

Long Beach WATER



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **Long Beach Reduced Water Use in June by 16%**

*Long Beach Residents and Businesses Continue to Beat the Conservation Standard*

LONG BEACH, CA – Today, the Long Beach Water Department reports that residents and businesses reduced water use in June by 16 percent compared to June of 2013. Long Beach has reduced water use by just over 15 percent cumulatively from June 2015 to May 2016, surpassing the state-mandated 14 percent cumulative reduction target.

In May 2016 the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) extended and modified the emergency urban water conservation mandate to allow water suppliers to locally determine conservation mandates effective June 1, 2016 through February 2017. Long Beach will not be allowed to exceed water demand from its 2013 water usage. The state is still under a drought emergency as declared by Governor Brown, and Long Beach remains in an “exceptional drought” condition.

“Weather doesn’t dictate whether or not we conserve in Long Beach,” said Frank Martinez, President of the Board of Water Commissioners. “Our customers have shown that they get it and are keeping up with their water-wise habits. Conservation is our new normal.”

Long Beach is under a Stage 1 Water Supply Shortage condition. All Stage 2 restrictions remain in place with the exception that one additional outdoor watering day is permitted during the hot, dry summer months for residents and businesses if the landscape needs it. Outdoor watering days are Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays before 9am or after 4pm through September 30, 2016. The two-day (Tuesdays and Saturdays) per week landscape watering schedule will go back in effect on October 1, 2016.

The “MissionH<sub>2</sub>OLB” campaign provides residents tips and information on how to save indoors and outdoors. By visiting [www.lbwater.org/mission](http://www.lbwater.org/mission), residents can take the pledge to save water, listen to song playlists by two local bands to remind them to take a one song shower and play the videogame to help the Long Beach water hero Conservin’ Mervyn on his mission to be water efficient.

Residents can apply for the \$2.50 per square foot Lawn-to-Garden (L2G) incentive to replace their lawn in their front yard with beautiful drought tolerant plants. For more information on the L2G incentive visit [www.lblawntogarden.com](http://www.lblawntogarden.com). There are still rebates available for many devices, including high efficiency clothes washers and toilets, saving residents money on their water bills. Certain restrictions apply. Visit [www.socalwatersmart.com](http://www.socalwatersmart.com) for more details.

### **Water restrictions in effect:**

- Residents and businesses can only irrigate landscape during summer months on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays until September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Two-day per week landscape irrigation (Tuesdays and Saturdays) will begin in the winter on October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016.
- Residents and businesses can only irrigate landscape 10 minutes per station per watering day, or 20 minutes if using water-efficient rotating nozzles
- Residents and businesses can only irrigate landscape before 9am or after 4pm
- Residents and businesses cannot irrigate the landscape nor any other use of water beyond saturation, causing unreasonable runoff
- Residents with pools and spas must use a cover to prevent evaporation
- Residents and businesses cannot hose down hardscape with a hose, unless using a pressurized cleaning device
- Residents and businesses cannot irrigate landscape during measurable rainfall or anytime within 48 hours afterwards
- Residents cannot wash a vehicle with a hose unless it has a water shut-off nozzle or device attached to the hose
- Residents and businesses cannot allow the wasting of water due to breaks, leaks or other malfunctions in the plumbing or distribution system
- Restaurants cannot serve water to customers without the customer requesting it
- Hotels and motels must post signs to notify patrons they can choose not to have linens and towels washed daily

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

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