



IN FOCUS

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Water Conservation is Mandatory

Beverly Hills recently adopted strict conservation measures that require water customers to reduce water use by 30% and impose penalties on those who do not comply.

The City Council acted in response to the severe drought and the state mandate that Beverly Hills reduce overall water consumption by more than a third.

A mandatory Stage D water conservation program is now in effect for all water customers, including the City of West Hollywood's Westside area.

The new conservation program includes limits on landscape watering to two days a week. Residents north of Santa Monica Boulevard may water on Mondays and Fridays. Residents south of Santa Monica Boulevard may water on Tuesdays and Saturdays.

On those days, watering should be

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limited to 8 minutes per station and take place between 5 p.m. and 9 a.m. **No watering is allowed on Wednesdays, Thursdays or Sundays.**

Beverly Hills Watering Schedule

What are my watering days under the City's 2-day outdoor watering schedule?

Residents Living	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
North of Santa Monica Boulevard			NO WATERING WEDNESDAY	NO WATERING THURSDAY			NO WATERING SUNDAYS
South of Santa Monica Boulevard			NO WATERING WEDNESDAY	NO WATERING THURSDAY			NO WATERING SUNDAYS

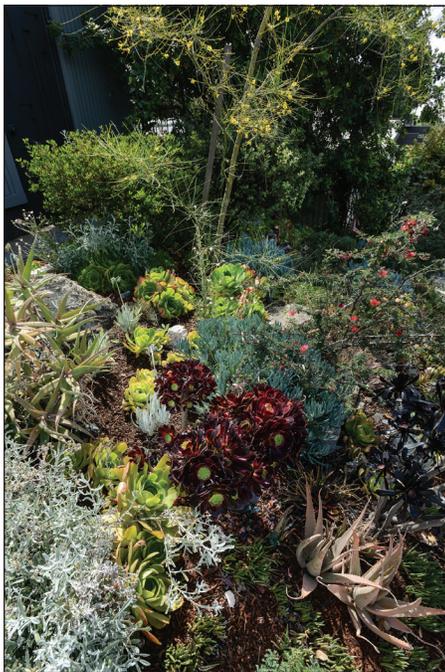
Water conservation in Beverly Hills is mandatory. Limit your outdoor watering to 2 days a week, 8 minutes per station, before 9 a.m. or after 5 p.m.

The City is Your Conservation Partner

Water conservation efforts are not the responsibility of residents and businesses alone. The City of Beverly Hills is doing its part.

One example is the revised landscape strategy for the City's parks and medians, including iconic Beverly Gardens Park. The primary goal is to implement water conservation methods while preserving the beauty of the 1.9-mile historic public garden that spans several blocks along Santa Monica Boulevard.

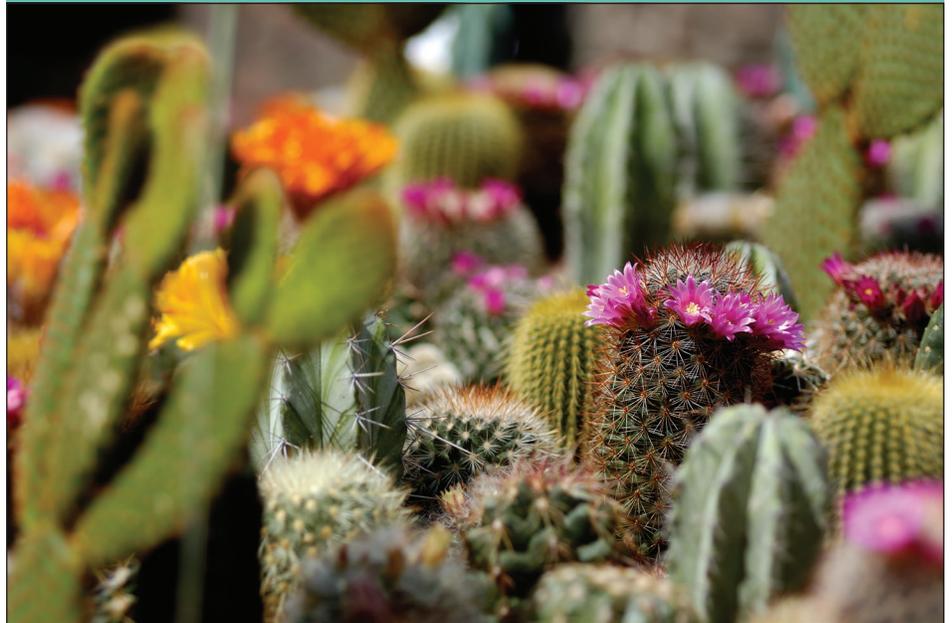
Plants, shrubs and trees require little or no water and include California and



