



El Toro Water District

"A District of Distinction"
Serving the Public, Respecting the Environment

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 19, 2015

CONTACT: Sherri Seitz
949-837-7050 x 239

Looking for ways to save water and money?

Visit El Toro Water District's new and improved website, **ETWD.com**

Site provides latest State regulation information, plus details on rebates, watering schedules and bills

LAKE FOREST, California – You know you need to save water. But how?

To help customers answer that question, El Toro Water District has unveiled a makeover of its website, **ETWD.com**.

"With the drought continuing and state conservation rules in place, saving water needs to be front and center in our customers' minds," said Bob Hill, General Manager. "So we have moved water conservation front and center on our site."

On the new home page of **www.ETWD.com**, customers will find prominent links to the following:

- **The latest information on the drought.** Watch that spot, in a prominent new photo rotator on the home page. ETWD will use it to communicate the effects of the drought on its customers. Failure to conserve could cause a customer's monthly bill to increase.
- **Money-saving rebates.** The site outlines how residents and businesses can save hundreds of dollars by removing turf or buying and installing water-saving devices such as high-efficiency washers, low-flush toilets, smart irrigation timers and rain barrels.
- **A city-by-city watering schedule.** This time of year, residents may water only three days a week before 10 a.m. and after 5 p.m. That will drop to two days a week if a Level 2 water shortage is declared.
- **A form for reporting water waste.** Things like broken sprinkler heads or sprinklers running in the rain.
- **Information about your bill.** How to pay online. And how to understand your bill and read your water meter to ensure you are conserving water and paying the lowest rates.



California has entered its fourth straight year of severe drought, with no relief in sight. April 1, Gov. Jerry Brown ordered statewide mandatory water reductions for the first time in California's history. The mandate calls for an average 25% reduction in water use (compared to 2013 levels) throughout the state. ETWD's reduction has been set at 24% beginning June 1. ETWD directors and staff are developing a plan to reach the target, and will communicate it to customers.

For now, customers must follow mandatory conservation measures put in place by the state:

- Do not hose or wash down sidewalks, driveways or other pavement.
- Don't run your hose while washing your vehicle. Use a bucket or a shutoff nozzle. Or patronize a local carwash that uses recycled water.
- Water no more than three days a week.
- Don't water when it's raining or for 48 hours afterward.
- Fountains and water features must recirculate water.
- Fix breaks or malfunctions in irrigation lines within five days.
- And don't allow runoff onto hardscapes.

#

The El Toro Water District is a District of Distinction accredited by the Special District Leadership Foundation because of its commitment to good governance and to ethical and sound operating practices. ETWD provides full service potable water, wastewater and recycled water for use across portions of the cities of Aliso Viejo, Lake Forest, Laguna Hills and Mission Viejo and the entire city of Laguna Woods.