



DATE: June 14, 2021

AGENDA ITEM # 4

**TO:** Environmental Commission  
**FROM:** Emiko Ancheta, Staff Liaison  
**SUBJECT:** Evaluation Drought Preparedness and Water Conservation Recommendation

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Discuss drought preparedness and water conservation recommendations

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**BACKGROUND**

As of May 2021, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor Report, Santa Clara County is in Extreme Drought. Although Governor Newsom has not extended the drought declaration to Santa Clara County at this time, many factors such as the Anderson Dam currently out of service for retrofit maintenance, leads to concerns of scarce water supply for the County.

On June 9, 2021 Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) board declared a water shortage emergency condition in Santa Clara County and called for a mandatory 15% reduction in water use compared to 2019. The adopted resolution (Attachment A) details the District's recommendations necessary as the drought worsens. Given the lack of rain over the past few years, it is likely that Santa Clara County and California Water Service will need to prepare for water restrictions.

The Environmental Commission held meeting on April 13, 2015, and May 11, 2015 on the topic of water conservation and the City adopted Resolution 2014-23 and 2015-15 during the last water shortage for water conservation measures.

**DISCUSSION**

Los Altos water provider California Water Service relies on water from the Santa Clara Valley Water District. The Environmental Commission's Work Plan includes Water Conservation. Due to the water shortage declaration the Commission will discuss water restrictions and water conservation measure recommendations for the City of Los Altos.

Attachments:

- A. Santa Clara Valley Water District Resolution Draft
- B. Los Altos Resolution 2014-23
- C. Los Altos Resolution 2015-15

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT**

**RESOLUTION NO. 21-**

**RESCINDING RESOLUTION 17-43, DECLARING A WATER SHORTAGE  
EMERGENCY CONDITION CALLING FOR WATER USE RESTRICTIONS, AND  
URGING THE COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA TO PROCLAIM A LOCAL EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on June 9, 2021, on the matter of whether the Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) Board of Directors should declare that a water shortage emergency condition exists within Santa Clara County (County); and

WHEREAS, notice of said hearing was published on June 2, 2021, in the *San Jose Mercury News*, a newspaper of general circulation printed and published within the County; and

WHEREAS, at said hearing, all persons present were given an opportunity to be heard by the Board; and

WHEREAS, the Board heard and considered public testimony, staff's presentation, and other evidence presented at said hearing; and

WHEREAS, the County is in its second consecutive year of drought, and the County is now in an extreme drought condition according to the United States Drought Monitor; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Water Code Section 350 a "governing body of a distributor of a public water supply, whether publicly or privately owned and including a mutual water company, shall declare a water shortage emergency condition to prevail within the area served by such distributor whenever it finds and determines that the ordinary demands and requirements of water consumers cannot be satisfied without depleting the water supply of the distributor to the extent that there would be insufficient water for human consumption, sanitation, and fire protection"; and

WHEREAS, the Board seeks to conserve the limited water supply of Valley Water for the greatest public benefit with particular regard to public health, fire protection, and domestic use without threatening local land subsidence, by ensuring the conservation of water, by avoiding the waste of water, and to the extent necessary and by reason of the existing water shortage emergency condition, by reducing water use in the County in a manner that is fair and equitable; and

WHEREAS, on March 22, 2021, the California State Water Resources Control Board mailed early warning notices to water rights holders in California, including Valley Water, urging them to plan for potential shortages by reducing water use and adopting practical conservation measures; and

WHEREAS, local watershed runoff was substantially limited in the 2020 and 2021 water years due to extreme dry conditions and Valley Water's current local surface water storage as of June 1 is at 26 percent of the 20-year average; and

Rescinding Resolution 17-43, Declaring a Water Shortage Emergency Condition Calling for Water Use Restrictions, and Urging the County of Santa Clara to Proclaim a Local Emergency Resolution No. 21-

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WHEREAS, Anderson Reservoir is Valley Water's largest surface water reservoir and holds up to 89,278 acre-feet of water—more than all of Valley Water's other nine surface water reservoirs combined; and

