Operations Center to receive assigned inspection routes. The Emergency Operations Center creates a communications hub for the District to efficiently manage their available resources. For example, personnel inspecting Vail Dam, wastewater treatment facilities, and wells receive their assignments from and report their findings to the Emergency Operations Center. The Emergency Response Plan contains 10 areas that are inspected with driving directions for specific inspection routes. If inspections reveal damage to any of the areas, the necessary repairs are made. Communications are ongoing at all phases of the response to an earthquake. The District has primary and secondary radio systems to insure communications will be available during an emergency. The Emergency Response Plan also includes an analysis of the potential of an electrical power outage. The District depends on electricity to boost water to higher elevations via pumping stations, although some wells use natural gas as their energy source. In an emergency situation involving a power outage, the District will utilize emergency generators to provide customers with a reliable source of water.

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Section 7: Definitions for WSC Plan

- 1. <u>Acre-foot:</u> a uniform volume of water that will cover one acre (43,560 square feet) to a depth of 1 foot (approximately 325,851 gallons).
- 2. <u>Aesthetic water use:</u> water use for ornamental or decorative purposes including, but not limited to, fountains, reflecting pools and water gardens.
- 3. <u>Agricultural water use:</u> water used for the irrigation and maintenance of both permanent and non-permanent agricultural crops including, but not limited to, avocado, citrus, wine grapes, corn and other products for human consumption or the generation of feed for livestock.
- 4. <u>AG/DOM:</u> agricultural properties that also function as a place of residence (i.e., contain a home and decorative landscaping).
- 5. Allocation Surcharges: a Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) surcharge to disincentivize its member agencies from exceeing their supply allocations under the MWD Water Supply Allocation Plan. The Allocation Surchage is charged over and above the water rates for the use of the water.
- 6. <u>Beneficial water use:</u> the efficient use of water resources for agriculture, commercial, domestic, habitat, industrial or recreation purposes.
- Billing Unit: the unit amount of water used to apply water rates for the purposes of calculating commodity charges for the customer water usage; equal to 100 cubic feet or 748 gallons of water.
- 8. <u>California Friendly® landscaping:</u> defined by Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Be Water Wise Program as a landscape that features low-water using plants, state-of-the-art irrigation and controllers, sustainable landscaping techniques, and maintenance plan. Specific guidelines can be found at www.bewaterwise.com.
- 9. <u>CIMIS:</u> California Irrigation Management Information System; additional information at <u>www.cimis.water.ca.gov</u>.
- 10. <u>Commercial/Institutiona/Industrial (CII) water use:</u> generally defined as water used in businesses producing goods and providing services, or in and school, hospital and government facilities.
- 11. <u>Conservation:</u> those practices, techniques, and technologies that reduce the consumption of water, reduce the loss or waste of water, improve the efficiency in the use of water or increase the recycling and reuse of water so that a supply is conserved and made available for future or alternative uses.
- 12. Conservation Demand Hardening: occurs at the retail water use level as consumers implement more conservation savings devices and programs. Agencies whose customers have implemented conservation savings devices and programs have "harder" demands than those that have not.
- 13. <u>Demand management:</u> water-efficiency measures, practices or incentives implemented by the District to reduce or change the pattern of customer water demand.
- 14. District: Rancho California Water District.

