

Drought Response Conservation Program Update

On October 7, 2009, the Vista Irrigation District (VID) Board of Directors held a public hearing and approved amendments to the District's Drought Response Conservation Program, which was originally adopted in 2008. The Drought Response Conservation Program, comprised of four levels, addresses conditions under which water use restrictions are required. The approved changes provide for greater flexibility in administering the program based on required conservation targets and customer efforts in meeting those targets.

One of the key changes allows the number of watering days to remain at three (3) days per week during the upcoming winter months. Under the old Drought Response Conservation Program provisions, watering landscape areas would have been limited to one (1) day per week beginning November 1. Another modification moved restrictions on the operation of ornamental fountains and decorative water features from Level 2, Drought Alert, to Level 3, Drought Critical, and clarified the types of fountains

and water features that may not be operated when a Level 3 condition is declared.

Number of watering days will remain at three during the winter months and operation of ornamental fountains and water features will be allowed during the current Level 2 Drought Alert condition.

"Because of the outstanding conservation efforts by our customers, the Vista Irrigation District does not need to implement more restrictive water conservation measures at this time despite the continuing water shortage," said general manager Roy Coox. "We appreciate all of the hard work and dedication by our customers and are asking them to continue to use water efficiently so we can meet our conservation requirements without increasing water use restrictions."

On June 1, the VID implemented mandatory water conservation measures as set forth in Level 2 of its Drought Response Conservation Program to assist the District with meeting the San Diego County Water Authority's (Water Authority) mandatory water use reduction requirement of 8%. The District must reduce its water demand by 8% for the year ending June 30, 2010 in order to avoid paying penalties to the Water Authority.

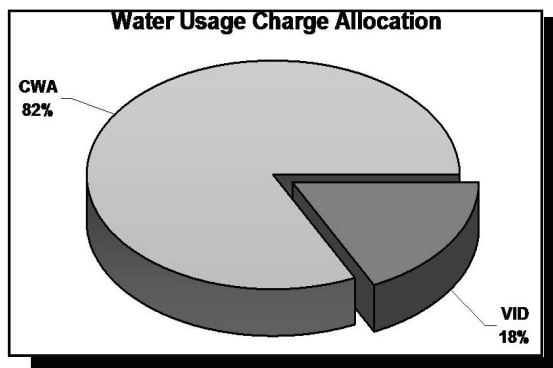
For the 12 months ended September 30, 2009, the District's water conservation was 12%. The District will continue to monitor and report customer conservation performance throughout the year.

The District remains in a Level 2 Drought Alert condition and continues mandatory water conservation measures. A list of Level 2 mandatory water conservation measures is shown on the reverse side of this newsletter. For full text of the Drought Response Conservation Program or more information on mandatory water conservation, please visit www.vid-h2o.org.

Did you know?

Approximately 18% of the revenue generated by water usage charges is utilized by VID to cover operating and maintenance expenses. The remaining 82% is used to pay the San Diego County Water Authority (Water Authority) for water purchases.

The Water Authority is responsible for supplying water to 23 member agencies within San Diego County. Not simply a water provider, the Water Authority is also responsible for the construction and maintenance of regional storage, delivery and treatment infrastructure necessary to ensure the reliable delivery of water to local water agencies like VID.



We Appreciate Your Conservation Efforts!

We want to take this opportunity to thank our customers for their outstanding water conservation efforts. As a result, VID's watering schedule will remain the same (3 assigned days per week) during the upcoming winter months. Odd-numbered addresses may continue to irrigate on Monday, Wednesday and Friday and even-numbered addresses may water on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. For locations with no site address or apartment/condominium complexes with multiple addresses at the same location, please use the last number in your billing address to determine your assigned watering days. We encourage our customers to use water efficiently so we can remain in compliance with our mandatory conservation requirements.



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District's office hours:

Monday through Friday
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Vista Irrigation District,
proudly serving the community
since 1923.

Reflections is published semi-
annually by the Vista Irrigation
District in the interest of keeping
its customers informed. We
welcome your input.

Please address any comments
regarding this publication to the
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Level 2 Drought Alert - Mandatory Water Conservation Measures

1. Do not wash down paved surfaces except for health and safety purposes.
2. Eliminate water waste resulting from inefficient landscape irrigation and run off.
3. Limit landscape irrigation to 3 assigned days per week.
4. Limit lawn water and landscape irrigation using sprinklers to no more than 10 minutes per water station per assigned day. This provision does not apply to landscape irrigation systems using water efficient devices, such as drip/micro irrigation systems and stream rotor sprinklers.
5. Irrigate landscape before 10 a.m. and after 6 p.m.
6. For nurseries and commercial growers, water before 10 a.m. and after 6 p.m.
7. Use re-circulated water to operate ornamental fountains.
8. Wash vehicles with a bucket, a hand-held hose with positive shut-off nozzle, or at a commercial site that re-circulates (reclaims) water on site.
9. Serve and refill water in restaurants and other food service establishments only upon request.
10. Offer guests in hotel, motel and other commercial lodging establishments the option of not laundering towels and linens daily.
11. Repair all water leaks promptly, and within seventy-two (72) hours of notification by VID.
12. Use recycled or non-potable water for construction purposes when available.

Please be aware that non-compliance with the measures required during a Level 2 condition could result in a violation being issued and a fee being added to your water bill.