WHEREAS, on February 20, 2020, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, for public health and safety reasons, ordered Valley Water to drain Anderson Reservoir to deadpool beginning no later than October 1, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Anderson Reservoir has been drained to deadpool and will not be available as a surface water storage facility for the duration of the Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project, which is expected to last 10 years; and

WHEREAS, the availability of Coyote Reservoir, Valley Water's second largest reservoir, is also limited because of California Department of Water Resources Division of Safety of Dams storage limits; and

WHEREAS, due to the unavailability of Anderson Reservoir and limited availability of Coyote Reservoir due to regulatory restrictions, Valley Water's ability to store water locally for groundwater recharge and water treatment plant supplies, and as a buffer to mitigate against current and future water shortages, is significantly limited; and

WHEREAS, the snowpack in the northern Sierra Nevada Mountains was 5 percent of normal and the statewide snow water equivalent was zero percent of normal as of June 1, 2021; and the 2021 State Water Project allocation is 5 percent, and the 2021 South-of-Delta Central Valley Project allocation is currently 25 percent for Municipal & Industrial water and zero percent for Agricultural water; and

WHEREAS, there is significant uncertainty as to local and statewide water supply conditions, and imported supplies may continue to be negatively impacted; and

WHEREAS, Santa Clara County relies heavily on unpredictable imported water to supplement local water to supply its drinking water treatment plants, to replenish the local groundwater basins, and to prevent adverse community impacts such as the return of historic overdraft and land subsidence in northern Santa Clara County; and

WHEREAS, through careful groundwater management, Santa Clara County groundwater storage at the start of 2021 was well within the "Normal" stage (Stage 1) of Valley Water's Water Shortage Contingency Plan, but without additional water use reduction this storage is expected to drop significantly by as much as 80,000 acre-feet by the end of 2021 due to limited recharge and increased pumping as a result of drought conditions, reduced imported water allocations, and the loss of Anderson Reservoir as a surface water storage facility; and

WHEREAS, if drought conditions continue into 2022 and imported water supplies continue to be severely limited, the worst case scenario projects groundwater to drop to the "Emergency" stage (Stage 5) of the Water Shortage Contingency Plan without additional water use reduction, which would greatly increase the risk of resumed land subsidence in northern Santa Clara County, risk wells going dry in residential areas of the County where groundwater is the sole source of drinking water, and risk that the ordinary demands and requirements of water consumers will

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not be satisfied without depleting the water supply to the extent that there would be insufficient water for human consumption, sanitation, and fire protection; and

WHEREAS, due to historic groundwater overdraft, the greater San José metropolitan area and heart of Silicon Valley had up to 14 feet of permanent subsidence, which resulted in seawater intrusion, increased flood risk, and widespread damage to infrastructure, conservatively estimated to cost over \$947 million in 2021 dollars; and

WHEREAS, over 3,000 domestic wells users in southern Santa Clara County depend on groundwater for potable water supplies and these wells are often more vulnerable than public water supply wells, which are typically deeper; and

WHEREAS, Valley Water must maintain sufficient groundwater storage to guard against land subsidence, meet local water demands, cope with supply interruptions from natural disasters and ensure sufficient water for fire protection; and

WHEREAS, it is Valley Water's policy and is in the interest of Valley Water and the community to reduce the severity and occurrences of drought or dry weather induced water shortages by encouraging water use reduction measures so that available water supplies can meet at least 80 percent of average annual demand in drought years; and

WHEREAS, Santa Clara County and the region are subject to reoccurring droughts of varying severity, such as those prompting Valley Water to call for water use reductions in 1977, 1987 to 1992, 2007 to 2010; and

WHEREAS, Santa Clara County and California experienced a historic, multiyear drought from 2012 to 2016, prompting Valley Water to call for mandatory water use reductions between 20 to 30 percent since 2014; and

WHEREAS, on June 13, 2017, by Resolution 17-43, Valley Water continued its call for a voluntary 20 percent water use reduction (as compared to 2013 water use), and called for efforts to make water conservation a way of life; and