- 15. <u>Domestic (household) water use:</u> water used for outdoor landscape irrigation or recreation and indoor personal needs such as drinking, bathing, heating, cooking, sanitation, or for general cleaning.
- 16. <u>Drought:</u> an extended period of below-normal precipitation that can result in water-supply shortages, increased water demand, or both.
- 17. EMWD: Eastern Municipal Water District.
- 18. <u>Evapotranspiration (ET):</u> water lost from the surface of soils and plants through evaporation and transpiration, respectively.
- 19. Evapotranspiration (ET) rate: the quantity of water transpired from plant tissues and evaporated from the surface of surrounding soil, expressed as a depth of water in inches or feet; where the ET rate is affected by temperature, solar radiation, humidity, wind and soil moisture.
- 20. <u>Hardscape:</u> asphalt, concrete, masonry or wood surfaced areas including streets, parking lots, sidewalks, driveways, patios, and decks.
- 21. <u>Irrigation:</u> the application of water to soil to meet the water needs of crops, turf, shrubbery, gardens, or wildlife food and habitat not satisfied by rainfall.
- 22. <u>Landscape irrigation use:</u> water used for the irrigation and maintenance of landscaped areas, whether publicly or privately owned, including residential and commercial lawns, gardens, golf courses, parks, rights-of-way and medians.
- 23. <u>Monetary assessments:</u> to recover fines imposed on the District by state and federal agencies for mandatory water shortage actions not achieved, and for drought-related costs incurred for measures implemented by the District, such as outreach and new water reduction programs to encourage compliance to achieve the WSC Plan objectives.
- 24. MWD: Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.
- 25. <u>Non-permanent crop:</u> agricultural commodity produced from plants that are removed following harvest and must be replanted to reproduce.
- 26. <u>Non-essential water use:</u> water uses that are not essential nor required for the protection of public, health, safety, and welfare, including:
 - a. Irrigation of landscape areas, including parks, athletic fields, and golf courses, except otherwise provided under this WSC Plan;
 - b. Use of water to wash any motor vehicle, motorbike, boat, trailer, airplane or other equipment or vehicle:
 - c. Use of water to wash down any sidewalks, walkways, driveways, parking lots, tennis courts, or other hard-surfaced areas, unless required by the California Department of Health Services for health and sanitary reasons:
 - d. Use of water to wash down buildings or structures for purposes other than immediate fire protection or hazardous substance remediation;
 - e. Flushing gutters or permitting water to run or accumulate in any gutter, swale or street:
 - f. Use of water to fill, refill, or add to any indoor or outdoor swimming pools or Jacuzzi-type pools used solely for recreational purposes;
 - g. Use of water in a fountain or pond for aesthetic or scenic purposes except where necessary to support aquatic life; and
 - h. Use of water from hydrants for construction purposes or any other purposes other than fire fighting.

- 27. Non-potable water: water not suitable for drinking; which may be recycled water or imported raw water, or a blend of the two.
- 28. <u>Permanent crop:</u> agricultural commodity produced from plants that remain following harvest.
- 29. Potable water: water suitable for drinking.
- 30. Raw water: untreated imported water.
- 31. Recycled water: municipal wastewater that has been treated to meet all applicable federal, state and local standards for use in approved applications, including, but not limited to, agricultural and landscape irrigation. Recycled water is not for human consumption.
- 32. <u>Runoff:</u> Irrigation water (agriculture and landscape) which is not absorbed by the soil to which it is applied and flows from the planted area.
- 33. Water use reduction: the reduction of water used for any purpose.
- 34. WSAP: MWD's Water Supply Allocation Plan.
- 35. Water waste: the use of water that results in water flowing into any gutter, street, sidewalk, swale, or storm drain in a steady stream of flow during the course of a period of five or more continuous minutes or the use of water that results in water pooling in a public street, sidewalk, right-of-way or easement, or water applied to a landscape or agricultural crop in excess of the commonly accepted ET adjustment factor or crop-coefficient.
- 36. WMWD: Western Municipal Water District.
- 37. WSC Plan: Water Shortage Contingency Plan.

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Appendix A Rancho California Water District Water Conservation Policy

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Rancho California Water District WATER CONSERVATION POLICY



Revised June 11, 2015 Revised: March 12, 2015 Revised: August 14, 2014 Adopted May 14, 2009

Prepared in 2009 in Response to Metropolitan Water District of Southern California's Request for Conservation Compliance

> Rancho California Water District 42135 Winchester Road Temecula, California 92592 (951) 296-6900

RCWD Water Conservation Policy

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- 8. Exhibit "A" Residential "Evaluation Check List
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RCWD Water Conservation Policy Section 1. Findings and Declaration of Policy

The Rancho California Water District (District) finds and determines that because of the prevailing conditions in the State it is necessary and appropriate for the District to adopt, implement, and enforce a Water Conservation Policy to ensure sufficient water for human consumption, sanitation, and fire protection. The District further finds the waste or unreasonable use, or unreasonable method of use of water shall be prevented and that water conservation practices shall be encouraged at all times.

In times of drought or water supply cutbacks, provisions of this Policy may be modified in accordance with State of California Regulations, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California's Water Surplus and Drought Management and Water Supply Action Plans, as well as Rancho California Water District's Water Shortage Contingency Plan (WSC Plan). This Policy is in effect at all times and defers updates and implementation strategies, regarding water conditions and supplies to the WSC Plan for timely communications and media outreach when stage alerts are executed.

