



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

MEDIA ADVISORY

Friday, December 17, 2010

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Spend Your Money on Gifts, Not Water Bills this Holiday Season

LONG BEACH, CA – The Long Beach Water Department is encouraging residents to save money on their water bills over the holidays by turning off their sprinkler systems while several large storm systems make their way through the Long Beach area.

According to a special weather statement by the National Weather Service, a cluster of strong Pacific storm systems will bring heavy rains and winds to much of California today through the middle of next week. Various weather services have forecast up to ten inches or more of rain in certain areas of southern California

“We are asking our customers to keep their outdoor irrigation systems turned off for at least the next couple of weeks while these storms play out,” said Kevin Wattier, General Manager for the Long Beach Water Department. “The ground is going to be very saturated next week, and any water that you use outside is going to runoff your yard and go straight into the street and local storm drains.”

In the last three years, the City of Long Beach has quickly become the nation’s water conservation leader. Ten years ago, average daily per capita water use (the average amount of water that each person uses, each day) in the city was approximately 130 gallons. Today, that figure has dropped to below 101.5 gallons.

If the city can further reduce that number to 100 gallons or less, the Long Beach water supply will be deemed as being 100 percent reliable according to a recent decision made by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD), the regional water wholesaler from which Long Beach purchases 40 percent of its drinking water.

“People should really be asking themselves what they want to spend their money on this Christmas,” said Wattier. “Would you rather buy your child a new toy, or spend that money on some water that won’t do any good for your yard due to all the rain we will be receiving,” added Wattier.

The [Long Beach Water Department](#) is an urban, southern California retail water supply agency and the standard in water conservation and environmental stewardship.

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