WHEREAS, on April 27, 2021, the Board voted to call for a voluntary 25 percent water use reduction (as compared to 2013 water use); and

WHEREAS, continuing the progress and momentum of community water use reductions and water wise efforts to make water conservation a way of life will improve long-term water supply reliability; and

WHEREAS, increasing long-term water conservation efforts and improving water use efficiency; strengthening local and regional drought planning; and increasing water supply and land use planning coordination are critical to Santa Clara County's resilience to drought, which may be intensified in the future with climate change; and

WHEREAS, Valley Water continues to work closely with its retail water agencies, untreated surface water customers, well owners, farmers, regulatory agencies, state and federal project operators, other water districts, and local municipalities and land use agencies to develop common sense approaches with the goal of achieving drought resiliency.

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NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Santa Clara Valley Water District hereby:

1. Rescinds Board Resolution 17-43; and
2. Declares pursuant to California Water Code Section 350 that a water shortage emergency condition now prevails within the County and a continued supply of water cannot be assured for human consumption, sanitation, and fire protection without threatening local land subsidence, and that such water shortage emergency condition shall continue until the Valley Water's Board adopts a finding determining otherwise; and
3. \*Establishes a water reduction program pursuant to Article C(4)(c) of Valley Water's treated water contracts by calling for water retailers to achieve a water use reduction equal to 33 percent of 2013 water use (15 percent of 2019 water use), which will result in a 23 percent reduction of Valley Water treated water scheduled deliveries to water retailers while such water reduction program is in effect; and
4. Commits to aggressively promote its conservation programs and information for the public, residents, businesses, agricultural and untreated water customers, and retailers to support all sectors in reducing water use; and
5. Urges Santa Clara County farmers and untreated water customers to consider the water shortage emergency condition in planting and irrigation practices; and
6. Calls for the public to restrict outdoor watering of ornamental landscapes or lawns with potable water to a maximum of three days a week; and
7. Urges local enforcement of other water waste restrictions currently in effect by local agencies and retailers, or as may be amended; and
8. Requests that the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors proclaim a local emergency now exists throughout the County due to drought conditions; and
9. Supports local adoption and enforcement of additional water waste restrictions by cities, retailers, and the County as needed to achieve the water use reduction target of 15 percent of 2019 water use (33 percent of 2013 water use); these may include prohibitions against the following:
  - Use of potable water for more than minimal landscaping, as defined in the landscaping regulated of the jurisdiction or as described in Article 10.8 of the California Government Code in connection with new construction;
  - Excessive use of water: when a utility has notified the customer in writing to repair a broken or defective plumbing, sprinkler, watering or irrigation system and the customer has failed to affect such repairs within five business days, the utility may install a flow restriction device;
  - Use of potable water that results in flooding or runoff in gutters or streets;

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- Individual private washing of cars with a hose except with the use of a positive action shut-off nozzle. Use of potable water for washing commercial aircraft, cars, buses, boats, trailers, or other commercial vehicles at any time, except at commercial or fleet vehicle or boat washing facilities operated at a fixed location where equipment using water is properly maintained to avoid wasteful use;
  - Use of potable water for washing buildings, structures, driveways, patios, parking lots, tennis courts, or other hard-surfaced areas, except in the cases where health and safety are at risk;
  - Use of potable water to irrigate turf, lawns, gardens, or ornamental landscaping by means other than drip irrigation, or hand watering without quick acting positive action shut-off nozzles, on a specific schedule, for example: 1) before 9:00 a.m. and after 5:00 p.m.; 2) every other day; or 3) selected days of the week;
  - Use of potable water for street cleaning with trucks, except for initial wash-down for construction purposes (if street sweeping is not feasible), or to protect the health and safety of the public;
  - Use of potable water for construction purposes, such as consolidation of backfill, dust control, or other uses unless no other source of water or other method can be used;
  - Use of potable water for construction purposes unless no other source of water or other method can be used;
  - Use of potable water for street cleaning;
  - Operation of commercial car washes without recycling at least 50 percent of the potable water used per cycle;
  - Use of potable water for watering outside plants, lawn, landscape, and turf areas during certain hours if and when specified in CPUC Tariff Schedule No. 14.1 when the schedule is in effect;
  - Use of potable water for decorative fountains or the filling or topping off of decorative lakes or ponds. Exceptions are made for those decorative fountains, lakes, or ponds which utilize recycled water;
  - Use of potable water for the filling or refilling of swimming pools;
  - Service of water by any restaurant except upon the request of a patron; and
  - Use of potable water to flush hydrants, except where required for public health or safety.
10. Recommends cities, retailers, and the County consider adopting water waste restrictions that are permanent.

