



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Customers Reduce Water Use by 15 Percent

MONTCLAIR, CA . . . Monte Vista Water District customers have responded to requests to reduce their water use, resulting in savings of 15 percent below the District's average annual water demand, compared to the previous 10 year average.

The District began a comprehensive awareness campaign in the summer of 2007, informing customers about the need to conserve because of drought conditions and declining imported water supplies from Northern California due to environmental issues.

Because of continuing drought conditions and significant reduction in imported water deliveries, the board of directors declared a water supply shortage condition in both 2008 and 2009, with the latter declaration calling for mandatory water use restrictions for all customers. Recently, the board adopted a new ordinance establishing required year-round "best practices" for efficient water use as well as criteria for declaring conditions relating to severity of water supply shortages.

"Due to increased rainfall this year and effective management of local resources, the District no longer faces a water supply shortage, however, significant state-wide water supply challenges continue," said Sandra Rose, president of the board of directors. "Our customers have responded positively to our requests to conserve water, and now we're asking them to keep on using water as efficiently as possible year round," she added.

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Rose compared the need to permanently change how water is used to that of “shifting from a short-term diet to a complete change in lifestyle.”

Several of the District’s largest water users have achieved the most significant reductions in demand. The City of Montclair reduced its demand on the District’s potable drinking water system by 40 percent over the past year, mostly through the conversion of seven parks to non-potable recycled water. Montclair Plaza has likewise reduced its outdoor water use by 45 percent, in part by retrofitting sprinkler heads to more efficient rotating nozzles.

“These savings are the result of successful local and regional programs that provide rebates for water efficient technologies and recycled water retrofits, as well as free landscape irrigation evaluations, in partnership with Chino Basin Water Conservation District, Inland Empire Utilities Agency, and Metropolitan Water District,” said Mark Kinsey, District general manager.

“If our customers continue their efforts in using water efficiently, we are well on our way to achieve the required 20 percent reduction in water use per capita by 2020, said Kinsey. Called for by the Governor in 2008 and enacted by law in November 2009 as part of a comprehensive water legislative package, the 20 percent by 2020 mandate requires a 10 percent reduction in per capita water use by 2015 by all water providers statewide.

Monte Vista Water District provides retail and wholesale water services to a population of over 134,000 in the communities of Montclair, Chino Hills, and portions of Chino

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Required Year-Round Water Use Efficiency “Best Practices”

- ◆ **Set automatic irrigation timers to water only between 8 p.m. and 8a.m., no more than 15 minutes per cycle**
Exceptions: hand-watering, drip irrigation, “smart” controllers
- ◆ **Adjust watering and fix broken sprinkler heads to avoid excessive runoff**
- ◆ **Turn off irrigation system during rain**
- ◆ **Repair leaks within seven (7) days of discovery**
- ◆ **Wash vehicles with shutoff nozzle or at a car wash that recycles**
- ◆ **No hosing or washing paved surfaces**
Exception: Health and safety requirements
- ◆ **Restaurants provide water service only on request**
- ◆ **Hotels provide option to not launder linen daily**

For more information on water use efficiency, visit www.mvwd.org