



City of Biggs

Agenda Item Staff Report For the Regular City Council Meeting: May 13, 2014

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
FROM: City Administrator
SUBJECT: Consider the concept of a water conservation program.

Background:

As the city prepares a drought relief grant application for water system improvements it may be advantageous to formulate a water conservation program as it may improve the city's scoring in a competitive grant process. Additionally, it does cost the City (the rate payers) to pump and deliver each unit of water, so water conservation efforts can be an economic benefit to the water fund, as well as assist with conserving the city's limited ground water source.

As merely one local example, information regarding the Paradise Irrigation District program is attached.

Many other examples can be found at the following link:
<https://www.calwater.com/local-water-conservation-ordinances/>

Recommendation:

Consider the concept of a water conservation program.

Mark Sorensen, City Administrator

PID adopts community-wide goal of 20% reduction as well as water use restrictions

Paradise Irrigation District

Our water. 
Save it for **Our future.**

It's our community's water—and we need to save it for our future.

That's the reasoning behind the April adoption of a water conservation program by the Paradise Irrigation District Board of Directors. The plan was approved after input from district committees and a public hearing; it is in effect immediately.

Rather than a mandatory reduction in usage, directors voted to ask customers to actively conserve water on a voluntary basis with a goal of 20% water usage reduction community-wide. Also included in the plan are landscape restrictions (time/day/amount) and guidelines for wise water use.

Adoption and enforcement of the plan allows PID to delay or avoid declaring a water shortage emergency, as well as helps the district minimize the effects of a drought within our community.

Per the state water code, violations of the water conservation plan may be prosecuted as a

misdemeanor; repeat offenders, at the discretion of the district, may be placed on the district's highest tiered payment rate or be subject to other administrative penalties.

The full text of the resolution and the plan is printed below and is also available at ParadiseIrrigation.com. Customers may request a copy by calling 877-4971.

Overview of new wise water use guidelines *

Water when?

- No outdoor watering between 10 am and 8 pm.
- No more than 15 minutes a day per station.
- Water only on even/odd days, based on the last digit in your street address. For example, an address of 6254 waters only on even days; 6253 waters on odd days. No watering on the 31st day of a month.

Water what?

- No washing driveways or hard surfaces.
- No watering overspray on to paved or hardscaped areas (sidewalks, drives).
- When washing your vehicle, only use a bucket or a hose with a shut-off nozzle.

Water around our community:

- Customers at ridge restaurants must ask for a glass of water; it will not be served automatically.
- Ridge motels and hotels must offer guests the option of no daily linen/towel service.

Your responsibilities:

- If PID notifies you that you have a leak, it's your responsibility to repair it promptly.
- Voluntary 20% reduction in water use by all customers.
- Report any water waste you see to PID; call 530/876-2055.

* Exceptions are made for various types of low-flow watering systems. See full resolution for details.



PARADISE IRRIGATION DISTRICT

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-03 ADOPTING A WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM

WHEREAS, article X, section 2 of the California Constitution declares that waters of the State are to be put to beneficial use, that waste, unreasonable use, or unreasonable method of use of water be prevented, and that water be conserved for the public welfare; and

WHEREAS, regulation of the time of certain water use, manner of certain water use, method of application of water for certain uses, and installation and use of water-saving devices provide an effective and immediately available means of conserving water; and

WHEREAS, California Water Code section 375 et seq. empower any public entity which supplies water at retail or wholesale to adopt and enforce a water conservation program to reduce the quantity of water used by those within its service area after holding a public hearing and making appropriate findings of necessity for the adoption of a water conservation program; and

WHEREAS, careful water management that includes active water conservation measures, particularly in times of drought is essential to ensure a reliable minimum supply of water to meet current and future water supply needs; and

WHEREAS, the adoption and enforcement of a comprehensive water conservation program will allow Paradise Irrigation District to delay or avoid declaring a water shortage emergency pursuant to Water Code section 350; and

WHEREAS, the adoption and enforcement of a water conservation program is necessary to manage Paradise Irrigation District's water supply to avoid or minimize the effects of drought within Paradise Irrigation District and to ensure a reliable and sustainable minimum supply of water for the public health, safety, and welfare.

WHEREAS, on January 17, 2014, the Governor of California proclaimed the existence of a statewide drought state of emergency; and

WHEREAS, on April 2, 2014, Paradise Irrigation District held a public hearing and made appropriate findings of necessity for the adoption of a water conservation program; and

WHEREAS, on April 2, 2014, , Paradise Irrigation District's reservoir storage was at 82% of its historical average; and

WHEREAS, Paradise Irrigation District's 2008 Urban Water Management Plan and subsequent updates have confirmed that the District must operate in a perpetual state of drought until the District develops or acquires a reliable drought water supply;

WHEREAS, water conserved by the District's customers will be carried over in storage for public health and safety uses in future years;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Directors of Paradise Irrigation District does hereby adopt this "Water Conservation Plan for Paradise Irrigation District" as follows:

1. The Board of Directors finds the above recitals are true and incorporate them by this reference as findings; and

2. This resolution and the conservation measures herein are effective immediately upon adoption pursuant to Water Code section 376; and

3. Pursuant to Water Code section 376 and Government Code section 6061, Paradise Irrigation District shall publish in a newspaper of general circulation this resolution adopting a water conservation program within 10 days after its adoption; and

4. This resolution establishes mandatory conservation measures to be implemented immediately and at such other times when, in the opinion of the Board of Directors, such measures are necessary for the preservation of public health and safety standards. The Board finds that the mandatory conservation measures will be in place until the earlier of (a) suspension by the Board of Directors; or (b) when Paradise Reservoir next fills and spills. The mandatory conservation measures may be imposed in future years by majority action of the Board of Directors at a public meeting convened in accordance with the Brown Act (Government Code § 54950 et seq.).

