



City of Grover Beach

PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Grover Beach City Council Set to Consider Declaration of Stage III Water Shortage on Monday Night

GROVER BEACH, CA – In response to the ongoing drought conditions faced by the region, the Grover Beach City Council will consider declaring a ***Stage III Water Shortage***. Once in place, the Stage III water declaration will ***require all water customers to reduce their water usage by 10%***. In addition to the reduction in water usage, a number of prohibitions that had been voluntary during the last two years with the Stage II declaration will now become mandatory. The Stage III Declaration will also provide the City the authority to impose penalties for failure to comply with water reduction or use prohibitions. These *prohibitions* include:

- Use of potable water for street cleaning;
- Unauthorized use of water from any fire hydrant;
- Use of potable water to wash sidewalks or roadways where air blowers or sweeping provides a reasonable alternative;
- Use of potable water for construction purposes, such as consolidation of backfill unless no other source of water or method can be used;
- Restaurant water service to patrons, unless upon request;
- Hydrant flushing, except where required for public health and safety;
- Refilling existing private pools, except to maintain water levels;
- Use of potable water for planting of turf and other new landscaping, unless it consists of low water using, drought tolerant plants;
- Use of water for washing cars, boats, sidewalks, driveways or other exterior surfaces without a quick-acting shut-off nozzle on the hose; and
- Operation of any ornamental fountain or car wash, unless the water is re-circulated

The Council has been diligent in its efforts to conserve water in light of drought conditions, and Grover Beach was among the first public jurisdictions to take a proactive approach with the Declaration of a Stage II Water Shortage in 2012. The Stage II Declaration was reaffirmed by the Council in August 2013. In October 2013, the Council conducted a special workshop regarding the status of the City's water. At that time, the Council discussed the status of the City's two existing water sources - the Lopez Lake Water Reservoir and a number of groundwater wells.

The City Council annually reviews rainfall and other information amounts and, based on that information, determines the appropriate water shortage stage of action. Below average rainfall and Lopez Lake storage levels indicate the City's ***water supplies are approaching a severe water shortage condition***. These drought conditions could compromise the City's ability to deliver water and more stringent actions may become necessary. The City Council recognizes that this is the third year of drought conditions and that water use reductions will be necessary to protect existing water supplies.

Prior to considering the declaration of a Stage III Water Shortage, the Council will conduct a public hearing to receive public comments. The public hearing has been noticed for **Monday, June 16th at 6:30 p.m.** and will take place in the **City Council Chambers, Grover Beach City Hall, 154 S. 8th Street.**

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