



## ***Southern California Water Committee's Conservation Information & Tips***

The [State Water Resources Control Board](#) recently enacted emergency water regulations to ensure Californians are not wasting water during this unprecedented drought. These regulations went into effect for all of California on July 29, 2014. *Check with local water agencies to learn about specific regulations in your area.* The new guidelines address the state's water crisis by implementing mandatory water use restrictions that prohibit Californians from doing any of the following:

- Washing down sidewalks and driveways
- Watering outdoor landscapes in a manner that causes excess runoff
- Washing a motor vehicle with a hose that does not have a shut-off nozzle
- Using potable water to operate a fountain or decorative water feature machine



### **DON'T HOSE ME MAN!**

SCWC's new water conservation mascot Lawn Dude wants to make sure Southern Californians are conserving. He is focused on curbing outdoor water use as that is where up to fifty percent of water use occurs and there are many easy, impactful ways to save. Below are a few tips that can help you up your water savings, both outdoors and indoors:

#### **Outdoors:**

- Get rid of your lawn! Take advantage of turf buyback programs to replace lawn with drought-resistant plants.
- If you insist on watering your lawn at all, only do it early in the morning or later in the evening.
- If you use a sprinkler system, check it frequently and adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered and not the house, sidewalk, or street.
- Keep your water use in check with efficient irrigation systems, such as drip irrigation for your plants.

#### **Indoors:**

- **Bathroom**
  - Consider installing low-flow shower heads.
  - Instead of 10 minute showers, try cutting it down to five minutes.
  - When running a bath, plug the bathtub before turning on the water and fill it up halfway or less.
  - Turn water off when lathering hands, brushing teeth or shaving.
  - Be sure to test your toilet for leaks at least once a year.
- **Laundry Room**
  - Consider buying a water-efficient clothes washer. Check with your local water agency for rebates.
  - When doing laundry, always wash full loads.
  - Washing dark clothes in cold water saves water and energy
- **Kitchen**
  - Consider installing a water-efficient dishwasher. Check with your local water agency for rebates.
  - Only wash full loads of dishes in the dishwasher.
  - When washing dishes by hand, don't let the water run. Fill one basin with wash water and the other with rinse water.

