

# CITY OF LOS ANGELES WATER CONSERVATION ORDINANCE

## FACT SHEET

AUGUST 2010 UPDATE

### PROHIBITED WATER USES

Under the City of Los Angeles Water Conservation Ordinance (Ordinance,) restrictions on certain water uses apply at all times, to all customers. These prohibited uses include:

- Watering of any hard surfaces such as sidewalks, walkways, driveways or parking areas;
- Outdoor watering during periods of rain;
- Allowing runoff onto streets and gutters from excessive watering;
- Allowing leaks from any pipe or fixture to go unrepaired;
- Washing vehicles without using a hose with a self-closing water shut-off nozzle;
- Serving water to customers in restaurants unless specifically requested.

For a comprehensive list of all the prohibited uses of water, please visit [www.ladwp.com/waterconservation](http://www.ladwp.com/waterconservation).

### OUTDOOR WATERING AND ORDINANCE "PHASES"

The Ordinance contains five water conservation "phases" which correspond to severity of water shortage, with each increase in phase containing more stringent conservation measures. As an estimated 40% of all drinking water in Los Angeles is used for landscape irrigation, restrictions on these activities constitute a large component of the Ordinance. Water conservation phases define outdoor watering restrictions as appropriate.

Following approval by the City Council, the Ordinance is subject to review by the Mayor. If approved, the changes will become effective upon publication, approximately one week after the Mayor's veto period ends.

### PHASE II RESTRICTIONS

Under Phase II, the Ordinance specifies:

- Outdoor watering with sprinklers is restricted to three days a week with different watering days assigned to odd-numbered and even-numbered street addresses.
- Customers with odd-numbered street addresses - ending in 1, 3, 5, 7 or 9 - are allowed to use their sprinkler systems on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.
- Customers with even-numbered street addresses - ending in 0, 2, 4, 6, or 8 - are allowed to use their sprinkler systems on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays.
- Watering with sprinklers is limited to one eight-minute cycle per watering day for non-conserving nozzle sprinkler systems (typical residential system), or two 15-minute cycles per watering day for conserving nozzle sprinkler systems.
- All outdoor watering is restricted to hours before 9:00 a.m. and after 4:00 p.m., regardless of the watering day.

Street addresses ending in fractions are treated as whole numbers and observe the same day restrictions as others on their same side of the street, (ie: 4321 ½ is regarded as 4321, an odd-numbered address.)

### AWARENESS AND ENFORCEMENT

Educational awareness efforts, and enforcement where applicable, are conducted by the LADWP Water Conservation Team, a group of trained professionals whose sole mission is to spot and stop wasteful water practices. Team members actively patrol Los Angeles communities to help inform customers of water waste they observe in progress and learn about through tips from neighbors and concerned citizens who call 1-800-DIAL DWP or send e-mails to [waterconservationteam@ladwp.com](mailto:waterconservationteam@ladwp.com).

Additionally, LADWP Customer Service Field Representatives are authorized and trained to report violations of the Ordinance.

First offenses are given a verbal "warning" in the form of water conservation tips, water saving devices where possible and printed educational materials in order to raise customer awareness. Subsequent violations, however, can result in fines. Monetary citations, when given, range from \$100 to \$600 and are listed as specific charges on the LADWP utility bill. No monetary citation is given without prior warning.

### VARIANCE REQUESTS

Customers may apply for a Hardship Variance from specific Ordinance requirements, including customers in High Fire Severity Zones. Variance Instructions and Forms are available online at [www.ladwp.com/waterconservation](http://www.ladwp.com/waterconservation) and at all LADWP Service Center locations. For more information, call 213-367-0771.

