



*Small Town with a
Big Backyard!*

CITY OF BISHOP

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Public Works News Release

California Expands Water Conservation Mandates

In response to the ongoing drought, the State of California recently expanded the measures it requires all water users in the state to take, including City of Bishop water users.

The state now requires that water use in the City of Bishop be reduced 25% when compared to use in 2013. Prior to this, the required reduction was 20%. To achieve this reduction, the state has added several new water conservation requirements. As a result, the current water conservation mandates that apply to City of Bishop water users are:

- No outdoor irrigation except between 5 pm and 9 am
- No outdoor irrigation such that water runs off property
- No outdoor irrigation during and within 48 hours after precipitation (new)
- New landscaping must use drip irrigation or microspray (new)
- No washing vehicles unless hose is fitted with a shut-off nozzle
- No washing driveways, sidewalks, and parking areas
- No decorative water features unless there is recirculation
- No serving of water in commercial establishments except upon request (new)
- Hotel guests can choose to not have towels and linens washed each day (new)
- No water waste caused by easily correctable leaks, breaks, or malfunctions
- No use of potable water for construction purposes
- No hydrant flushing except when required for public health and safety

Most water is used for outdoor irrigation so most measures address outdoor irrigation. The city may allow exceptions to some of these measures in some cases. More water conservation requirements are expected from the state as the drought continues.

The city has a standing water conservation incentive program available to help its water customers save water. The program provides free hose nozzles, hose timers, and irrigation system timers and provides rebates for some sprinkler systems and water conserving appliances. The incentives are available only to water customers of the City of Bishop and are limited to one per customer account. Also, quantities of the free items are limited.

The free hose nozzles, hose timers, and irrigation system timers are available at the City of Bishop Public Works Office. To receive these items, come in, fill out an application, and pick one up while supplies last.

Rebates are available for installing water saving sprinkler systems and for eligible upgrades to clothes washers, dish washers, and toilets. To receive a rebate, fill out an application, have your old and new item verified by city staff, and get a check. More information and applications are available on the city website or from City of Bishop Public Works.

Also remember that landscaping needs less water now than in the heat of the summer. Tailor your watering to the needs of the plants and lawn to avoid overwatering.

Saving water saves money, reduces water rates, protects groundwater, is the right thing to do, and is required by the state. Contact the City of Bishop Department of Public Works at 873-8458 for more information on water conservation and the City's water system.