



# NEWSLETTER

3707 Old Highway 395, Fallbrook CA 92028

Issue No. 55

May, 2009

## **RMWD BOARD DECLARES LEVEL 2 DROUGHT ALERT**

The Board of Directors of the Rainbow Municipal Water District declared a Level 2 "Drought Alert" at their April meeting, and directed staff to implement mandatory conservation measures. The declaration followed a similar action by the wholesale agency, the San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA).

Water supply levels are very low, partly due to the ongoing drought, and partly because of pumping restrictions on the State Water Project. As a result the Metropolitan Water District has mandated a 13% cut in deliveries to their member agencies, including the SDCWA. Because the San Diego Region has developed water storage and supply projects a cut of only eight percent will be passed on to Rainbow's Domestic and Commercial water customers while those enrolled in the Special Agricultural Water Rate (SAWR) will receive the full 13 percent cut.

That means starting with your July water bills Domestic, Commercial and SAWR customers need to reduce your consumption over the baseline use, which is an average of your water use during fiscal year 2007 for Domestic and Commercial; SAWR customers also have your allocation based on fiscal year 2007. That sounds complicated, but don't worry, we will do the math for you and put the allocation on your water bill so you will know your target goal. Currently, water use trends are slightly below that base year average, so most users may already be achieving their reduction goal.

The mandatory conservation begins with the July water bills. That means that you need to start conserving in June. Make sure to check your June water bill to find your allocation for your July reading cycle. If you exceed your water allocation you will pay a penalty rate. For Domestic and Commercial accounts if you go over your allocation by less than 15 percent, you will pay \$3.90 for each unit over the allocation. If you are 15 percent or more over your allocation you will pay \$7.09 for each unit over the 15 %. SAWR accounts also pay

a penalty rate of \$3.90 for each unit over their allocation. Our regular domestic water rate is \$2.16 per unit; a unit equals 748 gallons.

	Domestic Rate
0 – 100% of allocation	\$2.16 per unit
>100% but <115%	\$3.90 per unit
115% or greater	\$7.09 per unit

If you go over your allocation in one month you may recover any penalty you pay by reducing your use a like amount in the months following. Also, if you save more water than necessary in a month you are allowed to carry over that surplus for use in later months.

In addition to the mandatory cutbacks we implemented some basic water conservation rules to help you reach your target. These include:

- No washing down paved surfaces, i.e., sidewalks, driveways, parking lots, tennis courts, or patios.
- No water waste resulting from inefficient landscape irrigation, such as runoff or overspray.
- Irrigate residential and commercial landscape and commercial nursery stock before 10 a.m. and after 6 p.m. only.
- Use a hand-held hose equipped with a positive shut-off nozzle to water landscaped areas that are not irrigated by a landscape irrigation system.
- Wash vehicles using a bucket and a hand-held hose with positive shut-off nozzle.
- Serve and refill water in restaurants and other food service establishments only upon request.

**RAINBOW  
MUNICIPAL  
WATER  
DISTRICT**

3707 Old Highway 395  
Fallbrook, CA 92029  
760-728-1178  
[www.rainbowmwd.com](http://www.rainbowmwd.com)

**2009  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

*Gerald Walson  
Division 1*

*Jack Griffiths  
Division 2  
(760) 940-8935*

*George McManigle  
Division 3  
(760) 723-2119*

*Bob Lucy  
Division 4  
(760) 728-8325*

*Rua Petty  
Division 5  
(760) 731-6584*

**STAFF**

**General Manager**  
*Dave Seymour*

**Operations Manager**  
*Chuck Sneed*

**Finance Manager**  
*Gene Buckley*

**Human Resources**  
*René Bush*

**District Engineer**  
*Brian Lee*

Landscape may only be irrigated a maximum of three days per week according to the following schedule:

Watering Allowed	Sunday 6:00 p.m. until Monday 10:00 a.m.	Monday 6:00 p.m. until Tuesday 10:00 a.m.	Tuesday 6:00 p.m. until Wednesday 10:00 a.m.	Wednesday 6:00 p.m. until Thursday 10:00 a.m.	Thursday 6:00 p.m. until Friday 10:00 a.m.	Saturday 6:00 p.m. until Sunday 10:00 a.m.
Street Address	EVEN NUMBERS	ODD NUMBERS	EVEN NUMBERS	ODD NUMBERS	EVEN NUMBERS	ODD NUMBERS

For those customers in the IAWP or SAWR (water programs for agricultural), you may set your own watering schedule for agricultural products as long as you do not exceed your allocation.

<b>Domestic and Commercial</b>	<b>SAWR</b>	<b>IAWP</b>
8% reduction	13% reduction for agricultural use	30% reduction for agricultural use

There are other restrictions that may apply. For a full list you may visit our web site at [www.rainbowmwd.com](http://www.rainbowmwd.com), or call our customer service staff.

**WATER QUALITY INFORMATION FOR GROWERS**

Last month we reported on the increasing levels of Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) in the water coming from the Metropolitan Water District. Some of you have asked us to continue to provide updates on water quality, so we will be adding this as a new feature in the monthly newsletter.

<b>Baseline Total Dissolved Solids 2007 (annual average) milligrams per Liter (mg/L)</b>	<b>Most Recent Month mg/L</b>	<b>Year-to-Date Average mg/L</b>
495	625	627

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**EMPLOYEE CERTIFICATIONS**

In April Chris Fletcher and Wayne Nault passed their Water Distribution 3 examinations. John Maccarrone passed his Water Distribution 4 as well.

Congratulations, Chris, Wayne, and John!

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**MISSION RESOURCE CONSERVATION  
DISTRICT  
IS HOSTING A  
WATER CONSERVATION WORKSHOP  
THURSDAY, MAY 28<sup>TH</sup> AT 9:00 A.M.  
990 E. FALLBROOK ROAD  
FALLBROOK, CA 92028**