



# RCWD News Release

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RANCHO CALIFORNIA WATER DISTRICT  
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**DATE:** August 15, 2014

**RELEASE:** Immediate

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**SUBJECT:** Rancho Water Declares Stage 3: Mandatory Water Restrictions

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Temecula, CA August 15, 2014 – In response to the call for increased conservation from the State Water Resources Control Board and the Governor’s office and three years of very dry weather, Rancho California Water District’s (RCWD/District) Board of Directors voted to move to Stage 3 of the District’s Water Shortage Contingency Plan on Thursday, August 14<sup>th</sup>.

After three straight dry winters and record-breaking heat in the first half of 2014, California’s water supply situation is becoming more serious each day. RCWD is fortunate to have groundwater as part of its water supply mix. However, our area has also experienced three increasingly dry years. Approximately 30% of the District’s water supply is groundwater and approximately 70% of its water comes from Northern California and the Colorado River. RCWD’s regional imported water wholesaler, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, had zero water allocated to it from the

State Water Project this year, and has been relying on drought storage and deliveries from the Colorado River to get through this critically dry year. Due to the drought conditions and pressure on supplies, it is important for RCWD customers to conserve water today so that we have a reliable water supply in the future.

RCWD updated its Water Shortage Contingency Plan and the Board declared the District in Stage 3 “Water Warning”. Stage 3 mandatory restrictions include: only water between 6 p.m. and 9 a.m. unless you have a weather based irrigation controller; do not allow irrigation water to leave the landscaped area (eliminate runoff to sidewalks, streets and parking areas); if new landscaping must be installed California Friendly landscaping is recommended and all new landscaping must meet the applicable city or county landscape ordinance and; use a broom instead of a hose on hardscape surfaces; use a hose with a shut-off nozzle when washing your vehicle.

The District continues to offer many water use efficiency rebates and programs for customers to take advantage of. Information can be found at [www.ranchowater.com](http://www.ranchowater.com) under water use efficiency. Water waste can also be reported on the District’s website under “I Want To Report Water Waste”. Repeated instances of water waste may be subject to escalating fines. For more information on the drought and water restrictions please visit the District’s website “Drought Watch” section.

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***Formed in 1965, Rancho California Water District supplies an area consisting of approximately 150 square miles. The District serves the area known as Temecula/Rancho California, which includes the City of Temecula, parts of Murrieta, and other contiguous lands. The District is separated into two divisions: the Santa Rosa Division generally west of I-15 and Rancho Division generally east of I-15. The District currently provides sewer service to the Cal Oaks and Bear Creek areas.***

*“The mission of the Rancho California Water District is to deliver reliable, high-quality water, wastewater and reclamation services to its customers and communities in a prudent and sustainable manner.”*

