

Manager's Column

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I HOPE 'THEY' ARE RIGHT, BUT LET'S REMAIN DILIGENT IN CASE THEY ARE NOT!

The mission of the Nipomo Community Services District is to provide its customers with reliable, quality, and cost-effective services now and in the future.

Many a weather forecaster is predicting a 'monster' of a wet winter for 2015-2016. I recall similarly hopeful predictions last fall, and while December 2014 was wet, the year as a whole ended up being one of the driest on record.

District customers are doing an OUTSTANDING job conserving water. Our water production in July was 37% lower than in July 2013. Thanks to the importation of supplemental water, our groundwater production in July was 56% lower than our five year average for the month.

Customers must remain diligent on conservation until we are sure this current drought is behind us. Once winter rains begin in earnest (hopefully they will), turn all outdoor irrigation off completely. Next spring, regardless the amount of winter rains, initiate irrigation with conservation in mind and at minimum levels. By June 2016, we will get our first reading on groundwater basin health.

If we do get a nice, wet winter it will be a perfect time to convert water-loving turf/lawn area to drought tolerant plants. The State has recently made \$30 million dollars in rebates available to offset residents cost of replacing old toilets and turf. The rebate program is being administered by the State. Visit www.SaveOurWaterRebates.com for more information and to apply for a rebate.

What have YOU DONE to conserve? If you have cut your water use, we want to hear from you! Additionally, if you have converted your landscape to native, drought-tolerant plants, we want to hear from you. You may be featured in upcoming District communications. Contact the District at info@ncsd.ca.gov.

Until next time... Michael S. LeBrun, General Manager, info@ncsd.ca.gov

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