

TURN YOUR SPRINKERS DOWN

Californians Don't Waste.



Drought-proofing Your Lawn

- Consider **aerating** your lawn **now!** The best time to aerate warm-season grass such as Bermuda, Zoysia, or St. Augustine is April through June. This allows water, oxygen and nutrients to better penetrate into the soil. Be sure to identify your irrigation lines and flag your sprinkler heads to avoid causing damage during the aeration process.
- Fine tune your irrigation; run the system to check for leakage and proper coverage.
- Switch-up your irrigation cycles: Apply one deep irrigation cycle per week using a 'cycle soak' method. Depending on your soil type, wait 15-30 minutes then apply a second 'cycle soak'. This will push the water deep into the soil increasing the drought tolerance of your turf. *The best time to water your turf is between 2am and 5am.*

Drought Status

The third snow survey of the season on February 27, 2014 revealed a continuation of California's precipitation deficit during the state's third consecutive dry water year (October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2014). The statewide snowpack water equivalent was 6 inches, or only 24 percent of the average for the date. That was an improvement from the previous survey on January 30 that found the snowpack's water content at 12 percent of average for late January.

Although it is difficult to quantify an exact amount of precipitation that would alleviate the current drought conditions, it is highly unlikely given historic patterns of the remainder of the rainy season that the drought will end this water year. There just isn't enough time for precipitation to accumulate at an acceptable rate to alleviate drought conditions or the anticipated impacts to drought-stricken communities. *Source: California Dept. of Water Resources 3/20/14*

In order to conserve the District's water supply for the greatest public benefit and to reduce the quantity of water unnecessarily used by the District's customers, in 2003 the Board of Directors passed an ordinance prohibiting wasteful water use. Below is Section 2, an excerpt from the ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2003-01

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING RULES AND REGULATIONS PROHIBITING WASTEFUL WATER USE AND PROVIDING FOR ENFORCEMENT THEREOF

Section 2. Water Use Prohibitions

The following uses of water are declared to be unreasonable and to constitute waste and are hereby prohibited:

A. Use of water when the customer has been given written notice by the District to repair broken or defective plumbing, sprinkler watering or irrigation systems, and the customer has failed to effect such repairs within 5 calendar days after the District provides notice to the customer.

B. Use of water which results in flooding or runoff in gutters or streets.

C. Use of water for washing cars, buses, boats, trailers, or other vehicles through a hand-held hose, unless the hose is equipped with a nozzle with a positive shutoff valve or other similar device to control the flow of water.

D. Use of water in landscape irrigation which results in runoff into the street or pooling due to super-saturation of the ground.

E. Use of water in non-recirculating decorative fountains.

The District also supports:

- covering heated pools.
- watering the landscape only at night.

