

STATE EMERGENCY DROUGHT ORDER

Current & Future City Actions



In January 2014, Governor Jerry Brown declared a State of Emergency due to severe drought conditions across California. On April 1, 2015, a new Executive Order was issued to impose mandatory restrictions to achieve a statewide 25% reduction in urban potable water use. Although the new regulations are still being developed, the City of Chula Vista has proactively identified current and future water-saving actions that could help reach the statewide goal.

Current Actions

1. Conduct monthly water management coordination meetings to help identify new water-saving opportunities
2. Perform over 800 free water evaluations annually for residents and businesses to provide water-saving recommendations
3. Host quarterly community workshops and trainings on outdoor water conservation
4. Upgraded irrigation sprinklers at 3 sites with more efficient rotating spray-nozzles
5. Replaced turf within Orange Avenue medians (Hilltop to Connelly) with drought-tolerant plants
6. Upgraded irrigation pumps at Rohr Park to include master valves and flow sensors to avoid excessive flows and prevent unintended water loss
7. Installed “smart” irrigation controllers at 21 municipal parks/medians and at over 150 acres of open space areas
8. Designing all new public facilities to exceed state water efficiency standards by 20%

Future Actions

1. Highlight drought and City’s response as lead story in Community Connections (May)
2. Launch new utility management system to better track and analyze water consumption for the City’s 600+ water utility meters (May)
3. Use Willow Street construction dewatering to irrigate up to 4 parks throughout the upcoming summer months (May)
4. Update municipal code to prohibit all landscape irrigation runoff and to establish an associated fine (May)
5. Direct City’s code enforcement staff to enforce irrigation restrictions (May)
6. Participate in new CA Conservation Corps program to help City remove turf from street medians (June)
7. Expand PACE financing program offerings to support water-saving upgrades (June)
8. Create a “Laundry-to-Landscape” graywater display in the City’s South Bay Energy Roadshow Trailer (July)
9. Install water capture and reuse system at Fire Station 4 training facility (TBD)
10. Replace turf around the Civic Center with drought-tolerant plants and grasses (TBD)
11. Restrict the use of potable water to irrigate turf in public medians (TBD)
12. Update City’s Landscape Water Conservation ordinance to require drip irrigation at new homes (TBD)