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The State of California has mandated by law that Myoma Dunes Mutual Water Company (MDWC) must reduce water use to a level 36% below its 2013 usage. We are committed to working with our customers to meet the state's mandates and protect precious water resources. *You are an important part of the solution!* 

#### HOW SERIOUS IS THE WATER SUPPLY SITUATION IN THE COACHELLA VALLEY?

The Coachella Valley is fortunate to have one of the largest aquifers, or natural underground water reservoirs, in the state. While this high-quality, local water supply means we have the water to meet local demands, we must still abide by all state regulations or face fines.

#### WHAT CONSERVATION BEHAVIORS ARE BEING MANDATED BY CALIFORNIA?

Myoma Dunes Mutual Water Company customers must comply with new emergency state regulations about water use. The following behaviors are **PROHIBITED** by state mandates:

- 1. Washing down sidewalks, driveways and other hardscapes
- 2. Overwatering that causes water runoff from a landscaped area
- 3. Using a hose without an automatic shutoff nozzle to wash a vehicle
- 4. Using a fountain or water feature unless the water is recirculated
- 5. Outdoor irrigation during or within 48 hours after rain

#### HOW HAS MYOMA DUNES MUTUAL WATER COMPANY RESPONDED TO STATE REQUIREMENTS?

The Myoma Dunes Mutual Water Company Board of Directors recently adopted Emergency Conservation Measures in order to comply with the state's required conservation level of 36%. Customers may **only water turf on Monday, Wednesday and Friday before 7 a.m. and after 8 p.m.** 

Customers will be allowed to water other plants before 7 a.m. and after 8 p.m. on any day of the week. Residents who violate the new rules will face the following fines:

First Violation: written warning

Second Violation: \$100 surcharge

Third Violation: \$200 surcharge, plus 15 percent consumptive rate increase

Fourth Violation: \$400 surcharge, plus 25 percent consumptive rate increase

Fifth Violation: \$500 surcharge, and discontinuation of service

Si gustaria obtener esta información en español, por favor contacte nuestas officinas al (760) 772-1967 o viste www.MyomaWater.com

# **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

## Isn't California known for little rain? What makes this drought an emergency?

California is in the fourth year of drought, which makes it one of the most serious water shortages in the state's recorded history. Currently, more than 93 percent of the state is facing severe drought conditions or worse. The drought impacts more than 37 million Californians, and there are no signs of relief in sight. In fact, the Sierra Nevada snowpack, which usually melts slowly over the summer to provide more than a third of the state's drinking water, is at about 6 percent of its historical average.

## How much water is MDWC supposed to conserve and how soon?

This is the first mandatory water restriction in the state's history. The State Water Board's mandate requires MDWC to reduce total water use by 36 percent of 2013 use, immediately. MDWC will be required to report water use monthly starting June 1. The restrictions are set to expire in March 2016, but may be extended if the drought conditions endure.

## What do these restrictions mean for me?

The best way to achieve a 36 percent reduction in water use is for all customers to use water efficiently, and to make significant reductions to the amount of water they use outside their homes. MDWC has provided each customer with their 2013 water usage information. Use this information to compare your current water use.

## What if I am already conserving?

All conservation efforts already in use by Customers are greatly appreciated. However, turf is the largest consumer of our precious water. MDWC is confident that if everyone only waters turf on Monday, Wednesday and Friday before 7 a.m. and after 8 p.m. and waters other plants before 7 a.m. and after 8 p.m. on any day of the week the goal of 36% reduction will be reached.

## Why are we reducing use while Bermuda Dunes Country Club uses so much water?

Myoma Dunes Mutual Water Company only provides drinking water to the Bermuda Dunes clubhouse. The golf course has its own wells for irrigation – its water use does not impact the usage numbers we report to the state. The state will be working with the golf course directly to ensure that it reduces water use.

# When will the new regulations go into effect?

All regulations went into effect immediately. The state is requiring regular monitoring and reporting of water consumption to measure mandated water reductions from now until March of 2016.

#### Why are we being fined for water use?

The state has the authority to fine water providers up to \$10,000 per day for not meeting conservation requirements, and has authorized water providers to issue fines of up to \$500 per day to curb water-wasting behavior. MDWC does not want to issue fines; our goal will be to educate our customers to solve problems before resorting to fines. Only those who refuse to change their behavior will be fined.

#### How can I save more water?

Your involvement in protecting our area's water supply is critical. Because the average Southern California home uses 70 percent of water outside, limiting landscape watering is the most effective way to reduce water use quickly. Removing turf and replacing it with drought tolerant landscaping, upgrading to water-efficient appliances, and checking your home for leaks are just a few ways you can help the collaborative conservation effort. Myoma Dunes Mutual Water Company wants to be your partner in this effort by providing customers with the tools and information needed to comply with the new rules. Please call our office with questions or concerns at **760-772-1967**.