

New Conservation Requirements For Nipomo Customers

Golden State Water Company (Golden State Water) is implementing Stage 2 of the Staged Mandatory Water Conservation and Rationing (Schedule 14.1) filing for the Nipomo service area, effective December 1, 2016.

Stage 2 of the Staged Mandatory Water Conservation and Rationing filing includes restrictions for outdoor irrigation and assigns allocations for customers in response to the increasing detrimental effects of drought in this region of the state and local water shortage conditions.

This Stage includes the following actions:

- Outdoor irrigation is limited to two days per week, before 8 am or after 7 pm on the specified watering day(s).
 - Even addresses may responsibly water: Monday & Thursday
 - Odd addresses may responsibly water: Tuesday & Friday
- Allocations for each billing period are assigned to customers based on 2013 usage.
- A \$2.50 drought emergency surcharge will be applied to each Ccf over allocation.
- Non-compliance with the restrictions could result in a written warning, installation of a flow restrictor (fees for installation/removal) or termination of water service.

Allocations are determined by subtracting a 36 percent reduction from the customer's usage during same month in 2013. Allocation information has been mailed to all customers and will be included on your water bill. No allocations will be lower than 8 Ccf per month/16 Ccf per bi-monthly, and **customers can appeal their allocation online at www.gswater.com/appeal or by calling our 24-hour Customer Service Center at 800.999.4033 (TTY 877.933.9533).**

Adjustment to higher or lower Stages could occur based on the community's compliance with the current Stage or changes in local water supply conditions (Note: This may not occur in sequential order). Adjustment to another Stage would be preceded by written notification prior to implementation.

While some parts of the state received much-needed relief from dry conditions during the winter and spring months, local water supply levels have continued to decline to alarming levels. The local region is currently at "Exceptional Drought" status, which is the most severe classification of drought.

On June 29, 2016, the Nipomo Mesa Management Area (NMMA) Technical Group declared a Severe Water Shortage Condition for a second consecutive year. This declaration requires neighboring water providers and county agencies across the Nipomo Mesa, including Golden State Water, to reduce groundwater production by 50 percent. As a result, all Golden State Water customers served by local groundwater are called to reduce water usage levels based on a historical average.

This is a critical time when the entire community must significantly reduce our water usage to ensure water supplies will be available for the remainder of 2016 and beyond. We appreciate, in advance, the community's cooperation.

Golden State Water hosted a public meeting in Nipomo on November 3, 2016, to help customers understand this action and provide information on conservation rebates, programs, and other tools offered to help reduce water use.

For additional information about the drought, water restrictions and water-use efficiency resources, please call our 24-hour Customer Service Center at 800.999.4033 (TTY 877.933.9533).