

## What is this About?

**Construction and grading activities are addressed** in San Juan Capistrano's water conservation ordinance. This brochure contains a summary of some of the elements affecting construction customers. Please see the "Landscape Elements" brochure for additional outdoor irrigation guidelines.

**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.

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

**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, carrying pollutants to the creeks and beaches.

**California's water supply is** increasingly constrained by drought and by regulatory agencies. The prevention of water waste is an economically and environmentally feasible way to protect and conserve the City's water supplies.

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

**Violations may be subject to administrative citations and fines.**

## For More Information:

[www.bewaterwise.com](http://www.bewaterwise.com)

Landscape & irrigation information  
Single-family residential rebates

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

Commercial & Multi-family rebates

<http://www.allianceforwaterefficiency.org>

Cutting-edge efficiency: appliance  
& hardware lists

<http://www.sanjuancapistrano.org/Index.aspx?page=120>

San Juan Capistrano's Green  
Building Program

### 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 construction-related elements in the ordinance. Please read the full text of the ordinance, which can be found on the City's Web site: [www.sanjuancapistrano.org](http://www.sanjuancapistrano.org) on the Utilities Department page, or simply by typing "water conservation" in the search box on the home page.*

*Printed on 100% post-consumer content recycled paper with vegetable oil based inks.*



**City of San Juan Capistrano**  
**Water Conservation Ordinance**

## Construction Elements



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

**Thank you for being Water Wise!**

## Year-round Construction Water Use Efficiency Elements

### Construction Activities - General.

- Recycled or other non-potable water must be used for compacting or dust control purposes in construction activities where it is available. This condition must be identified and specified on construction drawings submitted to the City for review.
- All water hoses used in connection with any construction activities shall be equipped with an automatic shutoff nozzle.
- All water used on a construction site shall be prevented from entering any part of the stormwater drainage system.

**Use of Hydrants.** A City hydrant meter must be obtained. Contact Customer Service at (949) 493-1515.

**Washing of Vehicles, Equipment and Machinery.** Use as little water as possible and do not allow water to enter the storm drain. Hoses must have a shutoff nozzle.

**Repair of on-site water system.** Within 24 hours, initiate steps to promptly repair leaks; complete repairs within a reasonable time.

**Landscape watering.** Please refer to the "Landscape Elements" brochure for details of guidelines and restrictions.

**Cleaning paved surfaces and structures.** Use a broom.

**Cooling Systems.** No single pass cooling systems shall be permitted in new connections to the potable water system.

**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 landscape irrigation.**

**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.

**Washing of Vehicles, Equipment and Machinery.** All non-essential water use for vehicle washing shall cease; using a commercial car wash is permitted.

### Stage 2 - Water Alert

**Construction water.** All sales and deliveries of City water for construction are suspended, including use of City water for construction or grading purposes. New construction meters or services will not be issued. Construction water shall not be

used for earth work or road construction purposes.

**Hydrant water use.** The use of a temporary fire hydrant meter from the City, or otherwise using water through a temporary City water service including jumpers, will be prohibited. The use of water from fire hydrants shall be limited to fire fighting and related activities.

**Landscape irrigation** is further reduced or prohibited.

**Pools, spas, water features.** No new construction permits. Filling is prohibited. Fountains and waterfalls must be turned off.

**Washing of Vehicles, Equipment and Machinery** is prohibited on site.

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

### Stage 3 - Water Warning

**Permits.** At City Council's discretion, no new building permits will be issued.

**Hydrant water use.** Unauthorized use will be subject to additional fines for water theft and meter tampering.

**Construction water.** Unauthorized use will be subject to additional fines for water theft and meter tampering.

**Landscape irrigation** is further reduced or prohibited.

### Stage 4 - Water Emergency

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