



THE WATER LINE

NOVATO'S WATER CONSERVATION NEWSLETTER • VOLUME 8 ISSUE 18 FALL 2007

Russian River Water Use Reduced By 25%

Thank you! In response to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) mandated reduction in Russian River water diversions this summer, NMWD enacted an Emergency Water Conservation Ordinance and asked customers to reduce their summer water use. Novato customers responded admirably and were successful in reducing summer water consumption by 15% from July 1 through October 28. Novato customers assisted the Sonoma County Water Agency to comply with the SWRCB order.

Additionally this summer, NMWD fully utilized the Stafford Treatment Plant local supply and began recycled water delivery to Stone Tree Golf Course which enabled NMWD Russian River water deliveries to be reduced by 25% compared to 2004 deliveries during the same summer period (SWRCB chose 2004 as the metric for measuring Russian River water diversion reductions). As a region, Russian River water diversions, serving water users from Windsor to Sausalito, were reduced by 22% compared to 2004. This was accomplished through increased water conservation and use of local supplies and recycled water.

Thanks again for all your efforts! As a result there is now sufficient water stored in Lake Mendocino for release into the Russian River this fall as the Chinook salmon begin their migration and spawning. We are hopeful this will ensure a healthy population of Chinook salmon in future years. (To see current Russian River Salmon migration information go to www.sonomacountywater.org.)

Even though the state mandated period for reduced Russian River diversions has ended and NMWD's Emergency Water Conservation Ordinance has sunset, customers are asked to continue conserving water. **Fall is the time to turn off your outdoor irrigation**, make necessary irrigation system upgrades or

repairs and plant new drought tolerant landscaping so it is established for next year's growing season.

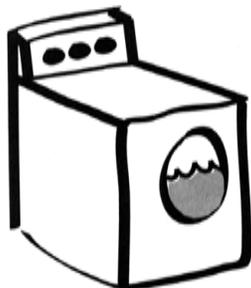
We don't know what this winter's weather patterns will bring in rainfall and although we hope that summer water restrictions will be avoided next year, we must prepare now should dry year conditions occur again. Customers are encouraged to participate in our water conservation programs outlined in this edition of the *Water Line*.



Novato Water – It's Worth Saving!

WIN A HIGH-EFFICIENCY WASHING MACHINE!

ENTER TO WIN. NMWD is giving away a FREE water- and energy-efficient clothes washing machine to recognize customer water conservation efforts. This High Efficiency Washer can **save up to 50% of water and 65% of energy** when compared to conventional top-loading washing machines. The winner will be selected from eligible entries. Please include all information requested on the entry form at right. NMWD customers only. Entries must be received by May 16, 2008. Drawing will be held at the Board of Directors meeting, May 20, 2008. Washer discounted by Standards of Excellence.



WIN a High-Efficiency Washing Machine!

Customer Name _____
Date _____
Address _____
Phone _____
Customer No. _____
(from your water bill)

Questions? Call 897-4133 ext. 8421
Clip & mail to: North Marin Water District,
P.O. Box 146, Novato, CA 94948

Menu Of Water Conservation Programs

~ Outdoor Programs ~

“Water Smart” Home Survey Program

Water use surveys free to all residential customers. Includes an indoor plumbing fixture efficiency check, landscape irrigation efficiency test and leak detection tests.

“WaterLine” Newsletter

Mailed to customers in spring and fall. Spring issue has each individual customer’s chart of water use compared to typical for the prior year.

Cash-For-Grass

Rebate program for removing regularly-mowed and automatically irrigated lawn and replacing with eligible low water use California native plant material. Pre- and post-inspections are required.

Swimming Pool Cover Rebate

Rebate available (\$50) for purchase of a swimming pool cover. Covers must be a solar or safety cover, with non-netted material, 12 mil in thickness, and at least 450 sq. ft

Mulch/Irrigation Incentive

Cash-for-Grass participants are eligible for rebates of 25% of mulch purchases (up to \$100).

Demonstration Garden

Water-conserving demonstration garden at NMWD headquarters for customers to visit and learn about different low water use plant material.

New Residential Construction Landscape Requirements

No more than 800 square feet of turf, and non-turf areas must be irrigated with a drip system and mulched. No turf strips less than 7 feet wide are allowed, and weather-based irrigation controllers must be installed.

Smart Irrigation Controller Rebate

Rebates available for District-approved, weather-based irrigation controllers (up to \$450).

~ Indoor Programs ~

Toilet Rebates

Rebates for replacement of all older non-conserving toilets with High-Efficiency Toilets (HET). \$150 rebate for toilets on qualified District list. Older toilets must be pre-inspected and recycled. HETs use 20% less water than standard ultra low flush toilets.

Screwdriver Maintenance

Free leak detection tablets, showerheads and sink aerators.

Flapper Rebates

Rebates for purchase of new toilet flappers (up to \$5).

Plumbing Fixture Replacement Upon Change of Ownership

Also known as “Retrofit on Resale.” Upon change of dwelling ownership, seller must certify that all toilets, showerheads and sink aerators meet current water conservation standards (can synchronize with Toilet [HET] Rebate Program).

High-Efficiency Washing Machine Program

Rebate program for existing residential customer purchase of qualified, high-efficiency clothes washing machines (\$100 – \$150).

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