

## Thank You for Your Conservation Efforts; OMWD Meets First Round of State Water Use Targets!

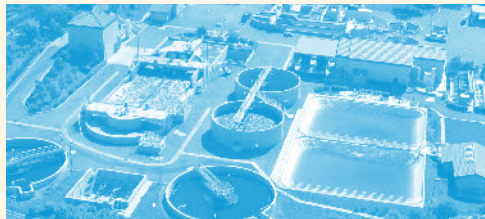
In response to severe drought conditions throughout California, the State Water Resources Control Board mandated that OMWD must reduce its domestic potable water use by 32 percent beginning in June 2015. Though this was a lofty target set by the state, OMWD would like to thank our customers for succeeding in reducing OMWD's potable water use by 32.5 percent in June relative to the same month in 2013! Together, we have taken major steps toward meeting the state-mandated conservation goals, and we must keep up the great work as temperatures continue to remain high through the rest of the summer.

Please note that the 32 percent goal applies to OMWD as a whole, and not to each individual customer. **At this time, allocations for individual OMWD customers are not in effect.**

Compliance with OMWD's mandatory water use restrictions will help to minimize water waste at your home or business. Revised restrictions took effect for all OMWD customers on June 1, 2015. See page 3 for a list of restrictions, and visit [www.olivenhain.com/shortage](http://www.olivenhain.com/shortage) for the latest information about the drought.

## Join Us for the 2015 4S Ranch Water Reclamation Facility Open House

OMWD invites members of the public to a free Water-Wise landscape workshop and tour at its 4S Ranch Water Reclamation Facility on Saturday, August 22 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.



The Water-Wise workshop will instruct attendees on simple methods to reduce outdoor water use and increase irrigation efficiency. Irrigation components will be on hand so that attendees can view the inner workings of the equipment and take part in hands-on exercises. Workshop attendance is free, open to the public, and will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Registration is requested via [www.olivenhain.com/events](http://www.olivenhain.com/events).

Guided tours of the reclamation facility will be provided to demonstrate how OMWD transforms wastewater into recycled water, therefore reducing local demand for costly imported water. Tours will be held at 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m., and will last approximately 45 minutes to one hour.

In addition to the workshop and tours, there will also be food, music, activities for children, and vendor booths for attendees to learn about landscape design and water conservation.

## Fill 'er Up... With Recycled Water

Open house attendees at the 4S Ranch Water Reclamation Facility will also learn first-hand about an exciting new service that OMWD will offer to its customers to help conserve potable water during the drought—a recycled water fill station for residential customer use. The station is located in the 4S Ranch area and is expected to open later this month. It will be open to any OMWD residential customer who has undergone a brief certification process. The recycled water will be provided free of charge and is applicable for non-potable water uses such as landscape irrigation.

Recycled water is wastewater that has received extensive treatment and disinfection. It meets strict standards of the State Water Resources Control Board. The use of recycled water for non-potable purposes is a technique to assist customers in meeting state-mandated regulations to reduce potable water use.

Please stay tuned to our Facebook and Twitter pages or contact us at [watersaver@olivenhain.com](mailto:watersaver@olivenhain.com) for more information as our grand opening grows closer.



Published by Olivenhain Municipal Water District in the interest of an informed public.

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## MISSION STATEMENT

Olivenhain Municipal Water District is a multi-functioning public agency that is dedicated and committed to serving present and future customers in a service-oriented manner by:

### Water

Providing safe, reliable, high-quality drinking water while exceeding all regulatory requirements in a cost-effective and environmentally responsive manner.

### Recycled Water

Providing recycled water and wastewater treatment in the most cost-effective and environmentally responsive method.

### Parks

Safely operating the Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve and providing all users with a unique recreational, educational, and environmental experience.

### Emergency Management

Complying with policies and procedures that adhere to local, state, and federal guidelines for national security and disaster preparedness.

### Sustainable Operations

Pursuing alternative and/or renewable resources with the most sustainable, efficient, and cost-effective approach.



Scan and read this on your tablet or mobile device!



## How You Can Conserve Water During the Drought

California is in a severe drought and we need to efficiently use our most precious resource. Don't waste another minute wasting water. Below are several easy methods through which you can reduce water consumption in and around your home:

- When washing dishes by hand, don't let the water run. Fill one basin with wash water and the other with rinse water. Save 2.5 gallons per minute.
- Run the dishwasher only when full to save water and energy. Save up to 4.5 gallons per load.
- Install aerators on kitchen and bathroom faucets to reduce flows. Save a total of 4.7 gallons per day.
- Plug the sink instead of running the water to rinse your razor. Save up to 300 gallons per month.
- Take five-minute showers instead of 10-minute showers. Save 12.5 gallons with a low-flow showerhead, 25 gallons with a standard showerhead.
- Choose a water-efficient irrigation system such as drip irrigation for your trees, shrubs, and flowers. Save 20-25 gallons each day you water.
- Upgrade to a "smart irrigation controller" that automatically adjusts watering times based on weather conditions. Save up to 40 gallons each day you water.

