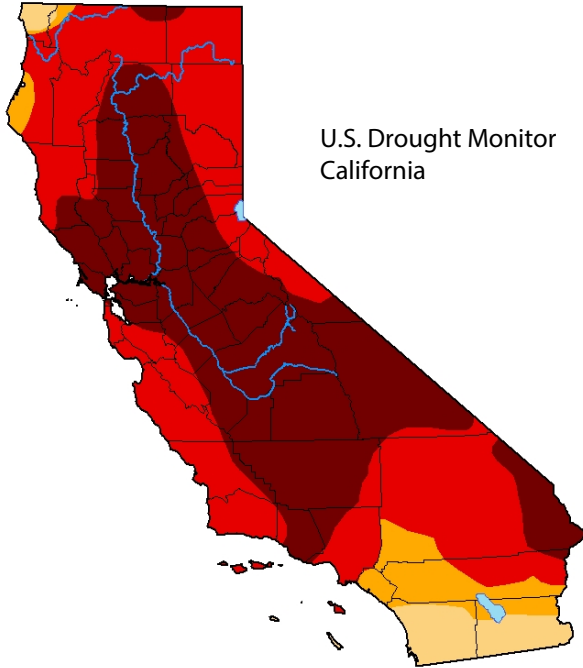


# We're in this Together



## Goal: A 20% Reduction in Overall Water Use



- While our immediate water supply outlook is secure, the future is uncertain.
- Water supplies are not unlimited and many of our supplies are rainfall dependent.
- We must look years ahead and be pro-active.
- Conservation is an essential source, one of the few we can control, and it requires your partnership.

**Take Action Now:  
Use Less Water.**

### District is Better Positioned for Drought than in Years Past

The District has been diligent in implementing initiatives such as groundwater banking, desalination, sustainable groundwater management, and infrastructure improvements to provide for the community in times of drought.

### Drought Conditions are Extreme

This past winter we had less rainfall than in any year on record. Drought is currently forecast to extend into 2022—the actual duration is unknown. With these dry conditions, use must be managed to ensure water availability through 2023.

### Demand/Use is Trending 25% Over Budget

Demand	April (AF)	May (AF)	June (AF)
Budget	326	367	385
Actual	428	454	473
% Over/(under) Budget	31%	23%	23%

75% of Single Family Residences have increased usage. It's the largest customer category.

- **We commend those customers who have reduced or maintained use!**
- While increased water use is anticipated in droughts; the current trend is not sustainable.
- Water use reduction is important for water supply planning to avoid water shortage.
- Without reduction we may be out of compliance with State regulations and lose access to State and Federal funding for important projects.

*A Reliable Supply  
Since 1921*

### We're Here to Help

Schedule a free visit with our Conservation Specialist!



## Attention landlords, businesses, schools and others:

Please share this information with tenants, landscapers and gardeners, employees, students, and any water users at your location who may not be customers receiving communications directly from Montecito Water District.



# Best Practices to Reduce Water Use

## 1. Adjust irrigation settings to reduce outdoor water use.

A simple change for immediate impact; done community-wide it may achieve the 20% reduction goal!

### Do Now:

- ❖ Fix drips and leaks as soon as they appear. Check meters regularly for early leak detection.
- ❖ Water lawns and outdoor areas only when needed. Excess watering wastes water and may even harm plants.
- ❖ Use mulch around trees and plants to keep moisture in the soil.
- ❖ Set lawn mower blades at 3" to 4" to keep lawn longer and retain moisture in the soil.
- ❖ Reduce the length of showers or the amount of water used for baths.
- ❖ Turn off the water while brushing your teeth or shaving.
- ❖ Only wash laundry and dishes with full loads.
- ❖ For pre-cleaning dishes, use a filled sink instead of running water.
- ❖ Wash vehicles using a waterless car wash product. A waterless car wash is eco-friendly, efficient, and uses little or no water.
- ❖ Cover spas or swimming pools when not in use to reduce water loss due to evaporation.
- ❖ Watch for and report broken, poorly timed or misaligned sprinklers around the community.
- ❖ After a power outage, irrigation timers often reset to default. Check irrigation timers often.

### Put On the List:

- ❖ Redesign landscape to replace some or all vegetation with drought-tolerant or native plants.
- ❖ Install a soil moisture sensor for measuring soil moisture and determining when irrigation is needed.
- ❖ Install water harvesting and diversion features, such as rain gutters, rain barrels and in-ground storage, to capture rainfall runoff from roofs and pavement. Utilize equipment that harvests water from the air.
- ❖ Install or replace plumbing fixtures with water-conserving plumbing fixtures such as high-efficiency toilets, showerheads and faucets.
- ❖ Install high efficiency washing machines, dishwashers and toilets.
- ❖ Install a "laundry-to-landscape" graywater system.
- ❖ Consider installing an instant water heater for sinks or showers that are located far from the main water heater.

Find more resources including existing **Mandatory Water Use Restrictions** at: [www.montecitowater.com/conserv](http://www.montecitowater.com/conserv)



**Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien. Para información en español llame al 805.969.2271.**

For more information, to discuss future plans or share how we can better serve you, MWD representatives are always available – our contact information is below.

[www.montecitowater.com](http://www.montecitowater.com) | 805.969.2271 | [customerservice@montecitowater.com](mailto:customerservice@montecitowater.com)

