

CITY OF LOS ANGELES WATER CONSERVATION ORDINANCE

FACT SHEET

AUGUST 2010 UPDATE

PROHIBITED WATER USES

Under the City of Los Angeles Water Conservation Ordinance (Ordinance,) restrictions on certain water uses apply at all times, to all customers. These prohibited uses include:

- Watering of any hard surfaces such as sidewalks, walkways, driveways or parking areas;
- Outdoor watering during periods of rain;
- Allowing runoff onto streets and gutters from excessive watering;
- Allowing leaks from any pipe or fixture to go unrepaired;
- Washing vehicles without using a hose with a self-closing water shut-off nozzle;
- Serving water to customers in restaurants unless specifically requested.

For a comprehensive list of all the prohibited uses of water, please visit www.ladwp.com/waterconservation.

OUTDOOR WATERING AND ORDINANCE "PHASES"

The Ordinance contains five water conservation "phases" which correspond to severity of water shortage, with each increase in phase containing more stringent conservation measures. As an estimated 40% of all drinking water in Los Angeles is used for landscape irrigation, restrictions on these activities constitute a large component of the Ordinance. Water conservation phases define outdoor watering restrictions as appropriate.

Following approval by the City Council, the Ordinance is subject to review by the Mayor. If approved, the changes will become effective upon publication, approximately one week after the Mayor's veto period ends.

PHASE II RESTRICTIONS

Under Phase II, the Ordinance specifies:

- Outdoor watering with sprinklers is restricted to three days a week with different watering days assigned to odd-numbered and even-numbered street addresses.
- Customers with odd-numbered street addresses - ending in 1, 3, 5, 7 or 9 - are allowed to use their sprinkler systems on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.
- Customers with even-numbered street addresses - ending in 0, 2, 4, 6, or 8 - are allowed to use their sprinkler systems on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays.
- Watering with sprinklers is limited to one eight-minute cycle per watering day for non-conserving nozzle sprinkler systems (typical residential system), or two 15-minute cycles per watering day for conserving nozzle sprinkler systems.
- All outdoor watering is restricted to hours before 9:00 a.m. and after 4:00 p.m., regardless of the watering day.

Street addresses ending in fractions are treated as whole numbers and observe the same day restrictions as others on their same side of the street, (ie: 4321 ½ is regarded as 4321, an odd-numbered address.)

AWARENESS AND ENFORCEMENT

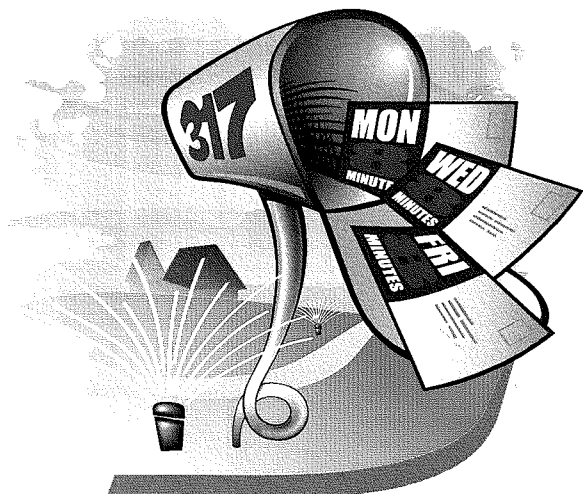
Educational awareness efforts, and enforcement where applicable, are conducted by the LADWP Water Conservation Team, a group of trained professionals whose sole mission is to spot and stop wasteful water practices. Team members actively patrol Los Angeles communities to help inform customers of water waste they observe in progress and learn about through tips from neighbors and concerned citizens who call 1-800-DIAL DWP or send e-mails to waterconservationteam@ladwp.com.

Additionally, LADWP Customer Service Field Representatives are authorized and trained to report violations of the Ordinance.

First offenses are given a verbal "warning" in the form of water conservation tips, water saving devices where possible and printed educational materials in order to raise customer awareness. Subsequent violations, however, can result in fines. Monetary citations, when given, range from \$100 to \$600 and are listed as specific charges on the LADWP utility bill. No monetary citation is given without prior warning.

VARIANCE REQUESTS

Customers may apply for a Hardship Variance from specific Ordinance requirements, including customers in High Fire Severity Zones. Variance Instructions and Forms are available online at www.ladwp.com/waterconservation and at all LADWP Service Center locations. For more information, call 213-367-0771.



REVISED WATER CONSERVATION ORDINANCE

Q&A

AUGUST 2010 UPDATE



Q: CHANGES WERE MADE TO THE WATER CONSERVATION ORDINANCE IN AUGUST 2010. WHAT WERE THOSE CHANGES?

A: Changes were made to simplify the Ordinance's water conservation "phases" and assign days of the week on which watering with sprinklers is allowed for odd and even-numbered addresses.

"Phases" of the Ordinance correspond with severity of water shortage, with each increase in phase containing stricter conservation measures.

Under the revised Ordinance, the City of Los Angeles is in Phase II, which specifies that customers whose street addresses end with an odd number - 1, 3, 5, 7 or 9 - are permitted to use their sprinkler systems on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, before 9 a.m. and after 4 p.m.