Household leaks are another common source of water waste. To detect leaks, turn off all water-using fixtures and check your water meter. There should be no flow measured through the meter. Visit [www.olivenhain.com/leaks](http://www.olivenhain.com/leaks) for more information about identifying leaks.

Finally, another great resource for reducing your use is [www.bewaterwise.com](http://www.bewaterwise.com), which offers water saving tips, resources, water-efficient irrigation information, gardening advice, and online classes and rebates.



## Water-Wise Irrigation in Your Neighborhood: It's the Law!

Late last year, California's legislature passed several bills requiring homeowners associations to allow their residents to design and irrigate their landscapes with water use efficiency in mind.

Assembly Bill 2100 prevents homeowner associations (HOAs) from imposing fines or assessments against its members for reducing or eliminating the watering of vegetation or lawns if an emergency has been declared due to drought. This law is currently in effect as Governor Brown declared a statewide drought emergency in 2014.

Assembly Bill 2104 states that HOAs must allow low water-using plants as a replacement for existing turf, and that HOAs must not restrict compliance with water-efficient landscape ordinances.

In addition to reinforcing the provisions of AB 2104, Senate Bill 992 prevents HOAs from receiving fines for using recycled water for landscape irrigation. However, the bill maintains that HOAs using recycled water for irrigation may uphold the fining of residents for reducing watering of vegetation and lawns. This bill also prevents HOAs from requiring pressure washing of external surfaces during a drought emergency.



## OMWD Revised Mandatory Water Use Restrictions *(continued from page 1)*

### PROHIBITED FOR ALL CALIFORNIANS

- Using potable water to irrigate ornamental turf on public street medians
- Using outdoor irrigation during and 48 hours following measurable precipitation
- Using hoses without shut-off nozzles to wash cars
- Runoff on hardscape and in gutters when irrigating with potable water
- Using potable water to wash sidewalks and driveways

### PROHIBITED FOR OMWD CUSTOMERS

- Irrigation between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. unless a hand-held hose equipped with a shut-off nozzle is used
- Not repairing a leak within seventy-two (72) hours
- Irrigation that exceeds a total of 10 minutes per station, per day  
*(This provision does not apply to landscape irrigation systems using water efficient devices, including but not limited to: weather-based controllers, drip/micro-irrigation systems and stream rotor sprinklers.)*

- Irrigation outside of the two assigned days per week  
*(This provision shall not apply to commercial growers or nurseries or to the use of a handheld hose equipped with a shut-off nozzle to water landscaped areas. This provision does not apply to landscape irrigation systems using water efficient devices, including but not limited to: weather-based controllers, drip/micro-irrigation systems and stream rotor sprinklers.)*

*The following irrigation schedule is in effect:*

- Odd-numbered houses may irrigate on Monday and Thursday
- Even-numbered houses may irrigate on Tuesday and Friday
- Multi-family and non-residential accounts may water on Monday and Thursday

If you have witnessed a violation of these restrictions in your neighborhood, please report it to OMWD via [www.olivenhain.com/waste](http://www.olivenhain.com/waste). With your help, we can continue to meet California's conservation targets.



## The Psychology of Water Savings

OMWD has partnered with California State University, San Marcos on a summer program geared toward gaining a better understanding of how to encourage greater water savings among customers.

As part of this program, students from CSUSM will be canvassing neighborhoods throughout the OMWD community with important information on reducing water consumption; these efforts fall into line with the parameters of a study designed by psychology graduate students overseen by Dr. Wesley Schultz, CSUSM Professor of Psychology.



Ideally, this study will provide OMWD and districts throughout the state with important information and data regarding the most effective techniques for reducing water consumption. In the short term, OMWD expects that the efforts of the CSUSM students will raise awareness about the drought and help OMWD meet its conservation target.

For more information about the study, contact CSUSM at 760-750-3022.

## Save the Date!

The Annual Firewise Landscape Workshop will be held Tuesday, September 1, from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. at San Diego Botanic Gardens in Encinitas. This free, joint-agency workshop will be taught by local native plant expert and author, Greg Rubin, and will cover the basic principles of landscape zoning and hydration, with an overview of plant selection, installation, watering, and maintenance to assist attendees in gaining valuable insight on how to protect their homes from one of nature's fiercest predators, fire!



For more information or to RSVP visit [www.olivenhain.com/events](http://www.olivenhain.com/events).

