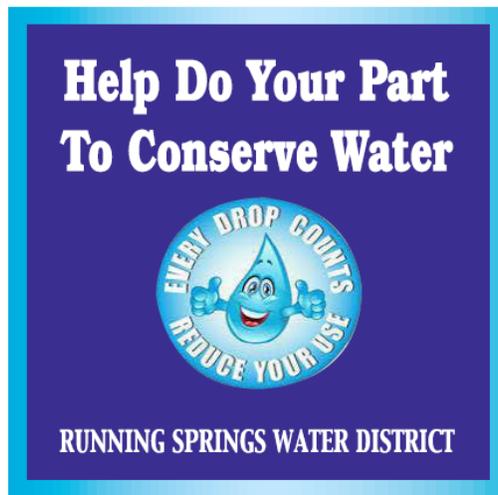


On May 18, 2016, the State Water Board adopted a statewide water conservation approach that replaces the prior mandatory restrictions put in place in May 2015. As a result, the Running Springs Water District no longer has a MANDATORY limit on outdoor irrigation but we still are ENCOURAGING the Running Springs Water District customers to continue to VOLUNTARILY limit outdoor irrigation of ornamental landscapes or turf with potable water to two or three days per week.



Every household should be able to keep indoor water use to no more than 55 gallons per person, per day. For the most part, the amount of water that each person uses in excess of this amount is water that is applied to lawns and other ornamental landscapes.

The existing restrictions prohibit:

- Using potable water to wash sidewalks and driveways;
- Allowing runoff when irrigating with potable water;
- Using hoses with no automatic shutoff nozzles to wash cars;
- Using potable water in decorative water features that do not recirculate the water;
- Irrigating outdoors during and within 48 hours following measureable rainfall; and
- Restaurants serving water to their customers unless the customer requests it.

Additionally, hotels and motels must offer their guests the option to not have their linens and towels laundered daily and prominently display this option in each guest room.

For more information, please visit the Emergency Water Conservation website at: [http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/waterrights/water\\_issues/programs/drought/emergency\\_regulations\\_waterconservation.shtml](http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/drought/emergency_regulations_waterconservation.shtml)

To learn more about the state's drought response, visit <http://ca.gov/drought/>. Every Californian should take steps to conserve water. Find out how at <http://saveourwater.com/>.

### **Water Conservation - Doing Our Part!**

Water awareness is an important part of water conservation and the following will help our community reduce water consumption and at the same time lower the water bill. Here are some useful tips to help with conservation of our valuable water resources:

### **Ten Outdoor Water Conservation Tips to Save Water and Lower Your Monthly Bill**

1. Do not over water your plants. More plants die from over watering than from under watering. Make sure the soil is dry several inches down near the base of the plant before watering.
2. Deep soak each time you water. Watering deeply creates a healthy root system that is better equipped to withstand drought and heat.
3. Cut back on watering when runoff occurs. Allow moisture to soak into the ground by lowering the duration of watering.
4. Use watering cans whenever possible, especially when watering just a few patio plants. Watering with a hose may actually put more water on the patio than in the containers as you move from plant to plant.
5. Water early in the morning or late in the evening when temperatures are cool and winds are calm.
6. Check hose connections for leaks and repair them promptly.
7. Adjust your sprinklers so water is aimed directly at plants rather than driveways, fences or the street.
8. Install a drip irrigation system or soaker hose around trees and shrubs.
9. Using mulch around plants and trees will greatly slow the evaporation of water from the soil.
10. Grow drought tolerant plants, many which can survive with less than an inch of water per week, once established.

Visit [www.epa.gov/watersense](http://www.epa.gov/watersense) for more information on ways to conserve water.

### **Additional Water Conservation Resource Links:**

<http://www.epa.gov/watersense/> - Information on water conservation and rebate products (Toilets, Sprinkler heads, Weather-based irrigation Controller).

<http://www.h2ouse.org/> - Survey your property to see where you can save water.

