



SACOG Board of Directors/ Regional Managers Joint Meeting

Item #14-3-2 Workshop

March 17, 2014

Common Drought Stage Nomenclature

Issue: Can the region use common drought stage language to encourage conservation activities and consistent public education?

Recommendation: None; this is a workshop item for discussion.

Discussion: Our region faces nearly unprecedented drought conditions and ongoing water policy challenges. Since January, multiple meetings of the city managers and county executives provided an opportunity for regional discussion of how common drought stage nomenclature could enhance public education, participation in conservation activities, and regional advocacy efforts.

SACOG staff worked with the Regional Managers and the staff from multiple jurisdictions to identify common standards applicable to both municipal water providers and charter cities. Five drought standards were identified with examples of water conservation measures that could be incorporated by individual local governments as part of their unique conservation policies and activities.

The presentation will be followed by a discussion among the Regional Managers and the SACOG Board members about future potential actions.

Approved by:

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Chief Executive Officer

MM:RS:gg
Attachment

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Stage	Public Announcement Condition	Recommended Conservation (Water Use Reduction)	Recommended Water Conserving Measures
1 (Basic)	Normal Conditions		Three day per week watering (Note: some cities may choose to identify this as a recommendation and not a requirement).
			Washing hardscape with potable water prohibited (unless for public health and safety).
			Water during cooler morning and evening hours to reduce evaporation.
			Keep water from running off properties when watering landscapes.
			Fix leaks within five days.
			Use a shutoff nozzle on hoses.
			Fix leaks or faulty sprinklers within five working days
			Draining and refilling of swimming pools allowed only to the extent required for health, maintenance or structural considerations.
			Request restaurants to not serve water unless requested.
2	Water Alert	20%	Two day per week residential watering. (Note: some cities may choose to identify this as a recommendation and not a requirement).
			Fix leaks or faulty sprinklers within three working days.
			With the exception of actively programmed sports fields and landscapes irrigated with recycled water, nonresidential watering shall be reduced by 30 percent.
			Golf courses to reduce water consumption by 20 percent unless using recycled water.
			Require restaurants to not serve water unless requested.
3	Water Warning	30%	No residential car washing. Automobiles to be washed at commercial establishments that recycle water.
			One day per week residential watering. (Note: some cities may choose to identify this as a recommendation and not a requirement).
			Fix leaks or faulty sprinklers within two working days.
			Decorative water features drained unless they contain fish.
			With the exception of landscapes irrigated with recycled water, nonresidential irrigation shall be reduced by 50 percent and actively programmed sports fields shall reduce irrigation

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			<p>to 75% of evapotranspiration.</p> <p>With the exception of landscapes irrigated with recycled water, new landscaping is limited to drought tolerant trees, shrubs and groundcover. No new turf or hydroseed.</p> <p>Golf courses reduce water consumption by 30 percent (unless using recycled water.)</p> <p>A construction water use plan must be submitted to the water purveyor which mitigates the impact to existing water users.</p>
4	Water Crisis	40%	<p>Turf shall not be irrigated unless utilizing recycled water.</p> <p>Trees and shrubs may be watered only by drip irrigation or hand watering.</p> <p>Fix leaks or faulty sprinklers within one day.</p> <p>Golf courses reduce water consumption by 40 percent unless using recycled water.</p> <p>With the exception of landscapes irrigated with recycled water, nonresidential irrigation shall be reduced by 75 percent and actively programmed sports fields shall reduce irrigation to 75% of evapotranspiration.</p> <p>New landscaping prohibited unless irrigated through a connection to an active recycled water system.</p>
5	Water Emergency	50%	<p>Landscaping shall not be watered except with recycled water.</p> <p>Filling new or re-filling existing swimming pools with city water is prohibited.</p> <p>Use of construction water is prohibited unless the water comes from a source that does not impact water delivery to existing customers.</p>