Mediterranean natives as well as evergreens acclimatized to coastal foothills. And of course there is the cactus garden where no water is required.

At the park's Electric Fountain Garden at Wilshire and Santa Monica Boulevard, a new drip irrigation system

The City is doing its part along with you, to make Beverly Hills a conservation-conscious community.



will reduce water use by 28 percent. Nearly half the lawn will be removed and replaced with plants that require little watering for a savings of 239,700 gallons each year. Drought-resistant turf will be installed as well.

Water losses at the fountain will be prevented with a number of energy-efficient filters, sensors, pumps and other devices. A new gauge will shut off fountain functions automatically to prevent water waste from overspray during windy conditions, leaking ventilation holes in the fountain will be repaired and new waterproofing material will be applied. Additional Citywide conservation efforts include a new water leak detection program,

ultra-low flow and/or waterless urinals at all City facilities.

These are just some of the many projects underway at City-owned properties to save water. The City is doing its part along with you, to make Beverly Hills a conservation-conscious community.



For more information visit www.beverlyhills.org/waterconservation or call 310-285-2467.

Water Conservation is Good for Business

There are plenty of ways Beverly Hills businesses and institutions can conserve water, save money in the process and gain the appreciation of customers and the community.

A comprehensive commercial water conservation program is critical. Here are some ways you can conserve:

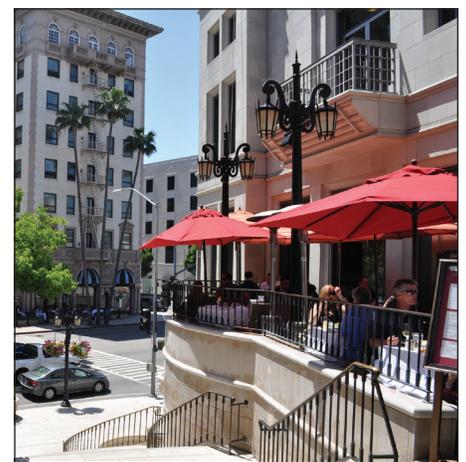
- Have an expert detect any water leaks throughout your building and have the leaks repaired immediately.
- Communicate with your employees about the importance of water conservation.
- Install ultra-low flow and/or waterless urinals.
- Install water-efficient sink aerators and shower heads.



- Install connectionless food steamers that use no water and sewer lines.
- Replace water-cooled ice machines with air-cooled models.
- Choose dry vacuum pumps for medical and dental practices.
- Install laminar flow restrictors for sinks at health care facilities.
- Restaurants shall serve water upon request only.

There are plenty of ways Beverly Hills businesses and institutions can conserve water, save money in the process and gain the appreciation of customers and the community.

- All public restrooms in the City and private bathrooms in hotels shall notify patrons and employees of water conservation goals.
- Restrictions on outdoor watering include limiting landscape irrigation to two days per week, prohibiting exterior wash-down of buildings and vehicles, unless it is done on the premises of a commercial facility and/or with reclaimed wastewater or unless the washing is needed for the health and welfare of the public, such as the cleaning of vehicles used to transport food and perishables.



Learn more by visiting www.beverlyhills.org/waterconservation.

Every Gallon Counts



Did you know watering your lawn only one or two days a week will still keep your grass, flowers and shrubs healthy while saving up to 420 gallons each time? Or that washing only full loads of laundry and dishes can save up to 50 gallons each week?

We must all pitch in to conserve the earth's most precious resource during this time of persistent drought.

