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# PRESS RELEASE

## **Coastside County Water District Urges Heightened Water Use Efficiency by Customers in Response to California's Severe Drought**

**Half Moon Bay, May 15, 2014:** On Tuesday night, at a regularly scheduled meeting, the Coastside County Water District Board of Directors asked that customers increase their efforts to reduce water use wherever possible in response to drought conditions. A successful voluntary water conservation campaign is the best way to avoid or delay mandatory water use restrictions.

Customers have responded to the District's request in February for a voluntary reduction in water use. The District has seen a decrease in water consumption with almost a 10 percent reduction by residential customers this April, when compared with last year. As summer approaches and water use peaks, the District is urging customers to increase their efforts to reduce their water use.

Increased conservation is important for single family residential customers with usage over the District's median residential bi-monthly consumption of 12 units or approximately 150 gallons per day. One unit is equal to 748 gallons. Single family residential customers using more than 12 units per billing cycle are urged to heighten their water use efficiency and curtail their water usage, particularly irrigation.

The District always encourages water use efficiency and many of the District's customers have installed water efficient fixtures and follow water-wise habits. The District offers rebates and water efficient showerheads to District customers at our office at 766 Main Street. Below is list of some water saving tips:

1. Check for leaks around your home or business. Toilets are one of the most common fixtures to develop leaks. Be sure to check your irrigation systems and water treatment systems also.
2. Turn off your irrigation system. Manually water your plants and trees, as necessary, by checking soil moisture and plant conditions. Apply a minimum of 2 inches of mulch to your landscaping to help retain soil moisture.
3. Use a broom to clean sidewalks and pavement instead of a hose.
4. Turn off the faucet when brushing your teeth and try to take shorter showers.
5. Replace older toilets and clothes washers with high efficiency models.

Coastside County Water District has been serving high quality drinking water to the City of Half Moon Bay and the communities of Princeton by the Sea, El Granada, and Miramar since 1947. The District is an independent water district under the California Water Code with an elected board of directors.