



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Community Education  
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**GSWC Prepares for Water Rationing for Orange County Customers in July  
Customers invited to public meetings to comment on plans**

**Anaheim, CA** – Golden State Water Company (GSWC) will host two public meetings in Orange County in June to discuss the company's proposed water rationing plan that it recently filed with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). If approved, customers would receive water premium charges for exceeding water allocations and face penalties for violating water use restrictions.

The first meeting will be held for customers served by GSWC's West Orange County System on June 8 at 5:30 p.m. at the Cypress Senior Center, 9031 Grindlay Street, Cypress. The West Orange County System includes most of Los Alamitos, Cypress, and Stanton, and portions of Seal Beach, La Palma and Rossmoor.

The other meeting will occur for customers served by GSWC's Placentia, Yorba Linda and Cowan Heights/Lemon Heights systems. The meeting will be on June 10 at 5:30 p.m. at the Backs Community Building, 201 N. Bradford Ave., Placentia.

Water rationing and water use restrictions are needed as a result of a drought caused by below average precipitation for the third consecutive year. Additionally, the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta has federal court-ordered pumping restrictions designed to protect the environment. These pumping restrictions limit the flow of water through the Delta, and combined with the drought, continue to place a great strain on water supply for Californians.

Approximately 38 percent of GSWC's water supply for more than 42,200 customers in the company's Orange County District is obtained from the Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC), which imports and distributes water from the Municipal Water District (MWD) of Southern California. Due to the water shortage, MWDOC is reducing its annual allocation to GSWC and will charge the company penalties if GSWC exceeds its water budget.

If GSWC's water rationing plan is approved by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), each GSWC customer in Orange County would receive a monthly water allocation and face water premium charges for exceeding their allocation. Fines also may be issued to customers who violate a list (see below) of water use restrictions. The penalties GSWC issues to customers are designed to be revenue neutral and only cover additional costs GSWC incurs from exceeding its reduced allocation assigned by MWDOC.

GSWC's public meetings will give customers an opportunity to learn more about the plan and ask questions. Free water conservation kits and additional customer education materials will also be provided at the meeting.

The CPUC must approve of GSWC's water rationing plan before it is implemented. The CPUC is responsible for reviewing and ruling on all GSWC filings. Its process reflects the highest levels of accountability to customers for rates and operations.

“We are committed to helping our customers become as water efficient as possible and giving them the tools and information they need to take control of their water bills,” said Frank Heldman, district manager for GSWC’s Orange County District. “These public meetings will allow our customers the chance to learn more about our rationing plan, ask questions, and get answers they need to avoid water premium penalties.”

More information can be obtained at the company’s Web site, [www.gswater.com](http://www.gswater.com), or by calling GSWC’s call center at 1-800-999-4033. Representatives are available to answer calls 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

**List of Water Use Restrictions**  
**Pending CPUC Approval**

No customer shall use utility-supplied water for non-essential or unauthorized uses as defined below:

a. Use of water through any connection when the utility has notified the customers in writing to repair a broken or defective plumbing, sprinkler, watering or irrigation system and the customer has failed to make such repairs within 5 business days after receipt of such notice.

b. Use of water which results in flooding or run-off into gutters, waterways, patios, driveways, or streets.

c. Use of water for washing aircrafts, cars, buses, boats, trailers or other vehicles without a positive shut-off nozzle on the outlet of the hose. Exceptions include washing vehicles at commercial or fleet facilities operated at fixed locations where equipment using water is properly maintained to avoid wasteful use.

d. Use of water through a hose for washing buildings, structures, sidewalks, walkways, driveways, patios, parking lots, tennis courts, or other hard-surfaced areas in a manner which results in excessive run-off or waste.

e. Use of water for watering streets with trucks, except for initial wash-down for construction purposes (if street sweeping is not feasible), or to protect the health and safety of the public.

f. Use of water for construction purposes, such as consolidation of backfill, dust control, or other uses unless no other source of water or other method can be used.

g. Use of water for more than minimal landscaping in connection with any new construction.

h. Use of water for watering outside plants, lawn, landscape, and turf areas. Except that this provision shall not apply to commercial nurseries, golf courses and other water-dependent industries. Below are the water use restrictions at each stage of mandatory conservation and rationing:

1. At Stage 1 and 2: Water use restricted from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., except by hand
2. At Stage 3: Water use restricted from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., watering every other day – no more than three times per week
3. At Stage 4: Water use restricted from 9 a. m. – 5 p.m., watering every other day – no more than two times per week

4. At Stage 5, 6 and 7: Water use restricted from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., watering limited to no more than one time per week

i. Use of water for watering outside plants and turf areas using a hand-held hose without a positive shut-off valve.

j. Use of water for decorative fountains or the filling or topping off of decorative lakes or ponds. Exceptions are made for those decorative fountains, lakes or ponds which utilize recycled water and are equipped with a recirculation system.

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**About Golden State Water Company**

American States Water Company is the parent of Golden State Water Company, American States Utility Services, Inc. and Chaparral City Water Company. Through its subsidiaries, AWR provides water service to 1 out of 37 Californians located within 75 communities throughout 10 counties in Northern, Coastal and Southern California (approximately 254,000 customers) and to over 13,000 customers in the city of Fountain Hills, Arizona and a small portion of Scottsdale, Arizona. The Company also distributes electricity to over 23,000 customers in the Big Bear recreational area of California. Through its contracted services subsidiary, American States Utility Services, Inc., the Company contracts with the U.S. Government and private entities to provide various services, including water marketing and operation and maintenance of water and wastewater systems.