Rescinding Resolution 17-43, Declaring a Water Shortage Emergency Condition Calling for  
Water Use Restrictions, and Urging the County of Santa Clara to Proclaim a Local Emergency  
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PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Santa Clara Valley Water District by  
the following vote on June 9, 2021:

AYES: Directors

NOES: Directors

ABSENT: Directors

ABSTAIN: Directors

SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

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TONY ESTREMER  
Chair, Board of Directors

ATTEST: MICHELE L. KING, CMC

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Clerk, Board of Directors

**RESOLUTION NO. 2014-23**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOS ALTOS  
TO ADOPT WATER CONSERVATION MEASURES**

**WHEREAS**, the State of California is currently under drought conditions as a result of the State's water supply shortage and outlook for water consumption, and

**WHEREAS**, the Governor of the State of California declared a drought emergency on January 27, 2014 and asked Californians for a 20% reduction in water consumption; and

**WHEREAS**, on February 25, 2014, the Santa Clara Valley Water District Board of Directors declared a 20% water use reduction target and has reduced wholesale water supplies to retailers accordingly for the remainder of 2014; and

**WHEREAS**, the Santa Clara Valley Water District subcommittee proposed and distributed a Model Water Conservation Ordinance to local agencies to provide guidelines and to encourage local efforts for reduction of water usage; and

**WHEREAS**, historical evidence indicates that the State of California has experienced prolonged periods of drought in recent years; and

**WHEREAS**, it is not known how long the drought will last; and

**WHEREAS**, measures are needed to encourage and promote water conservation efforts as ongoing practices now and in future years; and

**WHEREAS**, the long-term health, safety, and prosperity of the community depends upon having a reliable supply of potable water, and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Los Altos Environmental Commission heard input from community groups and the public that encouraged communication and outreach education efforts; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Los Altos endeavors to work in partnership with the local water retailer, California Water Service, to implement water conservation measures; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Los Altos recommends practical methods for water reduction and measurable conservation goals for water users to achieve in comparison with 2013 water usage data from Cal Water, the local water retailer, thus avoiding confusion to the consumer and to speak in one voice with the local retailer and the Santa Clara Valley Water District; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Los Altos has taken steps to reduce internal City water consumption by 20% and implement communication and outreach education efforts to the community; and



**WHEREAS**, if voluntary efforts by water users are not achieving the necessary results, the City of Los Altos and Cal Water may need to adopt more stringent water conservation measures.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City Council of the City of Los Altos hereby encourages the Los Altos community to reduce water consumption by 20% based on 2013 water usage data once it becomes available to customers by Cal Water.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the City Council of the City of Los Altos hereby recommends that City of Los Altos residents, businesses, and water users adopt the following voluntary water conservation measures:

**1. Recommendations for Lawn, Landscape, Vegetated Watering Time Restrictions** – watering or irrigating of lawn, landscape and/or other vegetated area with potable water is discouraged between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. The purpose of time restrictions is to avoid watering during the heat and high evaporation conditions of the day. During the months of June – October, users are encouraged to provide only minimal water to sustain plant growth without water run-off and to avoid over-watering and achieve the 20% water usage reduction. During the months of November through May, watering or irrigating of lawn, landscape or other vegetated area with potable water is to be minimal as needed excluding the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and irrigation is to be reduced or discontinued in cool and wet weather conditions. Use of mulch on planting beds is encouraged to avoid rapid evaporation and to prolong water availability to the plants.

