



CITY OF DALY CITY

News Release

For Immediate Release

May 21, 2015

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Council Adopts Amended Urgency Ordinance to Regulate Local Water Use *Regulations Includes Fines of Up to \$1,000 per Violation*

Daly City, CA – In response to the ongoing severe drought, the City Council on May 11 adopted an urgency ordinance amending outdoor and other water use to conform with emergency drought regulations recently adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board. The Board's regulations call upon urban water suppliers, such as Daly City, to impose mandatory restrictions on outdoor and urban water use consistent with Governor Brown's call for urban water agencies reduce use by 25% statewide.

Daly City's urgency ordinance prohibits non-essential water use to include:

- Washing down driveways and sidewalks
- Watering outdoor landscapes that cause visible runoff
- Using a hose to wash an automobile, unless the hose is fitted with a shut-off nozzle
- Using potable water in non-recirculated ornamental fountains
- Serving of water by eating and drinking establishments unless requested by a customer
- Not providing hotel and motel guests the option of choosing to have towels and linens laundered daily
- Failure to repair indoor and outdoor plumbing fixture leaks within seventy-two (72) hours of notification by the City

In addition, outdoor irrigation is prohibited from the hours of 11:00 am to 6:00 pm and limited to no more than two days per week or during and within 48 hours after measurable rainfall. For

regional consistency, odd and non-numbered addresses are limited to watering Monday and Thursday, even numbered addresses are limited to watering Tuesday and Friday.

City Manager Patricia E. Martel said, “This fourth year of the drought is severe, and Daly City has been tasked by the State to cut its water use by eight percent over 2013. Daly City residents have taken the call to conserve water seriously, and I would encourage them to continue these good habits so not to require imposition of mandated individual household use reductions as done in 1990.”

The Department of Water & Wastewater Resources is responsible for enforcing the new regulations. Initial reports or observations of nonessential water use will result in the posting of a door hanger or courtesy notification. Violations of the ordinance will result in a documented issuance of a written warning notice. If violations continue, then fines starting at \$250 with a maximum of \$1,000 may be issued per violation. The City also retains the option of installing flow restrictors on customers with repeated use violations.

Patrick Sweetland, Director of Water & Wastewater Resources, stated, “The City prefers to educate and inform residents about their nonessential water use. We prefer changing behavior rather than having to use enforcement and fines.”

The City Council remains committed to preserving the region’s drinking water. It is worth noting that since 2004, the North San Mateo County Sanitation District, a subsidiary of the City of Daly City, has operated a Tertiary Recycled Water Facility and delivers recycled irrigation water to the Olympic Club, Lake Merced Golf Club, San Francisco Golf Club and Harding Park golf course, along with Westlake Park and Marchbank Park Athletic Fields and landscaped medians along John Daly and Junipero Serra Boulevards in order to preserve available drinking water supplies.

If residents observe water leaks or have concerns about nonessential water use, please contact the City 24-hours a day at (650) 991-8200. To learn how to conserve water or to review the urgency ordinance, visit the City’s website at www.dalycity.org.

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