



Water Views

March 2009

"A District of Distinction"
Serving the Public - Respecting the Environment

ETWD TO CONSIDER WATER-USE REGULATIONS

Similar to what our neighboring water districts have already done or are considering to do, El Toro Water District (ETWD) will consider adopting a Water Conservation and Supply Shortage Ordinance (Ordinance) that will be specific to ETWD customers and is more responsive to the effects of California's drought and the real possibility of water rationing in 2009.

While the recent precipitation has been helpful, Southern California continues to be officially in a drought more serious than many realize. The combination of dry conditions, low reservoir levels and environmental constraints in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Bay-Delta region has resulted in a substantially diminished water supply.



Lake Oroville, June 2005
Lake Oroville is a keystone facility of the State Water Project in Northern California. At capacity it can hold 3.5 million acre feet. (One acre foot of water will supply a family of 5 for a year.)



'The Same Lake', November 2008
Lake Oroville capacity at 1 million acre feet.

ETWD expects a water shortage declaration and mandatory water rationing from our water provider – Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD). The rationing from MWD could take place as early as July 1, 2009, so in preparation, ETWD will be considering specific regulations affecting its water users, similar

to those already adopted by neighboring agencies.

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Permanent Mandatory Water Conservation Measures - Already Passed by Neighboring Water Districts include but are not limited to:

- Irrigation of lawns, landscapes or other vegetation is prohibited between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.
- A specific limit on outside irrigation watering duration – per valve.
- Excessive watering resulting in runoff is prohibited.
- No hosing down hard or paved surfaces.
- All major leaks, breaks or malfunctions must be fixed in a timely manner.
- Fountains and decorative water features must use re-circulated water.
- A bucket or hose with a positive self-closing shutoff hose nozzle must be used when washing vehicles.
- Restaurants must serve water only upon request.
- Hotels must provide the option to not launder towels/linens daily.
- New water service will not be provided to structures using single pass cooling systems.
- Commercial laundry and car wash systems must re-circulate their water.
- Restaurants must wash dishes using water efficient pre-rinse spray valves.

Regulations to be considered by ETWD are expected to be similar to these.

Customers will be notified and provided access to the draft Ordinance in March or April prior to approval by ETWD's Board of Directors. Subsequent to adoption of the ordinance, a detailed outreach campaign will commence to educate our customers on the elements of the ordinance and how they will impact you. You are strongly encouraged to begin practicing these conservation measures immediately to continue doing your part in conserving water!



For additional water conservation practices, please visit www.etwd.com and www.bewaterwise.com.

If you have questions regarding the statewide water supply conditions and the necessity for the new Water Conservation and Water Supply Shortage Ordinance do not hesitate to contact our Customer Service representatives at (949) 837-0660.💧

California Friendly Plant of the Month #1 California Poppy *Eschscholzia californica*

The California poppy, the state flower of California, is native to the Pacific slope of North America from Western Oregon to Baja California.

Foliage, Flowers & Fruit

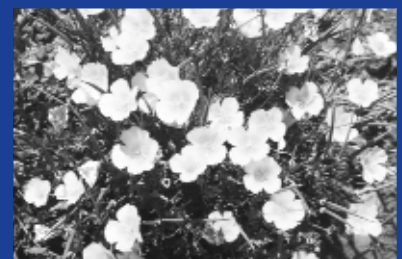
This small annual (sometimes acts as a perennial) plant will grow to less than 1' tall and has light, small blue, green leaves with yellow and orange flowers that bloom in spring and summer.

Hardiness

Hardy in all zones. Poppies will survive several years, re-sprouting each fall.

Landscape Use

Edging and borders in planter beds.



Season: Annual/Perennial
Size: Less than 1' tall
Color: Yellow and orange
Water: Little water
Sun: Full Sun
Soil: Sandy

WATER CONSERVATION CORNER

Suggested Weekly Irrigation Schedule

Month	Turf Grass	Trees, Shrubs, Groundcover
March	3 days 2 cycles of 3 minutes	2 days 2 cycles of 3 minutes
April	3 days 2 cycles of 4 minutes	2 days 2 cycles 4 minutes
May	3 days 3 cycles of 3 minutes	2 days 3 cycles of 3 minutes

Reminder...turn your irrigation systems off before any rain and let the soil dry before turning the irrigation system back on again.

