



CITY OF EL MONTE
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
ENGINEERING DIVISION

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MANDATORY OUTDOOR WATER USE PROHIBITIONS ARE NOW IN EFFECT

August 5, 2015

Dear El Monte Water Customer:

California is experiencing one of the worst droughts in State history. As part of the State's efforts to address the drought, the California State Water Board directed all local water agencies to implement on its customers mandatory restrictions on water use. Accordingly, on August 4, 2015, the El Monte City Council approved the implementation of Phase IV Mandatory Water Conservation Prohibitions. **These prohibitions are now in effect and include:**

1. **Outdoor irrigation of landscape by sprinklers shall be permitted only on Monday and Thursday for those locations having street address with an even last digit. Outdoor irrigation by sprinklers is permitted only on Tuesday and Friday for those locations having a street address with an odd last digit. No outdoor irrigation shall take place between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. No automated irrigation system shall be set for a duration greater than **fifteen (15) minutes** or used in such a manner as to cause any specific landscaped area to be irrigated for a period longer than **fifteen (15) minutes on a particular day**; and**
2. The washing of sidewalks, walkways, driveways, public and private parking areas and other impervious hard surfaced areas by direct hosing when runoff water directly flows to a gutter or storm drain, except as may be necessary to properly dispose of flammable or other dangerous liquids or substances, wash away spills that present a trip and fall hazard, or to prevent or eliminate materials dangerous to the public health and safety is prohibited (nothing in this subsection shall be interpreted to relieve property owners or their tenants of the obligation to keep sidewalks and parkways abutting the subject property in a clean condition, free of solid waste or other refuse or debris); and
3. Excessive runoff of water or unreasonable spray of the areas being watered is prohibited. Every customer is deemed to have his or her water system under control at all times, to know the manner and extent of this water use and any runoff, and to employ available alternatives to apply irrigation water in a reasonably efficient manner; and

4. Allowing, permitting or causing the escape of water through breaks or leaks within the customer's plumbing or private water distribution system for any substantial period of time within which such break or leak should reasonably have been discovered and corrected. It shall be presumed that a period of seventy-two (72) hours after the customer discovers such a break or leak or receives notice from the City of a break or leak, is a reasonable time within which to correct such break or leak, or, at a minimum, to stop the flow of water from such break or leak; and
5. Pools and spas with covers shall be covered when not in use to minimize the loss of water due to evaporation.

The City's enforcement tools will include the posting of "Notice of Violation", the issuance of citations, and the assessment of penalties and fines. Staff will introduce other best management practice as they become available and as water-Conservation efforts expand through-out the state. The immediate action is to provide the required drought conservation information/efforts.