Section 2.General Provisions

In order to comply with requirements of state legislation and Best Management Practices, it shall be a violation of this Policy at any time to make, cause, or permit the use of water for residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural, governmental, or any other purpose in a manner constituting waste. Customers shall abide by all requirements outlined in the applicable Shortage Stage of the WSC Plan including, but not limited to the following requirements at all times:

- 1. Refrain from hosing down driveways and other hard surfaces, except for health or sanitary reasons.
- 2. Repair faucets, toilets, pipes and other potential sources of water leaks.
- 3. Irrigate landscape only between 6 p.m. and 9 a.m. This provision does not apply when:
 - a. Manually watering during the establishment period of a new landscape;
 - b. Supervised spot watering is done to address landscape issues;
 - c. Temperatures are predicted to fall below freezing;
 - d. Testing/repairing an irrigation system;
 - e. Using drip and point-to-point irrigation systems; and
 - f. A longer watering window is needed due to system constants.
- 4. Adjust and operate all landscape irrigation systems in a mannerthat will maximize irrigation efficiency and avoid over watering or watering of hardscape and the resulting runoff.
- 5. Prevent excessively irrigating any lawn or landscape area that would cause the sheeting of water to flow; eliminate water runoff from lawns or landscape areas into any gutters, streets, or alleys.
- 6. Do not use decorative fountains unless they are equipped with a re-circulating system.
- 7. When installing plumbing fixtures, use low-flow devices, except for those that require high-flow fixtures for health and/or sanitary reasons. Where possible, install

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pool and spa covers to minimize water loss due to evaporation during non-operating days.

8. Do not allow water to run while washing vehicles. Use a hose with an automatic shutoff valve to avoid runoff into gutters, streets or alleys.

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- 9. When installing new landscaping, refer to the Water Use Classification of Landscape Species (WUCOLS). Plant low-water California Friendly® Landscapes. Non-functional turf areas are not recommended. Turf lined channels are only permitted when justified by environmental regulations.
- 10. Refrain from watering during rain, or high winds by turning off irrigation timer.

Section 3. Administrative Fines

All persons in violation of Section 2 General Provisions of this Policy or with excessive runoff that causes water to flow from property into any gutters, streets, or alleys are subject to the following:

- g. For a first violation, the District shall issue a written notice of fact of such violation to the customer. The customer shall then be allowed a period of 10 days following issuance of the written notice to correct the violation described therein before a second violation will be issued.
 - h. For a second violation, the District shall issue a written notice of fact of such violation to the customer. The customer shall then be allowed a period of 10 days following issuance of the written notice to correct the violation described therein before a third violation will be issued.
 - i. For a third violation, the District shall issue a written notice of fact of such violation to the customer when a second violation has not been corrected within a period of 10 days following issuance of the second violation notice. A fine in the amount of \$50.00 shall be added to the customer's water bill upon issuance of a third violation. The customer shall be allowed a period of 5 days following issuance of the written notice to correct the third violation before a fourth violation will be issued.
 - j. For a fourth violation the District shall issue a written notice of fact of such violation to the customer when a third violation has not been corrected within a period of 5 days following issuance of the third violation notice. A fine in the amount of \$100.00 shall be added to the customer's water bill upon issuance of a fourth violation. The customer shall be allowed 5 days following issuance of the written notice to correct the fourth violation before a fifth violation will be issued.
 - k. For a fifth violation the District shall issue a written notice of fact of such violation to the customer when a fourth violation has not been corrected within a period of 5 days following issuance of the fourth violation notice. A fine in the amount of \$200.00 shall be added to the customer's water bill upon issuance of a fourth violation. The customer shall be allowed 5 days following issuance of the written notice to correct the fifth violation before a sixth violation will be issued.
 - I. For a sixth violation, the District shall issue a written notice of fact of such violation to the customer when the fifth violation has not been corrected within a period of 5 days following issuance of the fifth violation notice. A fine of \$500.00 per day shall be added to the customer's water bill following the issuance of the sixth violation notice until the violation is corrected.

Customers shall pay all water bills and fines in accordance with the due dates on their water bills. An Appeals Process is offered to customers that disagree with fines outlined in this section of the Policy. If the appeal is upheld in favor of the customer, appropriate monies will be refunded. Details of the appeals process are included in Section 4 of this Policy.

