

Contact us at **805-929-1133** | [www.ncsd.ca.gov](http://www.ncsd.ca.gov) | [info@ncsd.ca.gov](mailto:info@ncsd.ca.gov)



148 S. Wilson Ave.  
PO Box 326  
Nipomo, CA 93444

## NIPOMO COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

### ELECTED BOARD

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**Ed Eby**, *Vice President*  
**Bob Blair**, *Director*  
**Craig Armstrong**, *Director*  
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# Nipomo Community Services District

AUGUST 2017

Important Information from Nipomo Community Services District • Issue 18

## Nipomo Water Shortage Continues

Make water conservation a California way of life

In July, the District's Board of Directors heard a presentation from consulting geo-hydrologist, Dr. Brad Newton, regarding Nipomo groundwater levels and reviewed the District's Water Shortage Response and Management Plan (WSRMP). After public comment and discussion, the Board concluded the District will remain in Stage IV in accordance with its WSRMP. The Board directed staff to continue enforcing current actions and not impose additional Stage IV actions. Given the Board's decision, the District is still not accepting new applications for water service.

The Water Shortage Response and Management Plan is based on five escalating stages of drought. In Stages III through V, there are targeted reductions in water use designed to protect long-term groundwater supplies. Stage IV represents Severe Water Shortage Conditions and sets a goal of reducing District's groundwater pumping by 50%.

Though the central coast received an above-average amount of rain over the recent winter, Nipomo's groundwater supply did not improve to a level sufficient to lift it out of Stage IV of the Water Shortage Response and Management Plan.

The drought continues to affect our community. With last winter's above-average rainfall, much of the State has declared an end to the drought. However, the Nipomo Mesa groundwater basin is slow to respond to rain-water runoff, leaving water levels in a severe condition.

The District thanks customers for their conservation efforts. Their efforts along with supplemental water from the City of Santa Maria allowed the District to see a 51% reduction in groundwater pumping from July 2016 to June 2017. The District is working with neighboring water agencies to encourage all residents to continue helping protect Nipomo's water supply by using water wisely.

For more information about Nipomo's water supply, conservation programs and other water related issues, please visit the District's website at [www.ncsd.ca.gov](http://www.ncsd.ca.gov).

### Our Website Has Resources for You

#### CONSERVATION TIPS

The District's website provides tips on how to reduce water use at home. Visit [www.ncsd.ca.gov](http://www.ncsd.ca.gov) and click on the "Conservation" quick link in the upper right of the home page.

#### SIGN UP FOR NEWS AND ALERTS

Sign up on our website to receive meeting, news, and emergency notifications from the District.

#### YOU CAN ALSO CALL OR EMAIL ANY TIME

As always, if you have any questions, concerns, or feedback, we want to hear from you. Feel free to contact us at [info@ncsd.ca.gov](mailto:info@ncsd.ca.gov) or at 805-929-1133.

### USE WATER WISELY

Make Water Conservation a California Way of Life



Go to: [www.ncsd.ca.gov](http://www.ncsd.ca.gov)

Connect with us:   /NipomoCSD

Nipomo Community Services District

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# Make Water Conservation a California Way of Life

## Conservation Update

The District's conservation efforts remain steady.

In July, the District produced 211 acre feet or about 68 Million gallons of water to meet customer demand. This equates to a 25.2% reduction in overall production compared to July 2013. Additionally, thanks to the arrival of supplemental water in July 2015, groundwater pumping during July was 47.2% lower than the 5-year average for July, just missing the Stage IV 50% pumping reduction target\* due to peak water use season. It is expected that the 50% annual pumping reduction will be reached for the year.

*\*In April, the Governor lifted the State-mandated reduction targets. The District continues to be in a Stage IV water shortage in accordance with the Water Shortage Response and Management Plan.*

## Water Saver 'Star'

Many residents are doing their part to use water wisely. For this newsletter issue, the District is featuring Mr. Wells on N Mallagh Street.

