



**CITY OF MARTINEZ**

**CITY COUNCIL AGENDA  
May 7, 2014**

**TO:** Mayor and City Council  
**FROM:** Chris Kania, Water Superintendent  
**SUBJECT:** Drought Management Program  
**DATE:** April 28, 2014

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Adopt a resolution establishing a 15% Voluntary Drought Management Program necessary to sufficiently conserve the available water supply.

**BACKGROUND:**

Staff recommends the Council asks its water customers to voluntarily reduce their overall water use by 15 percent and to comply with other Drought Management Program actions.

The proposed program encourages customers to meet the voluntary 15 percent water use reduction by limiting outdoor water use. Since water use tends to increase with temperatures, reducing irrigation and other discretionary outdoor use could result in significant savings.

The City of Martinez purchases water from Contra Costa Water District (CCWD), which in March asked its customers for a similar voluntary 15 percent reduction in overall water use. CCWD is facing multiple challenges during the current drought, including a reduced water allocation on diversions from the Delta and managing degrading water quality in the Delta due to reduced outflow. The recent expansion of Los Vaqueros Reservoir increased CCWD's water storage and helps maintain delivery of safe, high-quality water to customers; however this does not make CCWD or the City of Martinez immune to continued drought conditions.

A 15 percent voluntary program would conserve available water supplies for CCWD and the City of Martinez in case the drought continues into next year.

The state is in a serious drought. This voluntary program promotes the efficient use of our resources and will ensure we have water in the event of a prolonged drought. Another benefit is that customers will save money by using less water.

The voluntary drought program emphasizes the need for all customers to watch for the wasteful use of water. Prohibited uses include watering landscape between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., washing down pavement instead of sweeping, and refilling a non-recirculating fountain or pond.

More information on available conservation services can be accessed at [www.ccwater.com](http://www.ccwater.com). Information can also be found on the City's website at [http://www.cityofmartinez.org/depts/public\\_works/water\\_conservation.asp](http://www.cityofmartinez.org/depts/public_works/water_conservation.asp).

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Similar to previous heightened water conservation times, the City expects reduced water sales revenues. This will be partially offset by the reduced expense of untreated water from CCWD. Revenues, expenses and the Water Fund balance will be monitored during the Drought Management Program implementation.

**ACTION:**

Motion adopting a resolution establishing a 15% Voluntary Drought Management Program necessary to sufficiently conserve the available water supply.

Attachment:

Resolution & Exhibit A – Water Conservation Tips

**APPROVED BY:**

  
Interim City Manager

RESOLUTION NO. -14

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A 15% VOLUNTARY DROUGHT MANAGEMENT  
PROGRAM NECESSARY TO SUFFICIENTLY CONSERVE  
THE AVAILABLE WATER SUPPLY

**WHEREAS**, on January 17, 2014 Governor Jerry Brown declared that a state of emergency exists within the State of California due to drought conditions and called on all water districts to implement their water shortage contingency plans; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) announced its initial 2014 water year allocations for the Central Valley Project and has forecast that the water supply available to Contra Costa Water District (CCWD) to be no more than 50% of its historical allocation under a median forecast; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Martinez purchases untreated water from the Contra Costa Water District; and

**WHEREAS**, drought conditions contribute to further uncertainty regarding regulatory conditions in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta that affect the amount and quality of water that can be legally moved from Reclamation's reservoirs to pumping plants in the Delta, including CCWD's; and

**WHEREAS**, although estimated water deliveries by Reclamation will be adequate to meet conservation-minded, reasonable indoor and business water needs, outdoor water uses will require supplies from CCWD's Los Vaqueros Reservoir and other sources; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Martinez and CCWD focus is on further reducing outdoor water use to save water in the Los Vaqueros Reservoir for next year.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of the City of Martinez that the Council hereby finds and determines that:

1. Based upon the facts recited above, and upon the authority contained in California Water Code §350 et seq., §375 et seq., §31021 et seq., §31024 et seq., and §31026 et seq., drought conditions exist that can affect water supply and quality available to the City of Martinez; and
2. Conservation and measures to prevent waste and unreasonable use are necessary to manage demands so that reasonable water needs of City of Martinez customers can be met in 2014; and

