

What is this About?

The purpose of this ordinance is to establish standards for year-round water conservation, to promote the efficient use of water, and to reduce or eliminate the waste of water in the City.

This brochure contains highlights of the water conservation ordinance, describing the elements relating to efficient residential water use and year-round water conservation.

You are in control of your water use! Please use water wisely – be aware of water-using activities in your home and garden, and don't let water leave your property.

In revising the ordinance, the City has taken the opportunity to strongly link water conservation with urban runoff prevention. Outdoor water use is a primary source of urban runoff, which flows onto the streets, and then through storm drains to the creeks and beaches.

The ordinance also updates the four-stage contingency measures which can be put in place upon declaration of water shortages.

California's water supply is increasingly constrained by drought and by regulatory agencies. Locally, wasteful water use practices constitute a potential threat to the City's water supplies. The prevention of water waste is an economically and environmentally feasible way to protect and conserve the City's water supplies.

Violations may be subject to administrative citations and fines.

For More Information:

www.bewaterwise.com

Landscape & irrigation information
Single-family residential rebates

<http://www.mwdsaveabuck.com/>

Commercial & Multi-family rebates

<http://www.h2ouse.org>

Wise water use indoors & out

<http://www.allianceforwaterefficiency.org>

Cutting-edge efficiency: appliance
& hardware lists

Important Contact numbers:

Runoff hotline	(949) 234-4575
Code enforcement	(949) 443-6344
Water Customer Service	(949) 493-1515
24 hr water emergency	(949) 493-1515

For more information including speaking to your group, club, or HOA:

Francie Kennedy
Water Conservation Coordinator
(949) 487-4304

The Ordinance takes effect October 2008. Violations may be subject to administrative citations and fines. This brochure is a summary of some of the residential elements in the ordinance. Please read the full text of the ordinance, found on the City's Web site: www.sanjuancapistrano.org on the Utilities Department page, or simply by typing "water conservation" in the search box on the home page.

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City of San Juan Capistrano
Water Conservation Ordinance

Residential Elements



Contact:
Francie Kennedy
Water Conservation Coordinator
(949) 487-4304
October 2008

Thank you for being Water Wise!

Year-round Residential Water Use Efficiency Elements

Washing of Vehicles. Use as little water as possible and do not allow water to enter the gutter. The hose must have a shutoff nozzle.

Repair of plumbing, sprinklers and irrigation system. Within 24 hours, initiate steps to promptly repair leaks; complete repairs within a reasonable time.

Watering your lawn and plants:

- Nighttime watering only. No automatic irrigation between the hours of 9:00 AM and 6:00 PM, unless using the methods below:
 - Drip, bubbler, or soaker irrigation hardware or emitters; or
 - By hand, using a bucket; and / or
 - By hand, using a hose with an automatic shutoff nozzle or a hose-end sprinkler with a radius of not more than 10 (ten) feet, if such sprinkler causes no overspray or runoff.
 - Maintenance and installation may be performed between 9 AM and 6 PM with a person in attendance.
- Turn off irrigation when it rains.
- Minimize overspray and excess runoff onto paved surfaces such as sidewalks, driveways, v-ditches, gutters and roadways.
- It is suggested that you minimize irrigation water pressure with pressure reducers to avoid fogging or misting of water.

Cleaning paved surfaces and structures. Use a broom.

Swimming pools and spas. Do not empty and refill a swimming pool except to prevent or repair structural damage or to comply with public health regulations. Use a pool/spa cover to prevent evaporation and for energy and chemical saving benefits.

Shortage stages below may be declared to respond to local or regional water shortage conditions and emergencies. Each elevated stage will include the elements of the previous stage. Taking strong action at Stage 1 may help prevent further reductions!

Stage 1 - Water Watch

Reduce lawn watering and landscape irrigation. This is voluntary but very strongly encouraged.

No washing down of buildings, sidewalks, driveways, parking areas, patios or other paved areas.

Repair all water leaks immediately.

Pools, spas, water features. Filling or emptying and refilling of these is discouraged during Stage 1.

Residential car washing. All non-essential water use for vehicle washing shall cease; using a commercial car wash is permitted.

Stage 2 - Water Alert

Percentage reduction. Water users may be required to reduce their usage by the percentage determined by the City to be necessary to sustain adequate water supply for the community.

Landscape irrigation is further reduced or prohibited. Depending on the type and severity of the shortage, this may include: residential, recreational, commercial, industrial and institutional water users for landscape irrigation purposes.

Runoff to street. Fines increase for water from any hose, pipe, valve, faucet, sprinkler or irrigation device into any stormwater drainage system, drain, gutter or street.

Paved surface washing is prohibited.

Pools, spas, water features. Filling is prohibited. Fountains and waterfalls must be turned off.

Residential car washing is prohibited, other than at a car wash.

Cleaning of paved surfaces and structures is prohibited if using water from a hose.

Stage 3 - Water Warning

Water budget billing allocations may be reduced.

Landscape irrigation is further reduced or prohibited.

Stage 4 - Water Emergency

All outdoor irrigation is prohibited.
Filling or refilling of pools, spas and other water features is prohibited.