A few simple changes in water use habits can make a big difference. Let's all do our part by following these additional simple guidelines for saving water and money.

- Replace older toilets and washing machines with water efficient units; water customers may qualify for rebates.
- Turn off the water when brushing your teeth or shaving
- Install a water-efficient shower head and take quick, five-minute showers
- While waiting for shower water to heat up, catch cold water in a container, then use it to water outdoor plants
- Use a broom instead of a hose to clean leaves from your sidewalk, driveway and patio
- Check your sprinkler system for leaks, overspray and broken sprinkler heads, and have them repaired quickly
- Install a smart sprinkler controller or drip systems to water your garden

For more water-saving tips visit www.beverlyhills.org/waterconservation.

Track Your Water Consumption

Tracking water usage just got easier. The City has launched a new water tracker program for all Beverly Hills water customers.

Water customers may track their water consumption on a daily basis; and set up email alerts so they know instantly when approaching their target water use for the month.

The water tracker also helps the City inform water users of potential leaks and issues.

Leaks from pipes, plumbing fixtures and fittings are a substantial source of water waste in many households and businesses. A typical household can lose more than 2,000 gallons of water annually due to leaks.

Not all leaks are obvious. Some go undetected because the source may be behind a wall or under a floor. Although they can't always be seen, leaks continue to drip, drip, drip, slowly damaging your property and costing you more and more money as time goes on.

To keep you informed of any leaks on your property, the City's Leak Detection Program uses an automated meter reader system to identify leaks throughout the water system and informs customers about potential issues.

To register for Water Tracker go to:
<http://water.beverlyhills.org>

Be a Good Citizen



If you are aware of excessive water use or water leaks anywhere

within the Beverly Hills city limits, you can report it.

To report water waste visit

www.beverlyhills.org/waterwaste

or call 310-285-2467. City workers will be dispatched to assess the situation and make notifications as necessary. Working together let's all do our part to conserve!

Most Water Savings Can Be Achieved Outdoors

Did you know nearly 50% of water used outside is wasted due to overwatering, runoff and evaporation? Adopting a combination of drought-tolerant landscape design and smart gardening techniques can lead to significant water savings. Rebates from the City's main water provider Metropolitan Water District (MWD) may be available to all water users inclusive of residents and businesses.

Here are some additional tips to get you started:

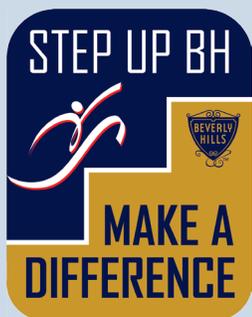
- Incorporate drought-tolerant plants into your landscape. Removing your lawn might qualify you for rebates.
- Apply 2 to 3 inches of mulch around trees and plants to reduce moisture loss, improve soil quality, regulate soil temperature and control weeds. However, keep mulch away from the base of shrubs and trees to prevent decay and disease.
- Opt for efficient garden technology and tools, such as:
 - » Rotating sprinklers.



Adopting a combination of drought-tolerant landscape design and smart gardening techniques can lead to significant water savings.

- » Smart sprinkler controllers and rain sensors, which adjust automatically when conditions change.
- » Drip irrigation, which delivers water to roots at low pressure and low volume.
- » Shut-off nozzles for hoses.
- » Rain barrels, which can capture water from gutters and downspouts.
- For existing lawns, mow high to encourage deeper roots.
- Use brooms and rakes instead of hoses to clear outdoor areas.
- Shut down water features such as fountains and waterfalls.

#StepUpBH



Do you know a Beverly Hills resident(s) who has gone above and beyond in helping others? If so, you have the opportunity to nominate an outstanding individual for the City's #StepUpBH program. To get started, please

fill out an online nomination form. If selected, a formal recognition will take place at an upcoming City Council meeting. Visit www.beverlyhills.org/stepup.

For rebate opportunities and more information, visit www.beverlyhills.org/waterconservation.

Transform Your Yard into a Water-Wise Oasis

Irrigation of lawns and gardens accounts for 70 percent of the total water use in Beverly Hills. Lawns are foreign to semi-arid Southern California cities, and grasses such as St. Augustine, Marathon and Fescue require a tremendous amount of water and maintenance to keep them healthy.