<http://saveourwater.com/> - Drought information and facts for California

### **Other Water Saving Tips**

- Water softener - Consider using an exchange type, not a self-regenerating style, water softener.
- Hot Water Recirculating System - If your home or business was built before 1990, this water-saving system was not incorporated and can reduce your water bill.
- Pressure regulator on incoming water supply - Set at a maximum of 50 pounds per square inch gage. Locate close to water meter.
- Bathtubs, Jacuzzi & Whirlpool Spas - Not to exceed 70 gallon capacity for units designed to be drained after each use.
- Showerheads - Maximum flow of two gallons per minute (GPM), better yet go with a 1.5 GPM at 50 pounds of pressure, equipped with shut-off valve near showerhead.
- Kitchen Faucets - To be equipped with aerator that allows a maximum flow of 2.0 gallons per minute at 50 pounds of pressure.
- Lavatory Faucets - To be equipped with an aerator allowing a maximum flow of 0.5 gallons per minute at 50 pounds of pressure.
- Outdoor Hose Bibs - shall not exceed three gallons flow per minute and shall each be equipped with vacuum breakers (anti-siphon valves).
- Use auto-shut off hose nozzles.
- Limit showers to 5 minutes.
- Install water efficient fixtures, i.e. replace 3.5 or 5-gallon toilets with 1.28 gallon-per-flush toilets.
- Run only full loads in your washing machine and dishwasher.

- Don't leave water running while shaving or brushing your teeth.
- Use drought-tolerant plants - [Landscape Guide for Mountain Homes](#).
- Adjust watering schedule monthly and with changes in weather.
- Use Drip (micro) irrigation systems for all non-turf grass areas.
- Periodically check your sprinkler system to ensure it is operating properly. (Frequent power outages in the mountains can wreak havoc with timers).
- Replace lawns with ground covers requiring minimal water.

**For more tips on water conserving landscapes and irrigation, please refer to the [Landscape Guide for Mountain Homes](#) available on the District's Website and at the District Office.**

### **Graywater Systems**

Graywater is the wastewater from bathtubs, showers, bathroom wash basins, clothes washing machines and laundry tubs. It does NOT include wastewater from kitchen sinks, dishwashers, toilets or laundry water from soiled diapers.

A Graywater System is a private plumbing system that is underground on private property and uses graywater to irrigate landscaping under specific conditions.

Graywater is similar to recycled water in that both systems require completely separate piping from potable (drinking) water pipes. However, graywater is not treated prior to distribution for irrigation. It is delivered through a private plumbing system, which is separate from the existing sewer system pipes, and used for subsurface irrigation for that private property owner only. Recycled water, on the other hand, is treated before it is delivered through its own designated pipelines (designated by their purple color) and used for above-ground irrigation for properties that are connected to recycled water pipelines.

Graywater potentially carries bacteria that could pose a health risk, and the regulations prohibit surface use of graywater where it could come in contact with humans or animals. However, by following the regulations, a graywater system may be constructed to safely dispose of wastewater and use it for irrigation.

Since most private residences currently use potable (drinking) water for irrigation, a graywater system can reduce potable water consumption. A graywater system does not reduce the size of an onsite private sewage disposal system (septic tanks). However, a graywater system may extend the life of an onsite private sewage disposal system.

District customers must obtain permits from the County of San Bernardino before installing a graywater system. For more information, contact:

Twin Peaks Office, 26010 State Highway 189, Twin Peaks, CA 92391 – (909) 336-0640

### **Water Use Calculations**

District water meters record water use in terms of cubic feet. One cubic foot of water is equal to 7.48 gallons. District bills are based on how many cubic feet each customer uses. One hundred cubic feet (1 CCF) is equivalent to 748 gallons.

To determine your water use, your last reading is subtracted from your current reading to find out how many cubic feet of water you have used in the billing period.

An average, full time, water conserving household of four people uses approximately 900 cubic feet per month for indoors only. Outdoor irrigation for landscaping typically doubles the consumption.

### **How many gallons is that?**

To figure out how many gallons you are consuming, multiply the number on your billing statement by 7.48 to find out how many gallons of water you are using each billing period. For example, 900 cubic feet x 7.48 = 6,694.6 gallons. That's an average of 220 gallons per day.

### **Quick Conversions:**

1 cubic foot (1 CF) = 7.48 gallons = 62.4 pounds

100 cubic feet (1 CCF) = 748 gallons

1 acre foot (1 AF) = 325,851 gallons = 43,560 CF

1 million gallons (MG) = 3.07 AF = 133,681 CF