4. The provisions of this resolution are not intended to limit uses of water necessary to protect public health and safety or for essential government services, such as police, fire and other similar emergency services; and

5. Violations of this Water Conservation Plan will be considered waste and an unreasonable use of water. The following mandatory conservation measures are effective immediately and at such other times as determined by the Board of Directors:

a. **Watering Hours and Duration.** Irrigation watering is prohibited between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m., and irrigation systems are limited to no more than 15 minutes of watering per day per station. These restrictions do not apply to the limited use of a hand-held bucket or similar container, a hand-held hose equipped with a positive self-closing water shut-off nozzle or device, an irrigation system that uses stream rotor sprinklers that meet a 70% efficiency standard, very low-flow drip type irrigation systems where no emitter produces more than two gallons of water per hour, or to commercial nurseries and growers. In addition, irrigation for the purpose of installing and germinating new lawns or landscaping is exempt from these restrictions for a period not to exceed three weeks, unless the General Manager gives written permission to a water user for an extension beyond three weeks due to unique circumstances.

b. **Excessive Water Flow or Runoff.** Watering in a manner that, in the opinion of the District, results in overspray or excessive runoff onto paved or hardscaped areas is prohibited.

c. **Washing Hard or Paved Surfaces.** Washing of hard or paved surfaces, including without limitation sidewalks, walkways, driveways, parking areas, tennis courts, patios, roofs, alleys and other hard surfaces, is prohibited except when necessary to alleviate safety or sanitary hazards or as surface preparation for the application of any architectural coating or painting. All such permitted washing must be done by use of a hand-held bucket or similar container, a hand-held hose equipped with

a positive self-closing water shut-off device, a low-volume high-pressure cleaning machine, or a low-volume high-pressure water broom.

d. **Obligation to Fix Leaks.** Leaks in distribution, irrigation, or plumbing systems on the customer's side of the meter must be promptly repaired after discovery, and in no event more than one week after receiving notice from the Paradise Irrigation District.

e. **Water Fountains and Decorative Water Features.** Water fountains and decorative water features must use a water recirculation system.

f. **Limits on Washing Vehicles.** Washing any automobile, truck, van, bus, motorcycle, boat, or any other vehicle is restricted to the use of a hand-held bucket or similar container, or a hand-held hose equipped with a positive self-closing water shut-off nozzle or device and in accordance with conservation measure 5(c), above. This provision does not apply to a commercial car washing facility.

g. **Drinking Water Served Upon Request.** Eating or drinking establishments, including restaurants, hotels, cafés, cafeterias, bars, or other public places where food or drinks are sold are prohibited from providing drinking water to any customer unless expressly requested.

h. **Commercial Lodging Establishment Daily Linen Services.** Hotels, motels, and other commercial lodging establishments must provide customers the option of not having towels and linen laundered daily. Commercial lodging establishments must prominently display notice of this option in each guest room.

i. **Restaurants Required to Use Water Conserving Spray Valves.** Eating or drinking establishments, including restaurants, hotels, cafés, cafeterias, bars, or other public places where food or drinks are sold must utilize water conserving nozzles on pre-rinse spray valves.

j. **Commercial Car Wash Facilities.** Commercial car wash facilities may not use or permit the use of any water to wash any car, truck, boat, trailer, bus, recreation vehicle, camper, or any other vehicle, or any portion thereof, except by the use of the equipment provided by the facility.

k. **Outdoor Residential Watering Restrictions.** Watering or irrigating of lawns, landscaping, or other vegetated areas is limited based on the following schedule: Properties whose street address bears a final digit that is an odd number may water or irrigate when the day of the month is an odd number. Properties whose street address bears a final digit that is an even number may water or irrigate when the day of the month is an even number. Watering and irrigating will be prohibited on the 31st day of any month that has 31 days.

This provision does not apply to landscape irrigation zones that exclusively use very low flow drip-type irrigation systems in which no emitter produces more than two (2) gallons of water per hour. This provision also does not apply to watering or irrigating by use of a hand-held bucket or similar container, a hand-held hose equipped with a positive self-closing water shut-off nozzle or device, or for very short periods of time for the express purpose of adjusting or repairing an irrigation system.

l. **Voluntary 20% Reduction in Water Use by All Customers.** In addition to implementing the foregoing mandatory conservation measures, Customers are asked to implement measures within their households and businesses to reduce per capita water use by 20%. Water saving tips are available at www.paradiseirrigation.com or by contacting District staff at 877-4971.

m. **Rainy Days.** No water, sprinkling or irrigating shall take place on, or one day after days with measureable local rainfall.

n. **Reporting Water Waste.** Paradise Irrigation District shall maintain a program for residents to report waste of water throughout the District boundaries. District staff will investigate all reports of water waste.

6. The District reserves the right to pursue any and all available remedies for violations of the requirements of this Water Conservation Program, including without limitation:

a. Each violation of this resolution may be prosecuted as a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment in the county jail for not more than thirty (30) days or by a fine not exceeding \$1,000, or by both as provided in Water Code section 377.

b. Each day that a violation of this ordinance occurs is a separate offense.

c. Repeat offenders of this Water Conservation Program may, in the discretion of the District, be placed on the District's highest tiered rate for water usage or be subject to other administrative penalties pursuant to applicable law.

Passed and adopted by the Board of Directors of the Paradise Irrigation District at a special meeting of said Board on this ____ day of _____, 2014, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

PARADISE IRRIGATION DISTRICT

Larry R. Duncan, President

ATTEST:

Georgeanna Borrayo, Secretary