How many days of the week can I water? Is there a schedule?

City of Riverside water customers may use outdoor irrigation 3 days per week during warmer months (April thru October) and 2 days per week beginning in November. Watering may be done between the watering hours of 6 p.m. and 10 a.m.

Where can I report water waste?

If you spot water runoff or other water waste, you may report it through our 311 Call Center by dialing 311 (or 826-5311), online at riversideca.gov, or by using the 311 Call Center app.

Will my water rates go up?

No. The City of Riverside is not planning rate increases related to drought restrictions at this time.

Will I be fined if I don't follow the restrictions?

Riverside's Code Enforcement staff will follow these steps for non-compliance:

First Notice

A warning will be issued that encourages compliance and provides information on rebate programs and helpful tips to reduce water waste.

Second Notice

A second notice will be issued that explains the severity of the violation and will detail what will occur if the violation is not corrected.

Third Violation

Code Enforcement staff will issue fines of up to $500 in accordance with the Riverside Municipal Code.

Please note that while the state has authorized water suppliers to impose a $500-per-day fine for water waste violations, the City will be focusing more on voluntary compliance through customer outreach and education than on imposing fines.

WATER | ENERGY | LIFE

CITY OF RIVERSIDE PUBLIC UTILITIES

3901 Orange Street • Riverside, CA 92501
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drought

frequently asked questions about the California drought



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As California's record drought continues, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) has asked all water utilities to activate their emergency water supply plans and adopt mandatory water conservation restrictions for their customers.

The Riverside City Council adopted the following water supply restrictions for all Riverside Public Utilities (RPU) water customers effective immediately:

- All outdoor watering must be reduced to no more than three (3) days per week through October 31, and two (2) days per week beginning November 1.
- Outdoor watering can only occur between the hours of 6 p.m. & 10 a.m.
- Watering to the point of runoff or applying water to streets and sidewalks is prohibited.
- Irrigation and plumbing leaks must be fixed within 72 hours of notice.
- Washing of autos, etc. must be done with a bucket or a hose with a shut-off nozzle.
- Restaurants should provide water only on request.
- Hotels shall provide customers with options of not having towels/linens washed daily.
- Construction operations receiving water shall not use water unnecessarily.

To help you meet the new water conservation goals, Riverside Public Utilities offers rebates on these water-saving products and services:

- Waterwise landscaping (now available through socalwatersmart.com)
- Artificial turf (now available through socalwatersmart.com)
- High-efficiency clothes washers
- Weather-based irrigation controllers
- Free water-efficient sprinkler nozzles
- High-efficiency sprinkler nozzles
- High-efficiency toilets
- Commercial programs are also available

Conservation program information and applications are available at BlueRiverside.com

Common questions about the drought

Is the State of California really in a drought?

The state of California is in a severe drought. Get more information about the size and impact of the drought at acwa.com.

Is the City of Riverside in a drought like other California cities?

The City of Riverside receives its water from local groundwater basins, which are still replenished by rain and snow, though at a lower rate than normal. Riverside has many years' worth of water in reserve, and while there is no near-term risk to Riverside's water supplies, there may be a long-term risk.

What is the State of California doing about the drought?

Governor Brown issued an Executive Order forbidding certain activities and mandating that the (SWRCB) develop regulations to conserve 25% of statewide urban water usage between June 1, 2015 and February 27, 2016 as compared to 2013. Riverside must save a cumulative 28%. Information on the Governor's declaration can be found at gov.ca.gov.

The SWRCB's emergency regulations can be found at: waterboards.ca.gov.

Where does the City of Riverside get its water from?

Riverside extracts its water from three groundwater basins: the Bunker Hill Basin in San Bernardino, the Rialto Colton Basin in Colton, and the Riverside Basin. More information about these basins and Riverside's water rights can be found at riversideca.gov. Riverside's water rights are based on natural recharge over a 40-year hydrologic (precipitation) cycle.

What will happen if the City of Riverside does not meet this goal?

The state of California has several administrative actions that can be taken if an agency fails to meet its targets. On one end of the spectrum are written warnings. On the other hand, the state could hold a hearing and then issue a Cease and Desist Order, followed by $10,000-per-day fines.

How do the state-imposed water restrictions affect City of Riverside water customers?

All City of Riverside water customers must adhere to all state-mandated restrictions for water conservation, use and water waste, as well as all local water conservation, use, and waste restrictions.