



**NORTH MARIN
WATER DISTRICT**

THE WATER LINE

NOVATO'S WATER CONSERVATION NEWSLETTER • VOLUME 17 ISSUE 36 SPRING 2016

California Drought Continues

Regional Water Supply Adequate Revised State Water Conservation Regulations for 2016

Novato water customers have done a great job conserving during the State imposed mandatory water use restrictions. Water production to date since June 2015 is down 33% compared to the same period in 2013, while the State target for Novato is 24%. **Thanks for doing your part!** NMWD asks that you remain diligent in conserving water, as the State prohibitions continue through January 2017.

This year, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) revised the Emergency Water Conservation Regulations to allow water utilities to self-certify the adequacy of their supply and determine the service area specific level of reduction needed. NMWD has determined that no reduction is needed for the remainder of 2016, through January 2017. The revised state regulations still include water use prohibitions. These "common sense" prohibitions are summarized below and the full range of prohibitions can be found at www.nmwd.com.

Understanding your water use patterns is the first step in becoming more water-use efficient. You can see your water use history for your account at www.nmwd.com. Select the "Your Account" tab and click on "Account Balance & Consumption". We appreciate your help in preserving our water supply! Please pay attention to water use, especially outside. NMWD strongly encourages participation in the water conservation programs offered.

Important information regarding the water meter

The water meter, meter box and the shut-off valve and fittings within the meter box are the property and responsibility of NMWD to maintain. The meter shut-off valve can be damaged if improperly operated. We receive 2-3 calls per week from customers who inadvertently damage their water meter shut-off valve. If you need your water turned off, use the house valve, which is usually located near the hose-bib at the front of your home. If you need your water turned off at the meter, call 415.897.4133 at any time, day or night, and a service rep will be dispatched at no charge. If you or your agent damage the meter box components, it will be repaired at your expense. Save the grief – call NMWD.

NMWD is evaluating an Advanced Meter Information (AMI) system to improve meter reading accuracy, efficiency and customer service. A pilot program is anticipated for this summer to aid in the evaluation. With AMI, digital meter data is sent securely to NMWD headquarters by a radio or cellular signal. The AMI system will provide early leak identification and enable customers to view near real-time water use information.

Recycled Water is Expanding in the Central Area

NMWD is working on an expansion of the recycled water system into the Central Service Area of Novato. This expansion will extend from Novato Sanitary District's Davidson Plant to the Marin Country Club, serving approximately 40 large landscape customers along the way. Construction is expected to begin this summer and should be completed by the end of 2017.

For more information on the Recycled Water Expansion Project, please visit www.nmwd.com.

Summary of Water Use Prohibitions for 2016

Water Waste and Essential Prohibitions

- ◆ Gutter flooding (unreasonable irrigation overspray or irrigation run-off onto pavement, down a gutter, ditch or other drain).
- ◆ Failure to repair a controllable leak of water within a reasonable time.
- ◆ Using water for non-recycling decorative fountains or single-pass cooling systems.
- ◆ Washing privately-owned motor vehicles, trailers and boats except from a bucket and hose equipped with an automatic shut-off nozzle for a quick rinse.
- ◆ Washing down exterior paved areas.
- ◆ Overhead sprinkler irrigation cannot be used within 48 hours of measured rainfall
- ◆ Serving of drinking water other than upon request in eating or drinking establishments, including but not limited to restaurants, hotels, cafes, cafeterias, bars, or other public places where food or drink are served and/or purchased.
- ◆ Hotels and motels must provide guests the option not to have towels and linens laundered daily.

For questions on the water use prohibitions call 415-761-8944 or email waterconserve@nmwd.com

Thank You For Using Water Efficiently During the Drought

Participate in NMWD's Water Conservation Programs

Cash for Grass

NMWD offers a cash incentive for removing regularly maintained and automatically irrigated lawn areas and replacing them with low water use plantings on drip irrigation. The incentive will pay you up to \$50 per 100 square feet of lawn area (maximum \$400 per single family dwelling). Pre-qualification site visit and re-landscaping plan approval is required for participation.



OR

Lawn Be Gone

This program is for "do-it-yourselfers" who want to replace lawn areas by covering and composting in place - a process known as "sheet-mulching". NMWD offers delivery of free compost, cardboard and mulch for eligible sheet-mulching projects. Pre-qualification site visit and landscape plan approval required prior to participation. Delivery will be performed by NMWD's designated contractor.



See www.nmwd.com for rules and application forms, and then call 415-761-8944 to schedule an appointment.

Water Smart Savings Program

Call (415) 761-8944 for program details or visit www.nmwd.com

North Marin Water District wants to help customers use water efficiently. That's why we've put all of our water saving promotions under one umbrella. The Water Smart Savings Program encompasses all you need to get started on saving water and saving money. Call (415) 761-8944 for program details or visit www.nmwd.com

Water Smart Home Survey:

This free service includes thorough indoor and outdoor water efficiency checks.

Water Conserving Fixtures:

Free showerheads, faucet aerators and self-closing hose nozzles are available upon request.

Rainwater Catchment Rebate:

Rebate for collection and storage of rainwater.

High Efficiency Clothes Washer Rebate:

NMWD offers a rebate to customers when they purchase a qualifying high efficiency clothes washer.

Cash for Grass Rebate:

Get Cash for removing irrigated and maintained lawn and replacing it with low water use plants. Pre-qualification required.

Water Smart Landscape Rebate:

Rebates available for water efficient landscape equipment, like a new drip irrigation system replacing a spray system or a rain shut off device

Smart Controller Rebate:

A Smart Controller uses weather data and site specific information to automatically adjust run times.

High Efficiency Toilet Rebate:

Customers who replace an old water-guzzling toilet with a high efficiency toilet may be eligible for a rebate.

Greywater Rebate:

Rebate for the reuse of water from washing machine, shower or bathroom sink to water landscape plants.

Other Programs:

Other programs include pool cover rebate, hot water recirculation system rebate and "Lawn Be Gone" sheet mulching program.



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www.nmwd.com

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Call today to schedule your Free Water Smart Home Survey: 707-547-1909

On the Survey we will inspect:

- Sprinklers & irrigation systems
- Flow and leaks
- Landscaping
- Water meter
- Faucets
- Showerheads
- Toilets
- Clothes washers
- Other water-using devices in the home

The Water Smart Home Survey Program offers customers a chance to have a NMWD representative complete a FREE water use efficiency survey. Our friendly and knowledgeable survey technicians can show you how to easily become more water use efficient and save money, and we can even help you understand how to program your irrigation controller. You'll also get free low-flow showerheads and sink aerators as needed to achieve maximum water use efficiency.

Free Water Smart Home Survey Program

