

Manager's Column

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**State of Emergency; California's newly adopted Mandatory Water Conservation Regulation –  
How the District is Handling Reduction Efforts**

*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.*

There's a lot of news out there regarding what different water agencies are doing to conserve water, especially after the State of California Water Resources Control Board approved emergency conservation regulation on July 15<sup>th</sup>.

Though the District has not mandated customers to reduce use at this time, the Board of Directors is urging all customers to voluntarily reduce their water use with the goal of achieving a 30% reduction in District groundwater pumping. The District is actively educating customers regarding water conservation and has put together a Water Shortage Response Plan as well as a "Reduce Your Use" conservation campaign. Over the next several months you will see more conservation messages throughout Nipomo.

A media release from the State reports "With this regulation, all Californians will be expected to stop: washing down driveways and sidewalks; watering of outdoor landscapes that cause excess runoff; using a hose to wash a motor vehicle, unless the hose is fitted with a shut-off nozzle, and using potable water in a fountain or decorative water feature, unless the water is recirculated. The regulation makes an exception for health and safety circumstances." The District's website has more information on this State regulation.

The largest water consumption is outside where landscaping is excessively being watered. You can see some significant water savings if you cut down your irrigation or turn it off all together as we get through this period of drought.

This past June, the District pumped nearly 74 Million gallons of groundwater to meet customer demand. This is a 13.6% improvement (reduction) compared to the five year average for June. Many water districts are seeing increased demand for water due to drought conditions – so we are doing good work overall on conservation but work still needs to be done in order to reach 30% reduction. Let's keep up the good work.

Thank you to those who have already been reducing use. If we all do our part, we can prevent damage to our aquifer during this extended drought and stay in compliance with State regulation.

The District's website provides helpful tips on how to reduce use both inside and outside. Visit us at [www.ncsd.ca.gov](http://www.ncsd.ca.gov). 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).

Until next time...

Michael S. LeBrun, General Manager