



City of Santa Barbara

Stage Three Drought Water Use Regulations



Due to improved water supply conditions, the Stage Three Drought and corresponding regulations listed below were rescinded on April 9, 2019. However, conservation will always be critical in Santa Barbara and our community is encouraged to continue water efficient behaviors and actions taken during the drought.

OUTDOOR WATER USE REGULATIONS

- Hoses must be equipped with an automatic shut-off nozzle when in use.
- Irrigation with potable water is prohibited between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. for automatic systems. If manually operated, irrigation is prohibited between the hours of 10:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.
- Irrigation during and within 48 hours after measurable rainfall is prohibited.
- Washing of pavement and other hard surfaces is generally prohibited. Exceptions: to correct an immediate threat to health and safety or in preparation of painting or sealing, provided it is accomplished by use of a pressure washer, mop, bucket, or brush.
- Vehicles and boats must be washed with a hose equipped with a shut-off nozzle or washed at commercial facilities that recycle the water.
- Recirculating fountains with a water surface area greater than 25 ft² are prohibited unless located indoors, on residential property, or are home to aquatic life.
- Pools and spas must be equipped with a cover when not in use. No draining or refilling of pools by more than one third, unless authorized.

COMMERCIAL WATER USE REGULATIONS

- Drought notices are required in restaurants and other eating and drinking establishments; water served on request only.
- Hotels and motels must post a drought notice in each guest room and provide guests with the option of choosing not to have towels and linens laundered daily.
- Gyms, pools, and other businesses providing showers must post drought notices and promote limitation of shower use.

ENFORCEMENT

Waste of water such as irrigation runoff and failure to repair leaks are enforced at all times and are not tied to a drought condition. Current enforcement is complaint based. To report water waste, call (805) 564-5460, email WConservation@SantaBarbaraCA.gov or fill out the online form at www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov/ReportWater. Pictures are helpful and please note the date, time, and location of the violation.

Enforcement Process:

1st Violation: Door hanger and warning letter

2nd Violation: \$250 fine per violation

3rd Violation: \$250 fine per violation and possible flow restrictor

4th and Subsequent Violation: \$250 fine per violation, possible flow restrictor or shut off water service

For more information call (805) 564-5460 or visit www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov/Drought