



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MWDOC BOARD TAKES ACTION TO LIMIT IMPORTED WATER SALES IN ORDER TO PRESERVE LIMITED SUPPLIES

Fountain Valley, CA (April 15, 2015) – Facing one of the worst droughts in California’s history, the Board of Directors of the Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC) voted to activate its Water Supply Allocation Plan (Plan) at Level 3. This equates to a roughly 15% reduction in imported water use throughout Orange County. The Plan will go into effect July 1, 2015 and continue through June 30, 2016 unless drought conditions improve.

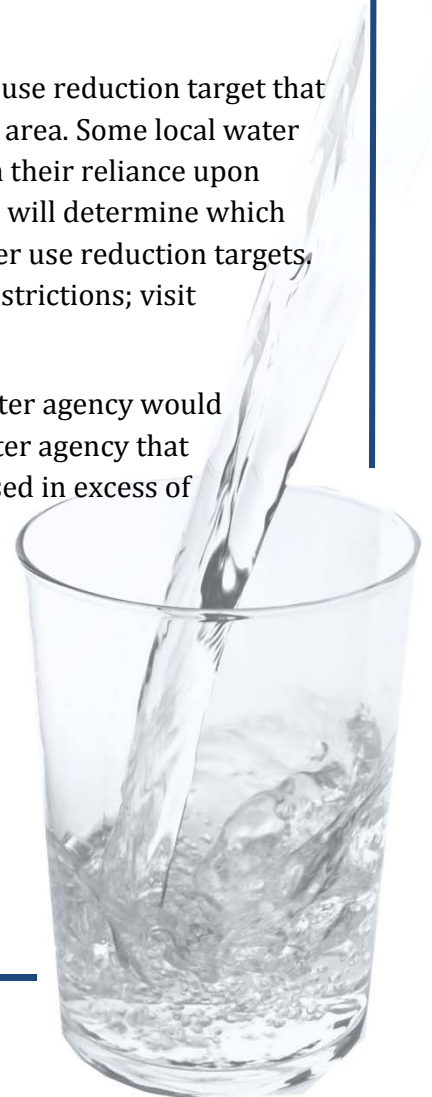
The 15% reduction called for in the Plan was designed to complement Governor Jerry Brown’s April 1st call for an average 25% reduction in statewide water use. Since 2013, Orange County has already reduced water consumption by nearly 10%, which means an additional 15% water savings is needed.

Per the Plan, each of MWDOC’s 28 member agencies will be given a water use reduction target that contributes to the 15% region-wide reduction needed within MWDOC’s service area. Some local water agencies may need to reduce water use by more or less than 15% depending on their reliance upon imported water supplies and their access to groundwater. Local water agencies will determine which measures and actions to implement at the local level in order to meet their water use reduction targets. Customers are encouraged to check with their local water agency for current restrictions; visit www.mwdoc.com/about/member-agencies.

If the region as a whole meets its 15% reduction target, no single local water agency would receive a penalty. If the region does not meet the reduction target, any local water agency that exceeds its individual target would be charged double or triple for any water used in excess of its pre-determined allocation.

The MWDOC Board’s decision to limit water sales to its 28 member agencies comes on the heels of the action taken yesterday by the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California to activate its own Water Supply Allocation Plan at Level 3. This level complements the 10-35% urban water use reduction targets mandated by the State Water Resources Control Board per the Governor’s April 1st Executive Order.

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MWDOC's Plan is modeled after the Metropolitan Water District's Water Supply Allocation Plan. Years of planning and analysis went into development of both plans, which take into account local water supplies, conservation efforts, water replenishment programs, and other local projects.

Orange County is a long-time leader in water efficiency. Thanks to our long-standing commitment to saving water, Orange County's population has grown by 25% since 1990, yet our total water use has decreased.

Governor Brown's recent Executive Order called for 50 million square feet of turf to be removed throughout California. This fiscal year alone (July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015), MWDOC's Turf Removal Program will fund the replacement of 10 million square feet of lawns; another 10 million square feet are projected to be replaced next fiscal year. Information on the Turf Removal Program, rebates on additional water efficient devices, and water-saving tips can be found at www.ocwatersmart.com.

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The Municipal Water District of Orange County is a water resource management and planning agency dedicated to ensuring supply and system reliability for the 2.2 million residents we serve through our 28 member agencies.

