

# State Water Board Drought Year Water Actions

---

## Proposed Emergency Conservation Regulation Schedule

The State Water Board is committed to expedited development of the requirements to implement the Governor's directive for Californians to reduce water use by 25%. The proposed schedule below is for the development of emergency regulations to implement both the new prohibitions and restrictions on water use as well as the 25% statewide reduction in potable urban water use contained in the April 1, 2015 Executive Order.

- Governor issues Drought Executive Order - **April 1, 2015**
- Notice announcing release of draft regulatory framework and request for public comment - **April 7, 2015**
- Notice announcing release of draft regulations for informal public comment - **April 17, 2015**
- Emergency rulemaking formal notice - **April 28, 2015**
- Board hearing and adoption - **May 5 or 6, 2015**

## Executive Order provisions on conservation for State Water Board regulation

### Mandatory Statewide conservation to achieve 25% reduction in water use:

2. The State Water Resources Control Board (Water Board) shall impose restrictions to achieve a statewide 25% reduction in potable urban water usage through February 28, 2016. These restrictions will require water suppliers to California's cities and towns to reduce usage as compared to the amount used in 2013. These restrictions should consider the relative per capita water usage of each water suppliers' service area, and require that those areas with high per capita use achieve proportionally greater reductions than those with low use. The California Public Utilities Commission is requested to take similar action with respect to investor-owned utilities providing water services.

5. The Water Board shall impose restrictions to require that commercial, industrial, and institutional properties, such as campuses, golf courses, and cemeteries, immediately implement water efficiency measures to reduce potable water usage in an amount consistent with the reduction targets mandated by Directive 2 of this Executive Order.

6. The Water Board shall prohibit irrigation with potable water of ornamental turf on public street medians.

7. The Water Board shall prohibit irrigation with potable water outside of newly constructed homes and buildings that is not delivered by drip or microspray systems.

8. The Water Board shall direct urban water suppliers to develop rate structures and other pricing mechanisms, including but not limited to surcharges, fees, and penalties, to maximize water conservation consistent with statewide water restrictions. The Water Board is directed to adopt emergency regulations, as it deems necessary, pursuant to Water Code section 1058.5 to implement this directive. The Water Board is further directed to work with state agencies and water suppliers to identify mechanisms that would encourage and facilitate the adoption of rate structures and other pricing mechanisms that promote water conservation. The California Public Utilities Commission is requested to take similar action with respect to investor-owned utilities providing water services.

9. The Water Board shall require urban water suppliers to provide monthly information on water usage, conservation, and enforcement on a permanent basis.