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The District shall use the revenues derived from the implementation of this section of the Policy for water use efficiency programs and rebates.

Section 4.Appeals Process

Any customer may appeal the imposition of fines of this Policy, by filing a written request with the District Planning Department for an appeals hearing. The District must receive the request within 30 days of the fine notice. A request for a hearing shall set forth, in detail, all facts supporting the request.

The District's Planning Department shall, within 15 days of receiving a request for an appeal hearing provide written notice to the customer of the hearing date, time, and place. The hearing date shall not be more than 30 days from the mailing of such notice by certified mail, unless a later date is agreed to by the customer.

At the hearing, a Planning Department representative will represent the District. The customer will have the opportunity to present information supporting his or her position concerning the required irrigation evaluation or penalty charges. After the hearing, the Planning Department shall deliver a written report to the General Manager setting forth findings of fact, conclusions, and a recommendation on whether to uphold, modify, or reverse the original fines. Upon receipt of the written report, the General Manager shall issue his decision within 15 calendar days of the hearing. The written decision of the General Manager shall be sent to the customer by certified mail. The General Manager's decision shall be final on the 16th day after it is mailed, unless a request for a hearing is filed with the Board of Directors no later than 5:00 p.m. on the 15th day following such mailing.

Any customer may appeal a decision made by the General Manager, prior to the date that the General Manager's order becomes final, by filing a written request for a hearing with the Board of Directors. The request for the Board of Directors' hearing shall set forth in detail all the issues in dispute and all facts supporting the request. No later than 30 days after receipt of the request for a hearing, the Board of Directors shall either set the matter for a hearing, or deny the request for the hearing. Whether to grant or deny a request for a hearing on an appeal to the General Manager's decision shall be within the sole discretion of the Board of Directors.

If required, a hearing shall be held by the Board of Directors within 30 days of the date the request for a hearing was granted, unless a later date is agreed to by the customer and the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall make a determination whether to uphold, modify, or reverse the General Manager's decision. The order of the Board of Directors shall be final upon its adoption. The written decision and order of the Board of Directors shall be sent to the customer by certified mail within 15 days after the close of the hearing.

If the matter is not heard within the required time, due to actions or inactions of the customer or the Board of Director's decision to deny the request for the hearing, the General Manager's decision shall be final.

Section 5. Variance Conditions

A variance may be issued by the District, in writing, to grant a temporary variance for water uses otherwise prohibited under this Policy if it is determined that failure to grant such variance would cause an emergency condition adversely affecting the health, sanitation, or fire protection for the public or the person requesting such variance, and under the following conditions:

- 1. Compliance with this Policy cannot be technically accomplished during the duration of a water supply shortage or other condition for which the Policy is in effect.
- 2. Alternative methods or technology used as part of District sanctioned trial or test study can be implemented which will achieve the same level of reduction in water use.
- Doctor-approved health circumstances, illness or injury will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- 4. No variances will be issued, beginning in Shortage Stage 3a of the WSCP, for filling swimming pools, establishing or expanding a landscape area, leaks not repaired within 48 hours, and existing outdoor water budgets.
- Variances will be considered for health and safety issues only in Shortage Stages 4 and 5.

A written variance shall be accepted by the Planning Department, and may be denied at the sole discretion of the District.

Section 6. Technical Assistance

The District will provide technical assistance to customers who wish to improve water use efficiency. This technical assistance includes the provision of materials a customer can use to perform a self-assessment (See Exhibit "A") and a "Water Use Efficiency Evaluation" (See Exhibit "B") conducted by the District. Customers may request these services by contacting the District directly. Receiving technical assistance from the District does not preclude customers from any fines assessed for violations.

Section 7.Definitions of Terms

Appellant - means the customer appealing a decision of the District for relief from the requirements of this Policy.

Appeal Process - refers to a set of procedures allowing an appellant the opportunity to present facts and details, supporting his or her position concerning fines of this policy.

Best Management Practices – defines the best and most proven water conservation methods for urban water users in California.

Board of Directors - means the Board of Directors of the Rancho California Water District.

California Friendly® Landscapes – refers to landscape that features low-water using plants, state-of-the-art irrigation and controllers, sustainable landscaping techniques/maintenance plan.