Customers whose addresses end in even numbers - 0, 2, 4, 6, or 8 - are permitted to water with sprinklers on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays, before 9 a.m. and after 4 p.m.

Sprinkler time limits under Phase II restrictions are based on the type of nozzle used in the system. Spray head sprinklers and bubblers, which are non-conserving models and are common in most homes, are limited to 8 minutes per cycle and one cycle per day per watering station. Standard rotors and multi-stream rotary heads which are conserving nozzles are limited to 15 minutes per cycle and up to two cycles per day per watering station.

Q: MY ADDRESS ENDS IN A FRACTION. WHAT DAYS CAN I WATER WITH SPRINKLERS?

A: Addresses ending in fractions are treated as the last whole number in the address and observe the same day restrictions as others on their same side of the street (i.e.: 4321 ½ is regarded as 4321, an odd-numbered address).

Q: WHEN DO THE CHANGES TAKE EFFECT?

A: Following approval by the City Council, the Ordinance is subject to review by the Mayor. If approved, the changes will become effective upon publication, approximately one week after the Mayor's veto period ends.

Q: WHY WAS THE ORDINANCE MODIFIED?

A: Changes to the Water Conservation Ordinance were made to simplify the water conservation phases and minimize pressure fluctuations in the water distribution system by assigning different watering days to odd and even-numbered street addresses.

Q: HOW ARE YOU ENFORCING THE ORDINANCE?

A: Awareness and enforcement efforts are conducted by the LADWP Water Conservation Team, a group of trained professionals whose sole mission is to spot and stop wasteful water practices. Team members actively patrol Los Angeles communities to help inform customers of water waste they observe in progress and learn about through tips from neighbors and concerned citizens who call 1-800-DIAL DWP or send e-mails to waterconservationteam@ladwp.com.

Q: CAN I GET A TICKET IF I DON'T CONSERVE WATER?

A: Yes. First offenses are given verbal "warning" in the form of water conservation tips, water saving devices where possible and printed educational materials in order to raise customer awareness. Subsequent violations, however, can result in fines.

Q: WHAT ARE THE FINES?

A: Monetary citations, when given, range from \$100 to \$600 and are listed as specific charges on the LADWP utility bill. No monetary citation is given without prior warning.

Q: WHAT IS THE RESULT OF THEIR INVESTIGATIONS?

A: Since September 2008, when the Team was first deployed, they have investigated 21,740 incidents, issued more than 7,500 warnings and fewer than 250 monetary citations.

Q: ARE SHORTAGE YEAR WATER RATES STILL IN EFFECT?

A: Yes. Changes to the Ordinance have no impact on Shortage Year Water Rates. Under active enforcement of the Ordinance, we ask customers to stay within their Tier 1 water allotments. Those customers who exceed their Tier 1 allotments will pay a higher price for the additional water they use. Shortage Year Water Rates, along with the prohibited uses of water, are effective tools for reducing water use in Los Angeles.

Q: HAS "MANDATORY WATER CONSERVATION" BEEN SUCCESSFUL?

A: Yes! Since June 2009, when the City enacted the Ordinance, thereby launching Mandatory Water Conservation, LADWP customers have reduced their water use by 20%. The amount of water saved in Los Angeles - more than 42 billion gallons - is enough to serve the cities of Burbank, Santa Monica, Long Beach and Beverly Hills combined.

Q: IS THIS REALLY NECESSARY? IT HAS BEEN A PARTICULARLY WET YEAR FOR LOS ANGELES.

A: Yes it is necessary. Rain in Los Angeles is not a real factor in terms of our city's water supply since most of our water - 89% last year - is imported from external sources. Water supply shortages continue across California and much of the West.

Q: CAN I APPLY FOR AN EXEMPTION FROM THE ORDINANCE?

A: Customers may apply for a Hardship Variance from specific Ordinance requirements, including customers in High Fire Severity Zones. Variance Instructions and Forms are online at www.ladwp.com/waterconservation and at all LADWP Service Center locations. For more information, call 213-367-0771.

Q: WHAT OTHER USES OF WATER DOES THE WATER CONSERVATION ORDINANCE PROHIBIT?

A: Prohibited uses of water, which apply to all phases of the Ordinance and all LADWP customers, include:

- Watering of any hard surfaces such as sidewalks, walkways, driveways or parking areas unless flushing is needed to protect health and safety;
- Outdoor watering between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.;
- Outdoor watering during periods of rain;
- Allowing runoff onto streets and gutters from excessive watering;
- Allowing leaks from any pipe or fixture to go unrepaired;
- Washing vehicles without using a hose with a self-closing water shut-off nozzle;
- Serving water to customers in restaurants unless requested.
- Using water to clean, fill or maintain decorative fountains unless the water is part of a recirculating system;
- Installing single-pass cooling systems in new buildings;
- Installing non-recirculating systems in new car wash and commercial laundry systems; and
- Allowing large landscape areas to be watered without rain sensors that shut off irrigation systems.

The Ordinance also requires that hotel and motel operators provide guests with the option of not having towels and linens laundered daily.