Smartimer Rebate Program



**Smartimer rebate level:
\$60 per valve zone.
Average rebate = \$540.**

Did you know that you can **save an average of 40 gallons of water per day** by installing a SmartTimer? When you use less water, you're not only doing your part to con-

serve scarce water resources, but you're also reducing your water bill.

For more information, please visit www.mwdoc.com/OCrebates or call **1-888-376-3314**.

SoCal Water\$mart Rotating Nozzle Rebate Program

SoCal Water\$mart recommends installing rotating nozzles for your landscape's irrigation system. The rotating nozzles can eliminate wasteful runoff by allowing for directed, uniform water distribution on your landscape.

Rotating nozzles use multi-trajectory, rotating streams of water that water more slowly and uniformly. **Rotating nozzles can properly direct water flow and use 20% less water than conventional spray heads.**

All residential and commercial rotating nozzle customers within the ETWD service area are now eligible to receive up to \$9.00 per small rotating nozzle and up to \$18.00 per large rotating nozzle for the Rotating Nozzle Rebate Program.

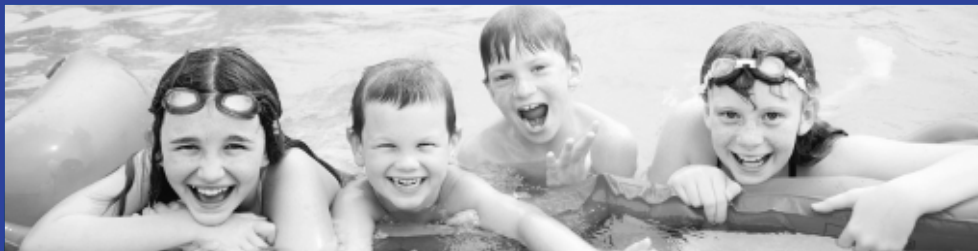


**Rotating Nozzle
Rebate level:
\$9 - \$18 per nozzle.**

ETWD is able to offer these rebates as a result of a Department of Water Resources (DWR) grant and because ETWD received approval from the DWR for the Urban Water Management Plan.

For more information on rebates, please visit www.mwdoc.com/OCrebates or call **1-888-376-3314**.

Water Education Corner



TEST YOUR H₂O KNOWLEDGE...

1. What is the best way to conserve water in the kitchen?

- a. Wash full loads of dishes in the dishwasher.
- b. Keep drinking water in the refrigerator.
- c. Wash vegetables in a bowl.
- d. All of the above.

2. If you leave the water running while brushing your teeth, how much water is wasted?

- a. 7 to 9 gallons
- b. 2 to 4 gallons
- c. 4 to 6 gallons
- d. 3 to 5 gallons

3. What activity in your home uses the most water?

- a. Toilet flushing.
- b. Taking a bath or shower.
- c. Washing laundry.
- d. Cooking and dishwashing.

4. How often should you water your lawn?

- a. Every day
- b. Only when necessary.
- c. Three days per week.
- d. Four days per week.

5. What activity outside your home uses the most water?

- a. Washing the car.
- b. Watering the lawn and garden.
- c. Washing the driveway.
- d. Answers A and C.

6. How many gallons per day does the El Toro Water District service area use on average?

- a. 5 million gallons
- b. 10 million gallons
- c. 15 million gallons
- d. 20 million gallons.

7. What percent of all water used in the ETWD service area is imported?

- a. 96%
- b. 78%
- c. 52%
- d. 35%



Remember to conserve water everyday!
“Water...do more with less!”

Answers: 1-D, 2-B, 3-A, 4- B, 5-B, 6-B, 7-A

The El Toro Water District is a California Water District governed by an elected Board of Directors.



EL TORO WATER DISTRICT

24251 Los Alisos Blvd. • Lake Forest, CA 92630
(949) 837-0660 • www.etwd.com

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The Mission of the El Toro Water District is to plan and invest appropriately to provide its customers a safe, adequate and reliable supply of water, wastewater and recycled water service in an environmentally and economically responsible way.

Water Views is published quarterly to keep water users in the El Toro Water District informed about water and wastewater related issues and events and is prepared by District staff.

Your comments and suggestions are welcome.

Please call Customer Service at (949) 837-0660 or visit our website at www.etwd.com.

Printed on recycled paper.