The time restriction provision does not apply to landscape irrigation zones that exclusively use very low flow drip type irrigation systems when no emitter produces more than two (2) gallons of water per hour. This provision also does not apply to watering or irrigating by use of a hand-held bucket or similar container, a hand-held hose equipped with a positive self-closing water shut-off nozzle or device, or for very short periods of time for the express purpose of adjusting or repairing an irrigation system.

Water use for filling decorative ponds or lakes is prohibited. Water use for filling decorative fountains is prohibited unless the fountain uses a recirculation system.

**2. Recommendations for Obligation to Fix Leaks, Breaks or Malfunctions** – all leaks, breaks or other malfunctions in the water user's plumbing or distribution system must be repaired within seventy-two (72) hours of notification by the City or when discovered by the user.

**3. Recommendations for No Washing of Hard or Paved Surfaces** – washing down hard or paved surfaces, including but not limited to sidewalks, walkways, driveways, parking areas, tennis courts, patios or alleys, is prohibited except when required to alleviate safety or sanitary hazards, and then only by use of a hand-held bucket or similar container, a hand-held hose equipped with a positive self-closing water shut-off device, a low volume, high-pressure cleaning machine equipped to either recycle water used or use minimum water that avoids runoff, or a low volume high-pressure water broom.

4. **Recommendations to Avoid Excess Water Usage** – avoid use of continually running water sources such as a hose without a shut off nozzle. When using a hose, a shut-off nozzle shall be used at all times to avoid unintended water flow and prevent runoff. Avoid washing or cleaning a vehicle except by use of a hand-held bucket or similar container or a hand-held hose equipped with a positive self-closing water shut-off nozzle or device. Refrain from overfilling swimming pools and ponds and keep water at a minimum operational level. Draining and refilling swimming pools shall be avoided for the duration of the drought condition.

5. **Recommendations to Encourage Water Conservation in the Business Community** – use table signs stating that drinking water is served upon request only in eating or drinking establishments. Commercial lodging establishments are encouraged to provide guests the option to decline daily linen service. Avoid installation of Single Pass Cooling Systems in buildings requesting new water service; avoid installation of non-re-circulating water systems in commercial car wash and laundry systems. Restaurants are encouraged to use water conserving dish wash spray valves; use of recirculating water in non-drinking water fountains and decorative water features is encouraged for business and residential users.

6. **Recommendation that Parties Review and Comply with the City of Los Altos Water Efficient Landscape Regulations** – regulations are available at City Hall.

7. This resolution shall remain active for the duration of the Governor’s drought emergency declaration.

**I HEREBY CERTIFY** that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Los Altos at a meeting thereof on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2014 by the following vote:

AYES: BRUINS, CARPENTER, FISHPAW, PEPPER, SATTERLEE  
NOES: NONE  
ABSENT: NONE  
ABSTAIN: NONE

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Megan Satterlee, MAYOR

Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jon Maginot, CMC, CITY CLERK

**RESOLUTION NO. 2015-15**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOS ALTOS  
TO ADOPT WATER CONSERVATION MEASURES**

**WHEREAS**, the State of California is currently under severe drought conditions as a result of the State's unprecedented water supply shortage and outlook for water consumption; and

**WHEREAS**, historical evidence indicates that the State of California drought conditions are increasing due to the prolonged periods of drought in recent years; and

**WHEREAS**, it is not known how long the severe drought conditions will last; and

**WHEREAS**, measures are needed to encourage and promote water conservation efforts as ongoing practices now and in future years; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governor of the State of California declared drought emergencies on January 17, 2014 and April 25, 2014, and on April 1, 2015 mandated Californians reduce water consumption by 25% state-wide; and