Now that summer is just around the corner, this is the perfect time to think about replacing some or all of your water-thirsty lawn with drought-tolerant plants. This sustainable option is simpler than you may think, and you can do it yourself or hire a certified landscaper.



Free beginner and advanced workshops for amateurs and professionals are offered by the Metropolitan Water District, the County of Los Angeles and



other agencies; Beverly Hills will also offer similar programming.

Here's an added bonus: For a limited time, the Metropolitan Water District is offering rebates beginning at \$2 per square foot for turf (grass) removal. First you must apply for and receive project approval by MWD to be eligible for the rebate. Before and after photos will be required as well.

Keep these tips in mind as you make your plans:

- Place a layer of organic mulch (wood chips or bark) on top of the soil surface to capture natural moisture from rainfall, prevent evaporation, keep plant roots cool and reduce weeds. However, keep mulch away from the base of shrubs and trees to prevent decay and disease.

- Make sure your new California-friendly plants have plenty of room to grow. Your landscaping may look a little sparse at first, but it will be gorgeous in no time.
- Choose plants that will do double duty by attracting wildlife such as birds and butterflies.
- For plants that require minimal watering, consider a drip irrigation system and group plants together that have similar water needs.
- If you're considering replacing your lawn with artificial turf, please note the City of Beverly Hills currently allows this in back yards only.



For more information about MWD's turf removal rebates visit www.bewaterwise.com.

FAQs: Pools, Spas & Fountains

Under the City's new restrictions, existing swimming pools and spas cannot be drained and refilled. Read on for answers to common questions about maintaining pools, spas and fountains during the drought:

Can I top off my pool or spa?

Yes. Continue using your pool and spa covers to prevent excessive evaporation.

Can I move forward with plans to construct a new pool?

Check the City's website; details are forthcoming.

What if my pool has a serious problem, such as a crack?

Emptying and refilling of existing pools is prohibited. However, a permit may be issued by the City to perform repairs necessary for health and safety reasons.

Can I operate a fountain?

Yes, with recirculated water only.

Additional Water Conservation Information

- Fines up to \$1,000 also may be imposed for violations of the outdoor watering restrictions. Continued excessive use may result in termination of water supply through irrigation water services and/or restriction of water supply through domestic meters.
- Water usage from fire hydrants shall be limited to firefighting or other activities necessary to maintain the public health, safety and welfare.
- Plumbing and irrigation leaks shall be repaired as soon as possible.
- Single and multi-family Tier 1 users shall be exempt from the 30% reduction requirement and the usage penalties.
- An appeals process will soon be made available to water customers.
- Exterior wash-down of buildings and vehicles is prohibited, unless it is done on the premises of a commercial facility and/or with reclaimed wastewater or unless the washing is needed for the health and welfare of the public.



Beverly Hills Showcases Firewise Demonstration Garden

The City of Beverly Hills Firewise/Waterwise Mitigation Demonstration Garden is located at Greystone Mansion. This permanent walk through demonstration garden is open year-round to the public and is designed to show residents and landscapers how to

maintain properties that are firewise, water efficient and harmonious with the natural environment all in the same design. Residents do not have to clear all of the vegetation from their property to have a fire-safe property. The plant selection includes colorful and varied low water-use plants zoned

to slow the spread of wildfire. It is possible to enjoy a beautiful garden that is also fire-safe and drought-tolerant. For more information contact the Beverly Hills Fire Department at 310-285-2700.

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Calendar

MAY / JUNE

Public Works Day Beverly Hills Farmers' Market (Civic Center)

Sunday, May 17
9:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Info: 310-285-2467

(More information on water conservation will be available at this event)



Concerts on Cañon Beverly Cañon Gardens

Thursdays, June 4, 11, 18, 25
6:00 p.m. and 7:15 p.m.
Info: beverlyhills.org/beverlycanon or 310-285-6830
(Concerts will also be in July and August)

Sunday Movie Nights Beverly Cañon Gardens

Sundays, June 7 and 28
Movie begins at 8:00 p.m.
Info: 310-285-6830