



Long Beach Water Department
The Standard in Water Conservation &
Environmental Stewardship

MEDIA RELEASE

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Long Beach Schools, Businesses Eligible for Water Conservation Project Grants

LB Water Department will fund up to half of a proposed project's costs

LONG BEACH, CA – The Long Beach Board of Water Commissioners has approved a new program for Fiscal Year 2011 that will provide funding to local schools and businesses that undertake projects designed to generate long-term water use savings. The program, known as the “Proven Water Savings Program”, will be made available to all Commercial, Industrial & Institutional (CII) and Dedicated Irrigation (DI) customers served by the Long Beach Water Department.

“Approximately 30 percent of the water used in Long Beach comes from our CII and Dedicated Irrigation customers,” said Kevin Wattier, General Manager of the Water Department. “This program will encourage these customers to implement water conservation projects that may otherwise not be feasible due to a lack of funding.”

Some of the larger CII and DI customers in Long Beach are the Long Beach Unified School District, Memorial Medical Center, and CSULB. These organizations, along with the City's many other CII and DI customers, would be eligible for the financial incentives offered through the program. In order to accommodate the unique size and scope of each customer's operations, every grant applicant will execute an individual agreement with the Water Department for their proposed conservation project.

Once projects have been approved and ultimately completed, eligible customers will receive reimbursement for their projects using the lesser amount calculated by one of two alternative methods:

1. \$0.57 for each billing unit (748 gallons) of proven water savings over the life of the project, with a maximum project life of five years (e.g., a customer that generates four million gallons of water savings over the five-year period would receive \$3,050 toward their project's cost); or
2. One-half of the project's cost



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Funding for the new program is limited, so customers should contact the Water Department as soon as they have a specific project in mind. The Department is also available to meet with interested customers to help them identify potential water conservation projects.

The new program supplements the Water Department's other major water conservation incentive program, the City's Lawn to Garden Program. That program provides rebates to water customers who remove their grass lawns and replace them with California-Friendly landscapes. By next spring, more than 200 customers will have completed their landscape transformations.

Both programs are meant to help the City achieve the Water Department's "100 by 100" initiative, the goal of which is to reduce citywide daily per capita water use to 100 gallons or less by the end of 2011, the Water Department's 100th anniversary. Long Beach is currently at 102 gallons per day, or less than two percent from the end goal.

[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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