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order B-29-15, issued on April 1, 2015, provisions include: 1) ordering the State Water Resources Control Board to impose restrictions to achieve a 25% reduction in potable urban water usage through February 28, 2016; 2) directing the California Department of Water Resources to lead a state-wide initiative, in partnership with local agencies, to collectively replace 50 million square feet of lawns and ornamental turf with drought tolerant landscapes; and 3) directing the California Energy Commission to implement a state-wide appliance rebate program to provide monetary incentives for the replacement of inefficient household devices; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governor directed local water agencies to update their legally-required urban and agricultural water management plans; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governor's drought declaration also calls upon local urban water suppliers and municipalities to implement their local water shortage contingency plans immediately in order to avoid or forestall outright restrictions that could become necessary later in the drought season; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Los Altos will comply with recently updated State of California Emergency Building Standards and will continue to require new residential and commercial construction to calculate water usage for the site based on updated standards, and, in addition, will comply with recent State-mandated updates to the Model Landscape Ordinance as required by Executive Order B-29-15; and

**WHEREAS**, the long-term health, safety, and prosperity of the community depends upon having a reliable supply of potable water, and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Los Altos Environmental Commission heard input from community groups and the public that encouraged communication and outreach efforts to the public in support of water reduction measures; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Los Altos endeavors to work in partnership with the Santa Clara Valley Water District to promote water conservation programs and rebates; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Los Altos endeavors to work in partnership with its local water retailer, California Water Service, as it implements its water reduction mandates, enforcement measures in accordance with Schedule No. 14.1 and promotes water conservation programs and rebates; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Los Altos recommends practical water conservation methods and measurable reduction goals for water users to achieve (as compared to 2013 water usage data as provided by California Water Service) in an effort to provide clear reduction guidelines set forth by the local water retailer, California Water Service, and the Santa Clara Valley Water District; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Los Altos organization has taken steps to reduce its water consumption by 32% and implement communication and outreach education efforts to the community; and

**WHEREAS**, the City recognizes that the local water retailer, California Water Service has activated Stage 2 of its Schedule No. 14.1 and may utilize different Stages in Schedule No. 14.1 during the course of the drought conditions and thereby, the City resolution seeks to comply with any forthcoming requirements initiated by California Water Service.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City Council of the City of Los Altos hereby encourages the Los Altos community to reduce water consumption by 32% based on 2013 water usage data that is now available to customers from California Water Service.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the City Council of the City of Los Altos hereby recommends that City of Los Altos residents, businesses, and water users adopt the following water conservation measures:

- 1. Lawn, Landscape, Vegetated Watering Time and Day Restrictions** – watering or irrigating of lawn, landscape and/or other vegetated area with potable water may not take place between the hours of **8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.** The purpose of time restrictions is to avoid watering during the heat and high evaporation conditions of the day.

In accordance with California Water Service Schedule No. 14.1, California Water Service will enforce the following outdoor irrigation schedule:

- a. **even numbered street address** will water on Tuesday and Friday
- b. **odd numbered street addresses** will water on Monday and Thursday;
- c. **no numbered street addresses** will water on Monday and Thursday

Water users are encouraged to limit, as much as possible, the use of potable water during the days they are scheduled for water irrigation or during any usage of potable water.

**The time restriction provisions above do not apply** to landscape irrigation zones that exclusively use very low flow drip type irrigation systems when no emitter produces more than two (2) gallons of water per hour and to microspray irrigation on lawns, landscaping and trees. This provision also does not apply to watering or irrigating by use of a hand-held bucket or similar container, a hand-held hose equipped with a positive self-closing water shut-off nozzle or device, or for very short periods of time for the express purpose of adjusting or repairing an irrigation system.

Violation of any of these water use restrictions may be subject to enforcement measures, which are Schedule No. 14.1 Stage-sensitive, by California Water Service including waste-of-water penalties, installation of flow restrictors or discontinuance of water service. Waste of water in California Water service areas can be reported online at [www.calwater.com/water-waste-report](http://www.calwater.com/water-waste-report)

During all months of the year, users are encouraged to provide only minimal water to sustain plant growth without water run-off and to avoid over-watering and achieve the 32% water usage reduction. Irrigation is to be reduced or discontinued in cool and wet weather conditions. **No water is allowed to be applied during and within 48 hours after measurable rainfall.** Use of mulch or moisture enhancing materials on planting beds is encouraged to avoid rapid evaporation and to prolong water availability to the plants.

