

News Release



**Foothill Municipal Water District
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WATER ALERT UPPED TO ORANGE, LIMITED SUPPLIES MAKE WATER CONSERVATION VITAL

Foothill Water District's Board of Directors has changed its water alert level from Yellow to Orange, meaning a step up from requesting extraordinary conservation to allocating a reduced amount of imported water, effective June 1, 2009.

Board President Robert Gomperz summarized the change by saying "We are trying to get a head start on the high-water-use summer months by urging customers to conserve water, starting immediately. Summer is the time when landscape watering reaches a peak. We are strongly urging that watering be reduced to two days per week, no more than 10 minutes each time.

Other steps that customers can take to conserve as much water as possible include:

- Turning off the tap when not needed
- Taking shorter showers
- Running only full loads of dishes and laundry
- Sweep paved surfaces instead of hosing them down

- Limit watering time to before 9 a.m. and after 5 p.m. for 10 minutes
- Fixing leaks within 48 hours.

Serious water limitations are facing all Southern California water agencies due to three consecutive dry years, court-ordered environmental restrictions on imported water, and growing water demand. Agencies served by Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, such as Foothill, are now facing reductions in water allocations and significant penalty rates from Metropolitan Water District will ultimately be paid by local water users if we don't all cut back water use."

Foothill Municipal Water District is developing a program to develop reliable local water supplies to decrease dependence on imported water. The plan includes encouraging more efficient use of the water we have, developing recycled water in our service area and capturing and capturing stormwater that flows out of the canyons in the winter.

To learn more about water supplies in our area and our plans to develop new supplies, Foothill is holding a water symposium on Wednesday, May 27, 2009 starting at 6 p.m. in the District's conference room at 4536 Hampton Road, La Canada Flintridge. For questions or information, please contact us at (818) 790-4036 or fmwd@fmwd.com

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