

Return to Level 1 Water Supply Shortage FAQ

Why did OMWD return to Level 1 Water Supply Shortage?

- OMWD's anticipated water supplies for FY 11 exceed anticipated demand.
- Anticipated demand is based on last 3 years average use, plus 1% growth.

What is anticipated supply vs. anticipated demand for FY 11?

- **25,250** acre-feet anticipated **supply** vs. **23,964** acre-feet anticipated **demand**.
*1 acre-foot is roughly equivalent to the average use of 2 households of 4 for a year

Why have supplies increased?

- Due to recent development of new recycled water supplies with which to supplement its imported water supply as well as extraordinary conservation efforts on the part of OMWD customers.

Are our water supply problems over?

- Returning to Level 1 does not mean that future water challenges are over, but rather that OMWD's anticipated supplies for the next year are adequate to meet demands.
- Should the region's water supply outlook worsen or should conservation targets not be met, the Board of Directors may return to a Level 2 Water Supply Shortage as necessary to achieve mandated cutbacks in water use.

Do I still need to use water efficiently?

- Yes. Challenges still remain for Southern California's water supply. Many reservoirs throughout the state remain well below capacity after nearly four consecutive years of dry conditions. Therefore, the continuing efficient use of water throughout California remains necessary to avoid further cutbacks.

Will moving to a Level 1 Water Supply Shortage lower my water bill?

- No. The Board of Directors chose to remain at **Level 1 pricing**, confident that water use restrictions would prompt sufficient conservation by which to meet OMWD's cutback. OMWD customers, therefore, **did not experience an increase in their water bills due to the Level 2 Drought Alert**. Similarly, customers will not experience a decrease in their water bills upon OMWD's return to a Level 1 Water Supply Shortage.

When is the change to back to Level 1 effective?

- July 1, 2010.

What are the Level 1 voluntary water use restrictions?

Voluntary restrictions customers are encouraged to continue after July 1, 2010 include:

- Refraining from washing down paved surfaces.
- Stopping water waste as a result of inefficient landscape irrigation.
- Irrigating residential properties only between 6 p.m. and 8 a.m.
- Irrigating nursery or commercial grower's products only before 10 a.m. and after 6 p.m.
- Using shut-off nozzles or buckets to irrigate with hoses.
- Promptly repairing all leaks.

Restrictions no longer in place with the lifting of the Level 2 Drought Alert include limiting irrigation to three days per week and restricting irrigation to ten minutes per station.

Feel free to contact GM Services with questions, at (760) 753-6466:

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