3. Customers are hereby requested to voluntarily reduce their water use by 15% and to be conservation minded in their everyday use of water, with water use during the period of 2011 - 2012 used as the baseline for reduction; and
4. Customers are hereby requested to voluntarily reduce their outdoor landscape irrigation water use by 25% to assist in meeting the overall 15% water use reduction goal; and
5. The good drought watering practices, attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated herein as if fully set forth, are necessary to conserve water, promote effective water supply planning, assure reasonable and beneficial use of water, prevent waste and unreasonable use of water, and prevent unreasonable methods of use of water within the City of Martinez; and said good watering practices are necessary to assure that sufficient supplies of water will be available to meet the needs of, and to protect the health and safety of, the City of Martinez customers and other members of the public.

\* \* \* \* \*

**I HEREBY CERTIFY** that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution duly adopted by the City Council of the City of Martinez at a Regular Meeting of said Council held on the 7th day of, May, 2014, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

RICHARD G. HERNANDEZ, CITY CLERK  
CITY OF MARTINEZ

## EXHIBIT A

### ***WATER CONSERVATION TIPS***

The City partners with Contra Costa Water District who offer several free water conservation devices -- including low-flow shower heads, hose nozzles and aerators for your sink -- just stop by their office at 1331 Concord Ave. in Concord. The City of Martinez has some of these free devices at City Hall (525 Henrietta Street)

#### ***Dishwashing***

- Wash only full loads
- When replacing buy models that use less water and have energy saving cycles
- If washing by hand do not let rinse water run.

#### ***Faucets***

- Fix leaking faucets
- Don't run water when shaving or brushing teeth (don't shave in shower)
- Install aerator

#### ***Showers***

- Fix leaking valves
- Take shorter showers
- Install low flow water heads with temporary shut off button (free from City)

#### ***Laundry***

- Wash only full loads
- Adjust load cycle to match quantity of clothes
- Take advantage of rebates

#### ***Toilets***

- Check for leaks
- Install water bag (free kit from City)
- Obtain voucher and replace old toilets (call Contra Costa Water District, web site)

#### ***Landscaping***

- Plant drought tolerant plant
- Group plants that have similar water needs
- Aerate lawns (minimize lawn areas)
- Mulch 2-3 inches
- Base watering on soil wetness not by observing plant condition

#### ***Note:***

The residential High-Efficiency Washing Machine Rebate Program provides rebates of up to \$200 to customers who purchase new qualifying high-efficiency clothes washers.

To help you save water and money every year, and to maximize water supplies, the Contra Costa Water District is offering \$175 instant rebates when you purchase a High Efficiency Toilet to replace an older high volume toilet.

## ***PRACTICES TO AVOID***

The following uses of water supplied by the City of Martinez have been determined to be wasteful and are prohibited at any time when a 15% Voluntary Drought Management Program is in effect:

### **Single Family and Multi-Family Residential Customers**

- a. Using City-furnished water for non-recirculating decorative fountains or filling decorative lakes or ponds.
- b. Washing paved or other hard-surfaced areas, including sidewalks, walkways, driveways, patios, and parking areas with City-furnished water.
- c. Outside watering with City-furnished water that results in excessive flooding or runoff into a gutter, drain, patio, driveway, walkway or street.
- d. Outside watering of landscaping during the daylight hours of 9AM-5PM.
- e. Washing a vehicle, trailer or boat with City-furnished water using a hose without a shut off nozzle.

### **Non-residential Customers**

- a. Using City-furnished water for non-recirculating decorative fountains or for filling decorative lakes or ponds.
- b. Washing paved or other hard-surfaced areas, including sidewalks, walkways, driveways, patios, and parking areas with City-furnished water.
- c. Outside watering with City-furnished water that results in excessive flooding or runoff into a gutter, drain, patio, driveway, walkway or street.
- d. Outside watering of landscaping during the daylight hours of 9AM-5PM.