

CITY OF SONOMA REGULATIONS TO PREVENT WATER WASTE

On June 20, 2007, the Sonoma City Council adopted a resolution that included a declaration of a water conservation condition as defined in the Municipal Code and that established water use requirements that are intended to prevent wasting of water by Sonoma water customers during the months of June through October, 2007. The use requirements are as follow:

During the summer months of June, July, August , September and October, or until such time as the City Council determines that the condition for conservation no longer exists, all potable water customers of the City of Sonoma are directed to:

- A. Use water efficiently and reduce less essential uses of water with the goal of achieving an overall system-wide reduction of 15%.
- B. Apply irrigation water only during the evening and early morning hours to reduce evaporation losses; after sunset and before sunrise.
- C. Before June 1st, inspect all irrigation systems, repair leaks, and adjust spray heads to provide optimum coverage and eliminate avoidable over-spray.
- D. For irrigation valves controlling water applied to lawns, vary the minutes of run-time consistent with fluctuations in weather.
- E. Reduce minutes of run-time for each irrigation cycle if water begins to run-off to gutters and ditches before the irrigation cycle is completed.
- F. Become conversant with and strictly adhere to the City of Sonoma's Water Waste Prohibition Ordinance.
- G. Utilize water conservation incentive, rebate and give-a-way programs to replace water guzzling plumbing fixtures and appliances with water efficient models.
- H. Take advantage of the free information available from the City of Sonoma on how to use water efficiently, read your water meter, repair ordinary leaks, how to make your landscape a water efficient landscape, etc.
- I. Use a broom, not a hose and water, to clean sidewalk, driveway, deck or patio.
- J. Use a hose with an automatic shut-off nozzle when washing vehicles, or take vehicle to a carwash that recycles water.

The City Council adopted these regulations for a couple of primary reasons as stated in the Resolution:

First, the State of California Water Resources Control Board had directed the Sonoma County Water Agency to reduce diversions from the Russian River by 15 percent from July 1, 2007 through October 28, 2007.

Second, the Sonoma County Water Agency, which supplies a significant portion of the City of Sonoma's potable water supply, had asked its water contractors, customers, business and agricultural communities to implement mandatory water conservation measures effective July 1, 2007 through October 28, 2007 in order to implement the above referenced order.