

IDYLLWILD WATER DISTRICT

NOVEMBER 2014 NEWSLETTER

IWD Mission Statement: To provide reliable water & sewer service in a safe, cost effective & environmentally sound manner in accordance with the community needs

The California drought continues. The District depends totally on annual rain and snowfall for its supply. We cannot allow ourselves to waste any of our available water supply. We encourage you to cooperate with us in limiting your water use during this critical period.

DISTRICT DROUGHT STRATEGIES: California is entering its fourth year of drought. Last year was the driest in recent memory. In an effort to extend our sources of supply, the District is creating more resource development procedures to insulate from drought and shortages, enhancement in system operations and an increase in water production. We are currently rehabilitating several wells. We have installed two new water tanks to store water. We continually monitor our water status and evaluate the potential for water loss, so we can keep such losses to a minimum.

CUSTOMER CONSERVATION EFFORTS: As a result of the District's customers complying with water conservation measures, we have been able to stretch our limited water supply. In order to replenish our groundwater basin this winter season these efforts must continue. The California average consumption is 220 gallons per household per day, and we appreciate that our customers are already using less than most. An IWD average household uses 140 gallons of water per day. However, due to current conditions, we are asking customers to continue to find ways to reduce water usage.

- Don't install water intensive landscaping. Investigate Xeriscaping techniques.
- Change personal habits to avoid the wasting of our most precious resource.
- Turn off the tap when practical.
- Place a bucket in the shower to catch warm-up water for watering outside or for inside houseplants. (This could save 250 gallons of water per month)
- Install aerators on bathroom faucets (Saves 1.2 gallons of water per person/day)
- Turn off water when brushing teeth or shaving (Saves 10 gallons of water per person/day)
- Repair leaky toilets (Saves 30-50 gallons per day/toilet)
- Install a high efficiency 1.2 gallon toilet (Saves 19 gallons of water per person/day)
- Wash only full loads of clothes (Saves 15-45 gallons per load)
- Take 5-minute showers instead of 10 minute showers (Saves 12.5 gallons with a water efficient showerhead)
- Install efficient showers (Saves 1.2 gallons per minute)
- Using a broom instead of a hose to clean a driveways (Saves 150 gallons of water)

WINTERIZE YOUR HOME

As nighttime temperatures begin to drop we want to remind customers to prepare their homes for freezing. Please consider wrapping/insulating exposed plumbing. If you are away, for an extended period of time, be sure to turn your water off at your meter. This is also a good time to check your entire property for leaks. Exterior landscape irrigation, toilets, ice makers, swamp coolers and washing machines are the usual locations for leaks.

Look for our next month's newsletter which will further explore winterizing. Please join us at next month's Board meeting on December 17, 2014