

**SAN DIEGO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Date:** June 24, 2009

**To:** All Employees

**Subject:** LEVEL 2 DROUGHT ALERT WATER RESTRICTIONS

**Department and/or Persons Concerned:** All Employees

**Reference:** San Diego City Water Department, see regulations on their website <http://www.sandiego.gov/water/conservation/drought/droughtlevels2.shtml>

**Brief Explanation:**

The City of San Diego declared a Level 2 Drought, beginning June 1, 2009, which dictates specific restrictions for the use of water. Restriction violations are subject to penalties. This memo provides guidance to comply with those regulations and changes affecting SDUSD operations.

SDUSD remains a leader in water conservation and desires to continue to be the best steward of our natural resources possible. We accomplish this every day by leading by example in all aspects of water use, whether inside or outdoors.

**General Requirements**

In a Level 2 Drought Alert, water restrictions are focused on outdoor water use. There are no restrictions on indoor water use.

City restrictions (for the most part) limit outside water use at our sites to Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, before 10 a.m. and after 6 p.m. Clarification and examples follow.

The use of **any** hose must include a positive shut-off nozzle (nozzle that opens when squeezed and closes when released).

Report all exterior and/or indoor water leaks immediately to Physical Plant Operations (PPO) at (858) 627-7250. The City requires that all leaks are either repaired or stopped within 72 hours of notification by City officials. We prefer a proactive approach.

**Custodial Operations**

A water broom or pressure washer should be used whenever possible. When a hose is absolutely necessary, it must include a positive shut-off nozzle (nozzle that opens when squeezed and closes when released). The following activities can be performed any time on any day;

- All interior custodial activities, such as carpet, floor and window cleaning.
- The cleaning of lunch courts, driveways, tennis courts, sidewalks or other paved areas (being mindful of, and paying particular attention to, storm water restrictions) to alleviate immediate safety, or sanitation hazards, including gum removal.
- The cleaning of tools, equipment, rubber mats, and trash cans. This should occur over landscaped areas, which do not drain into a storm sewer.

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- The washing of exterior walls, windows, lunch tables, stairs and steps for sanitary or safety reasons.

**EXCEPTION:** Vehicle washing (including golf carts) is permitted only in the hours before 10 a.m. and after 6 p.m. This can be done any day.

### **Landscaping**

All irrigation and landscape watering at our sites can only occur on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, before 10 a.m. and after 6 p.m. There are further restrictions for certain situations and applications.

Sprinklers with spray nozzles are restricted to operate a maximum of 10 minutes on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, before 10 a.m. and after 6 p.m. This includes;

- Manually operated systems.
- Stand-alone electronic controllers (those not tied to a weather-based irrigation management system).
- Battery-powered controllers.

Some irrigation applications are not constrained to the 10 minute maximum, but remain restricted to Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, before 10 a.m. and after 6 p.m. They are;

- The stations controlled by the central irrigation management control system (Maxicom).
- Manual watering with a hose that has a positive shut-off nozzle on the hose end.
- Micro-irrigation systems.
- The watering of trees and shrubs with a hose that has a positive shut-off nozzle on the hose end.
- Pest management (such as aphid control), which must use a hose that has a positive shut-off nozzle on the hose end.
- Drip systems, soaker hoses, and stream rotor sprinklers.

There are a of couple exceptions;

- The cleaning of equipment or tools is considered a housekeeping issue and can occur anytime as long as it is accomplished with a positive shut-off nozzle on the hose end.
- Irrigation restrictions do not apply to the use of recycled water for irrigation. Currently, this exception only applies to Marshall Middle School.

We recognize that there are some sites with many irrigation zones, limited capacity, low pressure, and/or scheduled activities that will present challenges in keeping landscape adequately watered during allotted hours. Physical Plant Operations is working to address this problem.

### **Staff and Students**

Water conservation in general, and specifically landscape application, is more crucial than ever. All staff, students, parents, and concerned citizens are encouraged to suggest opportunities to remove or re-landscape areas in more appropriate, water saving ways. Please contact Energy/Utility Management at (858) 627-7413.

### **Car Washes as Fundraisers**

Vehicle washing is permitted any day, but only before 10 a.m. and after 6 p.m. All car washing activities are to be accomplished with a hand-held container (bucket and sponge) or a hand-held hose using a positive shut-off nozzle.

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Consider negotiating with a local commercial car wash (they all reuse the water) to partner with fundraising events. Their hours of operation are not limited.

### **Special Occasion Activities**

Those events that involve water are typically not included within these mandatory restrictions. Contact PPO for further discussion.

### **School Gardens**

Watering is only permitted on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, before 10 a.m. and/or after 6 p.m. There is a maximum time limit of 10-minutes if not part of a weather based irrigation management system.

Watering must be done with a container (like a watering can) or a hand-held hose with a positive shut-off nozzle.

All other water use activities, such as cleaning equipment or tools must be accomplished using a positive shut off nozzle on the end of the hose, but it is not restricted in time or day.

### **Sporting Events**

Watering of fields, tracks, or other associated sporting areas can be done anytime **IF** it is in preparation of an athletic event (i.e. pitcher mound prep) or for health and sanitary reasons. This activity can only be done with a hose possessing a positive shut-off nozzle – no portable sprinkler/irrigation devices permitted.

Watering of fields for any other reason (over-seeding, mending dry spots, etc.) can only be done Mondays/Wednesdays/Fridays before 10 a.m. and after 6 p.m. for 10 minutes, with a hose possessing a positive shut-off nozzle – no portable sprinkler/irrigation devices permitted.

### **Decorative Fountains**

Outside water fountains which discharge/emit water into the air, or produce a jet or stream of water are not permitted under any condition. Any water display that does not re-circulate the water is also unacceptable.

### **Clothes Washers**

Normal water conservation measures apply. Indoor water use is not subject to the current water restrictions.

### **Aquariums**

There are no restrictions for aquariums. However, cleaning or washing should be done indoors in a sink or outside over landscaped areas, which do not drain into a storm sewer.

### **Facilities and Transportation**

There are currently no restrictions on the Transportation Department's car wash/bus cleaning bay, as it recycles the water many times before being discharged into the sewer.

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Use of recycled or non-potable water is required for construction purposes such as dust control and concrete cutting, when available.

Most normal, non-landscape construction and/or maintenance activities are not limited by time or day.

Water use from fire hydrants is limited to;

- fire fighting,
- city meter installation as part of the Fire Hydrant Meter Program,
- public health and safety reasons.

Construction operations will not use water obtained by a fire hydrant meter for uses other than normal construction activity.

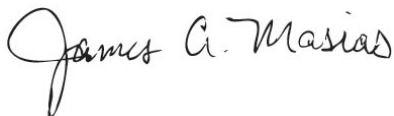
Most activities for food prep occur inside and are not included in this restriction. The cleaning of transport equipment, rubber mats, and trash cans should occur over landscaped areas, which do not drain into a storm sewer.

Regular maintenance, such as washing of roofs, photovoltaic arrays, cleaning gutters and cleaning playground equipment can occur anytime and must use a positive shut off nozzle on the hose end.

For additional support, questions or clarification, please contact J. William Naish, Energy/Utility Supervisor at (858) 627-7217.

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