Customer - means any person, firm, partnership, association, corporation, or local political entity using water obtained from the water system of Rancho California Water District.

Evaluation Check List – will differ between the residential customer and the commercial customer. The appropriate Evaluation Check List will be provided by District to the customer for the purpose of evaluating the cause of water waste.

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District – refers to Rancho California Water District.

Excessive Runoff - over irrigation of landscaped areas, leaks, or any other type of action that would cause water to flow into any gutter, streets, or alleys.

Non-Functional Turf Areas – (not recommended) a landscape turf area used for aesthetic purposes.

Variance Conditions – refers to a conflict requesting a temporary variation for water use.

Waste - means any unreasonable or non-beneficial use of water, or any unreasonable method of use of water, including, but not limited to, the specific uses prohibited and restricted by this policy as hereinafter set forth.

Water Use Classification of Landscape Species (WUCOLS) – is a guide to help landscape professionals identify irrigation water needs of landscape species. It can be used either for the selection of species or to assist in developing irrigation schedules. It is <u>not</u> intended to be used as a required or approved list by RCWD for selection of plant species – the WUCOLS guide is provided by District upon request.

Water Use Efficiency Evaluation Report – is a standard of site data collections to efficiently evaluate the performance of an irrigation system.

In times of drought or water supply cutbacks, provisions of this Policy may be modified in accordance with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California's Water Surplus and Drought Management Plan and/or Water Supply Allocation Plan, as well as Rancho California Water District's Water Shortage Contingency Plan, or action taken by the Board of Directors.

Exhibit "A" Evaluation Check List

RESIDENTIAL

Name:	PHONE NUMBER:	
Address:		
ACCOUNT NUMBER:		
TOTAL LANDSCAPED AREA IN	SQUARE FEET:	
SYSTEM ON A TIMER: YES	NO BRAND OF TIMER	
TIME OF DAY IRRIGATION RUN	s (s):A.M	P.M.
NUMBER OF TIMES PER DAY:_		
Number of days per week	SYSTEM RUNS:	

CURRENT WATERING SCHEDULE

VALVE	TYPE OF SPRINKLER'S	RUN TIME PER DAY	Turf/ Shrubs	LOCATION
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				
7.				
8.				
9.				
10.				
11.				
12.				

DATE:	
CUSTOMER SIGNATURE:	

Please send copy of the report to:

Bill Stephens Rancho California Water District PO Box 9017 Temecula, Ca. 92589-9017

COMMERCIAL

Exhibit "A.1" Evaluation Check List

Site Name:		Date:		
Inspected by:		Page#		
Water Meter #:				
Controller Identification				
Station Number:				
Plant Material Type				
Sprinkler Type				
Observed Problems:				
Valve Malfunctions				
Low Pressure				
High Pressure				
Titled Sprinklers				
Spray Deflection				
Sunken Sprinklers				
Plugged Equipment				
Arc Misalignment				
Low Sprinkler Drainage				
Leaky Seals or Fittings				
Lateral or Drip Line Leaks				
Missing or Broken Heads				
Slow Drainage or Ponding				
Compaction / Thatch / Roof				
Notes and Comments:				

Please send copy of the report to: Bill Stephens

Rancho California Water District

PO Box 9017

Temecula, Ca. 92589-9017

Exhibit "B" Water Use Efficiency Evaluation Report

Water Use Efficiency Evaluation Report

Irrigation Controller Data

Controller A «brand name and model»

Controller A has «number of » stations with «number» start times and irrigates «number» days a week. The irrigation system has «add features, rain switch ect. » During the evaluation it was noted «give turf distribution uniformity and precipitation rate » «add any special comments »

Controller B «brand name and model»

Controller B has «number of » stations with «number » start times and irrigates «number » days a week. The irrigation system has «add features, rain switch ect. » During the evaluation it was noted «give turf distribution uniformity and precipitation rate » «add any special comments ».

The irrigation system is managed by «name of person » «company name, address and phone # »

Soil Survey

A «# of inches »inch soil core sample was extracted and evaluated. The moisture reading content indicates « indicate saturated, wet or dry »soil, with a root zone depth of «# of inches » inches. Elementary analyses indicate that «add any additional information ». The soil is of various combinations; «give %»% sand, «give %» % silt and «give %» % clay. The soil texture is «indicate soil texture» soil, with an intake rate of «give inches» in/hr.

