

City of Camarillo 601 Carmen Drive, Camarillo, CA 93010 NEWS RELEASE

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Camarillo Eases Water Restrictions in Alignment with Regional Water Supplies

Camarillo, CA – In response to this winter's higher than average rainfall, and in alignment with actions taken by regional water suppliers, the City is easing water restrictions by doubling the allowed frequency of outdoor residential watering to two-days-per-week.

On March 22, 2023, the Camarillo City Council adopted an Urgency Ordinance updating the water conservation measures, increasing residential water use from one day a week to two days per week for no more than 10 minutes per station between the hours of 6:00 pm and 8:00 am. Addresses ending with an even number are permitted to water on Tuesdays and Fridays, and addresses ending with an odd number are permitted to water on Mondays and Thursdays. Both the watering of nonfunctional turf and the planting of new turf are still prohibited.

The significant amount of recent rainfall has improved California's water supply condition, yet the uncertainty of sustained long-term relief from several years of drought remains. The Department of Water Resources recently announced a 2023 imported State Water Project allocation increase to 35 percent, up from an initial 5 percent allocation announced in December of 2022. In March, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California notified water purveyors of the increased availability of State Water Project water supply, updated volumetric limits to reflect the additional water supplies, and rescinded the Emergency Water Conservation Program restriction of one-day-per-week watering.

Calleguas Municipal Water District supplies imported water to Ventura County agencies including Camarillo. In light of the recent actions taken by the State and Metropolitan, Calleguas recently adopted a Resolution moving to a Stage 2 water shortage condition, thereby suspending the one-day-per-week watering restriction and recommending a two-day-per-week watering restriction.

"Camarillo aligns with the State, Metropolitan, and Calleguas, strongly urging water users to remain vigilant in their water usage and implement measures to reduce consumption in order to extend stored water supplies should dry conditions prevail in the future," stated Camarillo City Manager Greg Ramirez.

The City of Camarillo primarily depends on local groundwater wells and imported State Water Project water to supply water to its customers. Although there is an increase in State Water Project water availability, the local groundwater supply remains limited, and it is essential to maintain responsible environmental practices by conserving water to protect and extend our local water supply and promote responsible water usage which aligns with the State's strategy to make conservation a way of life.

For more information, please visit <u>cityofcamarillo.org/savewater</u>.

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