**Other prohibited uses of water in accordance with Cal Water Schedule No. 14.1:**

- Applying potable water to outdoor landscapes that causes runoff onto adjacent property, non-irrigated areas, private and public walkways, roadways, parking lots, or structures
- Using a hose to wash vehicles, buses and boats with potable water unless the hose is filled with a shut-off nozzle or device that causes it to cease dispensing water immediately when not in use
- Applying potable water to driveways and sidewalks
- Using potable water in a fountain or other decorative water feature except when the water is part of a recirculating system
- Using potable water to irrigate outside of new construction without drip or microspray systems
- Filling or refilling ornamental lakes or ponds with potable water except to sustain existing aquatic life as defined in Schedule No. 14.1
- Irrigation of ornamental turf on public street medians with potable water.
- Serving of drinking water other than upon request in eating or drinking establishments, including but not limited to restaurants, hotels, cafes cafeterias, bars or other public places where food or drink are served and/or purchased
- Operators of hotels and motels shall provide guests with the option of choosing not to have towels and linens laundered daily. The hotel or motel shall prominently

display notice of this option in each guest room using clear and easily understood language

2. **Obligation to Fix Leaks, Breaks or Malfunctions** – all leaks, breaks or other malfunctions in the water user’s plumbing or distribution system **must be repaired within five business days** upon receipt of notification or when discovered by the user.
3. **No Washing of Hard or Paved Surfaces** – washing down hard or paved surfaces, including but not limited to sidewalks, walkways, driveways, parking areas, tennis courts, patios or alleys, is prohibited except when required to address an immediate health or safety need, and then only by use of a hand-held bucket or similar container, a hand-held hose equipped with a positive self-closing water shut-off device or cleaning machine that only utilize recycled water.
4. **Recommendations to Avoid Excess Water Usage** – avoid use of continually running water sources such as a hose without a shut-off nozzle. When using a hose, a shut-off nozzle shall be used at all times to avoid unintended water flow and prevent runoff. Avoid washing or cleaning a vehicle except by use of a hand-held bucket or similar container or a hand-held hose equipped with a positive self-closing water shut-off nozzle or device. **Pools and Spas** - refrain from overfilling swimming pools, spas and ponds and keep water at a minimum operational level. Draining and refilling swimming pools or spas is advised to be avoided for the duration of the drought condition. Use of pool/spa cover or cut-to-fit-floating foam cover is recommended in order to avoid evaporation. Refrain from use of automatic water filters to avoid water waste. Refrain from use of pool/spa water features to avoid evaporation of water. Construction or reconstruction of existing pools that are shallow or smaller is encouraged to reduce the water volume and energy usage. Initial filling or refilling of pools or spas will be charged to the customer’s water budget and subject to drought surcharge and other measures in accordance with Schedule No. 14.1.
5. **Water Conservation in the Business Community** – use table signs stating that drinking water is served upon request only in eating or drinking establishments. Commercial lodging establishments are encouraged to provide guests the option to decline daily linen service. Avoid installation of Single Pass Cooling Systems in buildings requesting new water service; avoid installation of non-re-circulating water systems in commercial car wash and laundry systems. Restaurants are encouraged to use water conserving dish wash spray valves; use of recirculating water in non-drinking water fountains and decorative water features is encouraged for business and residential users.
6. **Parties Review and Comply with the City of Los Altos Water Efficient Landscape Regulations** – updated regulations are available at City Hall.

Other duly adopted restrictions on the use of potable water as prescribed from time-to-time by the water retailer, California Water Service or by the State of California are incorporated herein by reference.


This resolution shall remain active for the duration of the Governor's drought emergency declaration.

**I HEREBY CERTIFY** that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Los Altos at a meeting thereof on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2015 by the following vote:

AYES: BRUINS, MORDO, PEPPER, PROCHNOW, SATTERLEE  
NOES: NONE  
ABSENT: NONE  
ABSTAIN: NONE

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Janis C. Pepper, MAYOR

Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jon Maginot, CMC, CITY CLERK