



September 2018

WATER CONSERVATION NEWSLETTER

WATER CONSERVATION TRACKER

DOWN 27.8%



June 2015—March 2018

“Conserve... It’s a California Way of Life”

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- Mayor:
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- Councilmember:
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Governor signs Conservation Bills

[SB 606 \(Hertzberg\)](#) and [AB 1668 \(Friedman\)](#) were signed Thursday by Governor Brown. The package establishes a new and comprehensive framework for both agricultural and urban water conservation and water use efficiency. [AB 1668](#) in particular states ‘until January 1, 2025, would establish 55 gallons per capita daily as the standard for indoor residential water use, beginning January 1, 2025, would establish the greater of 52.5 gallons per capita daily or a standard recommended by the department and the board as the standard for indoor residential water use, and beginning January 1, 2030, would establish the greater of 50 gallons per capita daily or a standard recommended by the department and the board as the standard for indoor residential water use’. [Read the Governor’s announcement about signing the legislation.](#)

“SHASTA DAM RAISE” gains momentum

Congress and the Trump administration are pushing ahead with a plan to raise a towering symbol of dam-building’s [20th century heyday](#) to meet the water demands of 21st century California — a project backed by San Joaquin Valley growers but opposed by state officials, defenders of a protected river and the local Wintu Indian tribe whose sacred sites would be swamped.

The fight is over Shasta Dam. At 602 feet it is the fourth-tallest dam in California and the cornerstone of the federal Central Valley Project. Shasta Dam provides water to cities and farms throughout the state. One of its biggest customers is the Westlands Water District in the arid western San Joaquin Valley, which distributes water to numerous large farms.

With enthusiastic support from Westlands, the Trump administration and Republicans in Congress want to raise the dam 18½ feet to store more water and guard against losing farmland to future droughts. Some farmers in the valley received no water at all from the Central Valley Project for two straight years during the five-year drought that ended with the winter of 2016-17.

Proponents also argue that raising Shasta would aid salmon runs decimated by its original construction in the 1940s, by storing more cold water to help the remaining downstream fish survive.

Last month, Congress gave the \$1.3 billion project a \$20 million cash infusion for design and other preliminary work, and the Interior Department declared that construction would start next year. Read the full story here.

<https://www.sfchronicle.com/science/article/White-House-Congress-side-with-California-12834955.php>

Free Conservation kits, Water Audits, and Landscape Surveys

The City of Shasta Lake continues to offer a limited number of **free** Water Audits and Landscape Surveys. Conservation items are available at the front desk at City Hall. Please call 530-275-7400 or visit our website at: www.cityofshastalake.org for more information. This Fall the City will have a limited number of 2019 water conservation calendars available for pick up.

What is a Water Audit?

With your permission we will gladly come to your home and determine the most efficient way for you to conserve water..... for free! While we are there, we can complete a landscape survey and offer advice on how to apply your outdoor water use more efficiently. Often we find faulty or worn sprinklers which causes some areas to receive too much water and other areas not enough.

Indoor Conservation Tips

- Fix leaks, including leaky toilets
- Install high-efficiency toilets, aerators on bathroom faucets, and water-efficient shower heads
- Take shorter (5 minute) showers
- Track your water bill and meter to curtail water use
- Turn off water when brushing teeth or shaving
- Use dishwashers and washing machines with full loads only

Outdoor Conservation Tips

- Plant drought-tolerant/resistant plants and trees
- Recycle indoor water to use on plants
- Refrain from watering your home landscape when it rains
- Replace your grass/turf with water-wise plants (check to see if [rebates](#) are available)
- Use a broom to clean driveways, patios, and sidewalks instead of water from a hose
- Water your outdoor landscape earlier in the day when the temperature is cooler

Here are some helpful Fall season tips

- Be aware that water needs of plants (including grass) drop dramatically in the fall. Overwatering in the fall can lead to plant disease.
- Outdoor watering should be cut back significantly. Cooler weather and seasonal rains make it possible to stop all supplemental irrigation.
- Avoid watering in the evening if possible. Fungal problems are more likely if plants are wet all night during fall months.
- Install efficient water appliances- water use can be reduced by nearly 1/3 just by switching to efficient appliances. Since summer is over, stores like Lowes and Home Depot will be empty, leaving the perfect opportunity to browse the store for the latest efficient appliances.

**Visit our Website:
www.cityofshastalake.org
for more information on
Rebates and Conservation Tips**