

Long Beach **WATER**



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **Long Beach Reduced Cumulative Water Use by 15%**

*Long Beach Residents and Businesses Urged to Redouble Conservation Efforts Indoors*

LONG BEACH, CA – Today, the Long Beach Water Department reports that residents and businesses reduced water use in February by 4 percent compared to February 2013. The city used about 3,845 acre-feet of water in February. Last month's average temperature in Long Beach was 77 degrees, the hottest on record for the month of February. The average rainfall in February is 4 inches of precipitation, and last month's rainfall was 0.6 inches.

Long Beach has reduced water use cumulatively by 15 percent since June 2015 to February of this year. Last month, the State Water Resources Control Board extended the water reduction mandate throughout the state until October of this year.

“The State’s experts all agree that we are still in an extreme drought,” said Frank Martinez, President of the Board of Water Commissioners. “The hot and dry weather needs to make all of us redouble our indoor conservation efforts.”

“I can’t stress enough that water conservation needs to become a permanent lifestyle change,” said Mayor Robert Garcia. “We’ve been doing a great job, but each one of us can always do something a little more to save water.”

Long Beach Water’s “MissionH<sub>2</sub>OLB” conservation campaign aims to help the city use water efficiently, meet the state’s target, and still enjoy the community’s lifestyle. By visiting [www.lbwater.org/mission](http://www.lbwater.org/mission), residents can calculate their water usage to see if they are meeting the

Long Beach target, take the pledge to save water and listen to song playlists by two local bands to remind them to take a one song shower.

Residents and businesses are urged to turn sprinklers off during and after rain storms to achieve big water savings. There are still rebates available for many devices, including weather based irrigation controllers (\$120 rebate) that automatically shuts sprinklers off when it rains, and clothes washers (\$150 rebate) that save tremendous amounts of water and energy. Funding is limited and provided on a first-come/first-served basis at [www.socalwatersmart.com](http://www.socalwatersmart.com).

Residents can also attend free landscape classes to learn more about how to transform landscapes into beautiful drought tolerant gardens. A full class list and schedule can be found on [www.lblawntogarden.com](http://www.lblawntogarden.com).

The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) has mandated Long Beach to cut its water use by 16 percent cumulatively compared to 2013 until February. The continuing mandate will require Long Beach to cut its water use by 12 percent cumulatively compared to 2013 until October of this year.

- June 2015, 19% reduction
- July 2015, 19% reduction
- August 2015, 17.7% reduction
- September 2015, 18.6% reduction
- October 2015, 16.3% reduction
- November 2015, 11.6% reduction
- December 2015, 9.8% reduction
- January 2016, 13% reduction
- February, 2016, 4.4% reduction

Long Beach Water is the standard in water conservation and environmental stewardship.

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