Landscape Assessment

The total landscaped area was measured and is approximately «show square feet» sq. ft. «show square feet» sq. ft is considered functional turf (a landscaped turf area that serves as a surface for such purposes as playing a sport or gathering for group activities) and «show square feet» sq. ft. non-functional turf (used for aesthetic purposes) which includes trees, shrubs and ground cover. The turfs general appearance is in «indicate good, fair or poor» condition.

Field Observations

Listed are items that require attention and once corrected will help improve water efficiency (copy as needed)

CONTROLLER

Station # 1

Valve run time; Sq. ft. of functional turf;

Sq. ft. of non-functional turf;

Type of sprinklers;

Observations;

Station # 2

Valve run time;

Sq. ft. of functional turf;

Sq. ft. of non-functional turf;

Type of sprinklers;

Observations;

Station #3

Valve run time;

Sq. ft. of functional turf;

Sq. ft. of non-functional turf;

Type of sprinklers;

Observations:

Station # 4

Valve run time;

Sq. ft. of functional turf;

Sq. ft. of non-functional turf;

Type of sprinklers;

Observations;

Station # 5

Valve run time;

Sq. ft. of functional turf;

Sq. ft. of non-functional turf;

Type of sprinklers;

Observations:

Station #6

Valve run time:

Sq. ft. of functional turf;

Sq. ft. of non-functional turf;

Type of sprinklers;

Observations;

CODES

Codes are to be used to identify problems and should be noted in station observations

Hydrozoning; valves not separated by plant water requirements, grass and shrubs code 1 not recommended on same valve. Functional turf. code 2 Non-functional turf. code 3 code 4 Valve malfunctioning; over 30 seconds to close, need to rebuild or replace. Missing sprinkler; causing flooding, loss of water and low pressure. code 5 code 6 Broken sprinkler; causing flooding, loss of water and low pressure. code 7 Plugged equipment; system needs to be flushed, sprinkler nozzles and filters cleaned. code 8 Leaky sprinkler seals; water spraying out of the side of the sprinkler casing. Spray deflection; grass blocking spray pattern, add riser and cut grass around code 9 sprinklers. Spray deflection; shrubs blocking spray pattern, add riser and cut shrubs. code 10 code 11 Sprinkler spacing irregular; spacing of sprinklers not consistent with design layout. Tilted sprinklers; sprinklers not parallel to the soil, causing poor coverage and code 12 erosion. Sunken sprinklers; sprinklers not popping up above foliage, compressed or need code 13 to add riser. code 14 Arc misalignment; over spray, sprinkler spray arc needs adjusted by set screw on sprinkler head. code 15 Mixed nozzles; sprinkler nozzles should be matched. <u>code 16</u> Mixed sprinklers; a common practice to replace broken sprinklers with whatever is handy, this does not make for a uniform distribution system. code 17 High pressure; misting at sprinkler head, adjust by turning down valve, adjusting set screw and check nozzle size.

Cont.

<u>code 18</u>	Low pressure; sprinklers not popping up. Check for line break, or too many sprinkler on one line.
<u>code 19</u>	Too many sprinklers; it appears that too many sprinklers are being runoff of one valve.
code 20	Over spray; sprinklers are over spraying onto hardscape and wasting water, potential hazard.
<u>code 19</u>	Adjustments; poor coverage, sprinklers should reach head-to head coverage (100%) to the next sprinkler, need to adjust.
<u>code 21</u>	Broken pipe; causing flooding, erosion and unsafe conditions.
code 22	Low head drainage; install a check valve on the lowest sprinkler head.
<u>code 23</u>	Brown spots; poor coverage do to
code 24	Water stains on asphalt and side walk, runoff due to over watering or over spray of sprinklers. Over watering can cause root rot and any fertilizer to be washed pass the root zone.
<u>code 25</u>	Convert spray system to drip. This conversion can save up to 75% of water use.
<u>code 26</u>	Drip emitters plugged; clean Y filters every 6 months. Replace plugged emitters
<u>code 27</u>	Add wood chip mulch to exposed soil around plants. This will help to conserve water by holding in moisture and aid in weed control, add about 3"
code 28	Sprinkler(s) not oscillating

Please send copy of the report to:

Bill Stephens Rancho California Water District PO Box 9017 Temecula, Ca. 92589-9017