

STAGE 0: WATER CONSERVATION

ANNUAL ENCOURAGEMENT OF WATER USAGE BEST PRACTICES

The alert system color-code for Stage 0 Water Conservation is green.

1. Trigger. Annually in the month of February or March, as determined by CIWW, Stage 0 Water Conservation will be implemented.
2. Goal. Implementing conservation practices allows agencies to proactively manage demand through consistent, early-season outreach that promotes responsible water use, including outdoor irrigation. Annual education on water use best practices helps reduce unnecessary consumption, extend the life of infrastructure, control costs for ratepayers, and ensure a reliable and sustainable water supply.

3. Actions.

- (a) No official notice is issued.
- (b) CIWW will design educational material to encourage a system-wide reduction in lawn watering year-over-year.
- (c) CIWW will collaborate with community leaders, media outlets, lawn and turf professionals, and other regional stakeholders to promote outdoor irrigation best practices.
- (d) CIWW will coordinate with Member Agencies to ensure uniform messaging.
- (e) CIWW and the Member Agencies will share messaging that irrigation should be delayed until turf requires watering. Typically, May for cool-season grasses and June for warm-season grasses.
- (f) CIWW and the Member Agencies will begin messaging sprinkler tune-ups and proper programming in advance of backflow testing.
- (g) CIWW and the Member Agencies will message that customers water on alternate days and excluding Mondays (historically a peak demand day) only if turf requires irrigation, by a system under which even numbered addresses water only on Wednesday, Friday, and Sunday, and odd-numbered addresses water only on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday.
- (h) CIWW and the Member Agencies will encourage customers to optimize their lawn watering systems so water is not directed onto impervious surfaces and lawns are not overwatered.
- (i) CIWW and the Member Agencies will encourage the wise use of water during outdoor activities including washing cars, playing in the sprinkler, playing with water toys, and filling swimming pools.
- (j) CIWW and the Member Agencies will encourage the wise use of water indoors including identifying and repairing leaking fixtures, washing only full loads in dishwashers and washing machines, shorter showers, etc.

4. Enforcement. There will be no enforcement at this stage.

