



NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Rob Roscoe
General Manager
Sacramento Suburban Water District
rroscoe@sswd.org
(916) 972-7171

SSWD Removes Water Conservation Mandates

Asks Customers to Voluntarily Reduce Water Use by 10 Percent

SACRAMENTO—Sacramento Suburban Water District board members voted on June 7 to remove mandatory water conservation restrictions in place since May 2015 and instead set a 10 percent voluntary water savings goal for customers.

The move came during a Special Board meeting set to discuss improved water supply conditions in Northern California and the State Water Resources Control Board's recent decision to allow water providers to match water conservation mandates with local water supply conditions.

"First, let me just take a moment to thank our customers for their incredible efforts to conserve water during the drought emergency," said Water Conservation Supervisor Greg Bundesen. SSWD customers conserved nearly 30 percent from June 2015 to February 2016, the State Water Board's evaluation period. "Now's the time to continue the momentum by moving away

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from an emergency conservation mode and back into focusing on water efficiency as a way of life.”

On May 18, 2016, the State Water Board adopted a regulation that allows water utilities to set their conservation standard based upon local water supply conditions and the utility’s ability to meet customer demand should the state experience three additional years of drought conditions.

“The District will certify that it has ample water supplies to meet 100 percent of customer demand and that a mandatory water conservation goal is no longer necessary,” Bundesen said. “However, water efficiency remains a priority for the District, which is why we’re asking customers to voluntarily reduce their water use by 10 percent.”

In addition to setting a voluntary 10 percent target, the District plans to continue the same level of funding for rebates and outreach to help customers use water wisely, as well as set recommended landscape watering days and promote required watering times to encourage continued efficiency outdoors.

Customers can learn more about available rebates, watering guidelines and water-wise tips at sswd.org.

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