

Long Beach **WATER**



MEDIA RELEASE

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Long Beach Met Governor's Mandate Fifth Month in a Row

October 2015 water use down 16.3 percent compared to 2013

LONG BEACH, CA – Today, the Long Beach Water Department reports that residents and businesses met the 16 percent water conservation mandate for Long Beach, set by the SWRCB, for the fifth time in a row coming in at 16.3 percent, despite almost no precipitation and record-breaking high temperatures. The city used about 4,457 acre-feet of water in October. Last month's water use was the lowest since 1963.

“Conservation needs to be permanently integrated into our community's lifestyle,” said Mayor Robert Garcia. “We have to keep saving even during these projected wet winter months.”

The average temperature for the month of October in Long Beach was 85 degrees, nine degrees warmer than the 10-year average of 76 degrees for the month of October.

“Although we are pleased that Long Beach continues to exceed the state mandated goals, I cannot stress enough the importance of continued conservation methods all year round,” said Frank Martinez, President of the Board of Water Commissioners. “The best thing we can do to save water during the projected wet winter months is to turn our sprinklers off during and after rain storms.”

Single-family residences that purchase and install a high-efficiency toilet (1.28 gallons per flush or less) to replace a less-efficient toilet (using more than 1.6 gallons per flush) can now receive up to \$200 in rebates, previously rebated at \$100. The additional \$100 comes from the statewide “Save Our Water” program, while the other \$100 comes from the Metropolitan Water District's

“SoCal Water\$mart” program. The combined rebate amount could cover the full cost of a toilet replacement. Residents must apply for the funding via both websites at www.saveourwaterrebates.com and www.socalwatersmart.com. Funding is limited and provided on a first-come/first-served basis.

Long Beach Water’s “MissionH₂OLB” 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, 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.

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 of next year. Long Beach has beat the state mandate every month.

- June 2015, 19% reduction
- July 2015, 19% reduction
- August 2015, 17.7% reduction
- September 2015, 18.6% reduction
- October 2015, 16.3% reduction

Long Beach Water is an urban, Southern California retail water supply agency, and the standard in water conservation and environmental stewardship.

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