



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ETWD Encourages Continued Conservation During the Shutdown of a Major Water Supply Pipeline

The Allen-McColloch Pipeline, a regional water line serving communities from Yorba Linda to San Clemente, will be shut-down for eight days for repairs.

Lake Forest, CA – El Toro Water District (ETWD) is encouraging customers to continue efficient water use and thoughtful conservation during an eight-day shutdown of the Allen-McColloch Pipeline. Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, the regional supplier of our imported water, will shut down the 26 mile pipeline from June 8 to 15 for necessary repairs.

“The effected south Orange County water agencies have already met about the shutdown and we are coordinating resources such as local storage and interconnections to ensure that there are no interruptions in service during the shutdown,” shares Bob Hill, General Manager of El Toro Water District.

El Toro Water District will rely primarily on the District’s Regional El Toro Reservoir to continue to provide ample water supply to customers, and to provide water to other water agencies in the area. The reservoir was regionalized and expanded in 2002 to increase ETWD’s storage capacity, and to allow neighboring water districts to more easily meet their emergency storage requirements. The reservoir is shared with Santa Margarita Water District and Moulton Niguel Water District.

The El Toro Reservoir serves more than 300,000 customers in the cities of Laguna Woods, Laguna Hills, Lake Forest, Mission Viejo, Aliso Viejo, Laguna Niguel, Dana Point, Rancho Santa Margarita, Ladera Ranch, Las Flores, San Juan Capistrano and San Clemente.

Typically, routine pipeline repairs such as this one are scheduled during the winter months when the demand for water is lower due to cooler temperatures. However, a recent inspection of the Allen-McColloch Pipeline revealed a number of repairs that are in need of attention now.

“By and large, south Orange County residents have done a great job in managing consumption to deal with the current water shortage allocations. We are asking them to keep up the good work especially during this eight day shut down,” says Hill.

Water conservation recommendations include:

- Repairing broken sprinkler heads and adjusting them to ensure they spray on landscape not sidewalks and fences
- Washing only full loads in dishwashers and washing machines
- Using a broom to clean sidewalks and driveways rather than a hose
- Turning the water off when you brush your teeth and shave
- Taking your car to a car wash that recycles water rather than washing it in the driveway
- Shortening your shower time to 5 minutes

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The El Toro Water District is a full service water, wastewater and recycled water district, providing water service across portions of the cities of Aliso Viejo, Lake Forest, Laguna Hills and Mission Viejo and the entire city of Laguna Woods.