Mr. Wells uses rain barrels and a home-built greywater system which recycles his kitchen and laundry water for use on his landscaping and other household water needs. In addition, Mr. Wells converted his landscaping to drought tolerant.

Mr. Wells's water wise efforts have allowed him to use well under the average of 25 units per two-month billing cycle. Below are photos of the rain barrels and home-built greywater system as well as the home's drought-tolerant landscaping.

As always, saving water saves money! Visit the District's website at [www.ncsd.ca.gov](http://www.ncsd.ca.gov) for tips.



Share how you use water wisely by contacting the District at [info@ncsd.ca.gov](mailto:info@ncsd.ca.gov)

## Changes to the Water Rate Structure Proposed



The 2017 Water Rate Study is currently underway. Rate studies are conducted to assess the current and projected financial 'fitness' of the District's various independent funds. The water fund, which all District water customers support through rates, is being evaluated and changes to the rate structure are proposed. The District's last rate structure evaluation and rate study was adopted in September 2010. The last water rate increase became effective on November 1, 2015 and was based on the 2010 5-year rate study.

The District depends upon water user fees to fund operating and maintenance costs, to rehabilitate and replace equipment and infrastructure for the water distribution system, and to purchase supplemental water. The District is fully committed to serving existing and future generations of residents in the most efficient manner possible, while protecting both public health and the environment.

The proposed rates would eliminate tiered rates and, instead, impose a uniform rate per unit used. The rate per unit would be the same for all users. Additionally, the proposed rates would eliminate the separate Supplemental Water rates. These rates would be included in the bimonthly rates. The table below provides examples of bi-monthly single-family residential bills that are expected as a result of implementing the proposed Water Rate increase.

		Single-family Residential							
		Current Bill			Proposed December 1, 2017 Bill				
Description	Use (HCF)	Service Charge	Volume Charge	Current Bill	Service Charge	Volume Charge	Proposed Bill	Dollar Difference	Percent Change
	0	\$58.12	\$0.00	\$58.12	\$42.51	\$0.00	\$42.51	(\$15.61)	-26.9%
Very Low	5	\$58.12	\$17.00	\$75.12	\$42.51	\$24.85	\$67.36	(\$7.76)	-10.3%
Low	10	\$58.12	\$34.00	\$92.12	\$42.51	\$49.70	\$92.21	\$0.09	0.1%
Median	19	\$58.12	\$64.60	\$122.72	\$42.51	\$94.43	\$136.94	\$14.22	11.6%
Average	25	\$58.12	\$85.58	\$143.70	\$42.51	\$124.25	\$166.76	\$23.06	16.0%
High	40	\$58.12	\$145.28	\$203.40	\$42.51	\$198.80	\$241.31	\$37.91	18.6%
Very High	50	\$58.12	\$196.98	\$255.10	\$42.51	\$248.50	\$291.01	\$35.91	14.1%

Public workshops were held in August and the Notice of Public Hearing was mailed to owners of record with instructions on how to protest. The Public Hearing to consider adopting the rates is scheduled for October 11th at 9 AM. If adopted, the rates will go into effect December 1, 2017. The report can be viewed on the District's website at [www.ncsd.ca.gov](http://www.ncsd.ca.gov).

### Answers to Frequently Asked Questions

**Is e-mail billing available?**  
 Yes. The District can now e-mail a bill to owners or property management. Contact the District, if interested. (Paper bills still available).

**How can I pay my utility bill?**

- Pay in person at the District office during regular business hours (M-F 8 AM - 4:30 PM, 148 S Wilson St, Nipomo)
- Mail a check or money order to NCS D, P.O. Box 326, Nipomo, CA 93444 (Note: postmarks are not accepted)
- Drop a check or money order in the green drop box located in the driveway at 148 S Wilson St, Nipomo
- Pay online by visiting [www.ncsd.ca.gov](http://www.ncsd.ca.gov) (Note: Official Payments processes the payments on the District's behalf and charges a \$3.95 convenience fee per transaction)
- Sign up for Auto Pay with the District
- Use your bank's online bill-pay service