City of Vernon
2015 Drought Restrictions
California Drought

- Third Year of Persistent Drought
- On April 1, 2015 Governor calls for the State Water Resources Control Board to impose restrictions on water suppliers to achieve a 25% reduction in potable water usage.
- State Water Resources Control Board adopts Emergency Regulations imposing mandatory requirements. The City of Vernon is ordered to reduce its total potable water production by 8%.
- On June 2, 2015 City Council Declares a modified Phase II Water Supply Shortage
Current Drought Conditions
Current Drought Conditions
Vernon’s General Prohibition on Water Usage

(a) **Limits on watering hours:** Watering or irrigating of lawn, landscape or other vegetated area with potable water is prohibited between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on any day, except 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.
General Prohibition

(b) **Limit on watering duration:** Watering or irrigating of lawn, landscape or other vegetated area with potable water using a landscape irrigation system or a watering device that is not continuously attended is limited to no more than fifteen (15) minutes watering per day per station. This subsection does not apply to landscape irrigation systems that exclusively use very low-flow drip type irrigation systems when no emitter produces more than two (2) gallons of water per hour and weather based controllers or stream rotor sprinklers that meet a seventy (70%) percent efficiency standard.
General Prohibition

- (c) No excessive water flow or runoff: Watering or irrigating of any lawn, landscape or other vegetated area in a manner that causes or allows excessive water flow or runoff onto an adjoining sidewalk, driveway, street, alley, gutter or ditch is prohibited.

- (d) No washing down hard or paved surfaces: Washing down hard or exterior paved surfaces, including but not limited to sidewalks, walkways, driveways, parking areas, patios or alleys, is prohibited except when necessary to alleviate safety or sanitary hazards, and then only by use of a hand-held bucket or similar container, a handheld hose equipped with a positive self-closing water shut-off device, a low-volume, high-pressure cleaning machine equipped to recycle any water used, or a low-volume high-pressure water broom.
General Prohibition

(e) **Obligation to fix leaks, breaks or malfunctions:** Excessive use, loss or escape of water through breaks, leaks or other malfunctions in the water user's plumbing or distribution system for any period of time after such escape of water should have reasonably been discovered is prohibited and shall be repaired as soon as reasonably practicable.

(f) **Re-circulating water required for water fountains and decorative water features:** Operating a water fountain or other decorative water feature that does not use recirculated water is prohibited.
General Prohibition

(g) **Limits on washing vehicles:** Using water to wash or clean a vehicle, including but not limited to any automobile, truck, van, bus, motorcycle, boat or trailer, whether motorized or not is prohibited, except by use of a hand-held bucket or similar container or a hand-held hose equipped with a positive self-closing water shutoff nozzle or device. This subsection does not apply to any commercial vehicle washing facility.

(h) **Drinking water served upon request only:** Eating or drinking establishments, including but not limited to a restaurant, hotel, cafe, cafeteria, bar, or other public place where food or drinks are sold, served, or offered for sale, are prohibited from providing drinking water to any person unless expressly requested.
General Prohibition

- (i) No installation of single pass cooling systems: Installation of single pass cooling systems is prohibited in buildings requesting new water service.

- (j) Limits on commercial car wash and laundry systems: Installation of non-recirculating water systems is prohibited in new commercial conveyor car wash and new commercial laundry systems.
A Phase II Water Supply Shortage exists when the City Council determines, in its sole discretion, that due to drought or other water supply conditions, a water supply shortage or threatened shortage exists and a consumer demand reduction is necessary to make more efficient use of water and appropriately respond to existing water conditions, except that a Phase II Water Supply Shortage shall become mandatory when the City Council determines that the City will suffer a water shortage in excess of thirty (30%) percent of its normal water supplies. Upon the declaration by the City of a Phase II Water Supply Shortage condition, the City will implement the mandatory Phase II conservation measures identified in this section.
(a) Watering days: Watering or irrigating of lawn, landscape or other vegetated area with potable water is limited to two (2) days per week on a schedule established and posted by the City. This provision does not apply to landscape irrigation zones that exclusively use very low flow drip type irrigation systems when 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. In addition, watering is prohibited between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.
Phase II Requirements

- (b) **Obligation to fix leaks, breaks or malfunctions:** All leaks, breaks, or other malfunctions in the water user's plumbing or distribution system must be repaired within forty-eight (48) hours of notification by the City unless other arrangements are made with the City.

- (c) **Limits on filling ornamental lakes or ponds:** Filling or refilling ornamental lakes or ponds is prohibited, except to the extent needed to sustain aquatic life, provided that such animals are of significant value and have been actively managed within the water feature prior to declaration of a supply shortage level under this article.
Phase II Requirements

- (d) Limits on washing vehicles: Using water to wash or clean a vehicle, including but not limited to, any automobile, truck, van, bus, motorcycle, boat or trailer, whether motorized or not, is prohibited except 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, by high pressure/low volume wash systems, or at a commercial car washing facility that utilizes a recirculating water system to capture or reuse water.

- (e) Limits on filling residential swimming pools and spas: Refilling of more than one (1) foot and initial filling of residential swimming pools or outdoor spas with potable water is prohibited.
(f) Commercial nurseries watering limitations: Commercial Nurseries shall be prohibited from watering lawn, landscaped or other turf areas more often than every other day and shall be prohibited from watering between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.
Mandatory water restrictions: No customer shall make, cause, use or permit the use of city water for any purpose in excess of eighty-five percent (85%) of the amount used the same corresponding monthly billing period two (2) years preceding the city council declaring a Phase I Water Supply Shortage. In the case of newly established business, no restriction shall be required until such time that the business has been established for one (1) year, at which time the preceding year's corresponding monthly billing shall be used to determine the businesses monthly water consumption.
Water Conservation

The metropolitan Water District of Southern California offers Commercial and Industrial Rebates for Water Conserving installations:

- Water-Based & Central Computer Irrigation controllers,
- Large Rotary Nozzles
- Rotating Nozzles for Pop-Up Spray Heads
- High Efficiency Toilets, Zero Water Urinal,
- pH-Cooling Tower Controller, Cooling Tower Conductivity Controller,
- Turf Removal
Water Savings Incentive Programs

Metropolitan Water Districts has a NEW Water Savings Incentive Program (WSIP) rebate program which provides financial incentives for customized water efficiency projects including: installation of commercial or industrial high-efficiency equipment; industrial process improvements; agricultural and landscape water efficiency improvements; and water management services.

This program is open to all commercial, industrial, institutional, agricultural, and large landscape customers with qualifying projects within Metropolitan’s 5,200 square mile service area. Incentives are paid based on the amount of water saved as a result of the project, subject to available funding. The incentive payment amount is up to $0.60 per 1,000 gallons saved per year over the project life, up to a maximum of 10 years. Incentives are limited to 50% of the eligible project costs. Eligible costs directly pertain to the project installation or water management services including audits, design, engineering, construction, equipment and materials.
Water Conservation

Helpful Websites

- [socalwatersmart.com](http://socalwatersmart.com)
SERIOUS DROUGHT
HELP SAVE WATER