



March 2019

WATER CONSERVATION NEWSLETTER

STATEWIDE WATER CONSERVATION TRACKER



October 2013—October 2018

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

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Shasta Raise

Shasta Lake is the largest reservoir in Bureau of Reclamation's Central Valley Project. Reclamation's [feasibility study and reports](#) have evaluated potential effects of an array of alternative plans to determine the technical, environmental, economic and financial feasibility of enlarging the existing Shasta Reservoir as a part of the [Shasta Lake Water Resources Investigation](#). The Shasta Dam Raise and Enlargement Project timeline can be found at <https://www.usbr.gov/mp/ncao/docs/sdrep-timeline.pdf>.

Potential National Benefits

- Additional 630,000 acre-feet of stored water for the environment and for water users
- Improved water supply reliability for agricultural, municipal and industrial, and environmental uses
- Reduce the potential for flood damage
- Improved Sacramento River temperatures and water quality below the dam for Anadromous fish survival

All the current information and a link to signup to be on a Project Update email list can be found at <https://www.usbr.gov/mp/ncao/shasta-enlargement.html>.

Post Wildfire Update

2018 was the worst fire season in California in at least 15 years, with the Camp Fire (Paradise) being the deadliest in the state’s history. Northern California in particular was hit hard by wildfires that included the Camp, Carr, Hirz, Delta fires and the Mendocino Complex which burned over 459,000 acres alone. Wildfires over the last decade have become more intense and dangerous. Many factors, some controversial, contribute to the intensity of these fires including drought, poor forest management, climate change and the state’s ever growing population. Here are some helpful tips from CalFire as the 2019 Wildfire season approaches:

1. If possible, create a defensible space around your property by clearing any underbrush, weeds, and tall grass. Do this in the spring when vegetation is green.
2. If vegetation has dried out, avoid using any equipment that could cause a spark and possibly start a fire.
3. If there is a fire and you evacuate, do not turn on your sprinklers and leave. Not only does this reduce the amount of water available to fight a fire but also reduces the water pressure in the system.

Making Conservation A Way Of Life

As changes in the climate occur over time – longer droughts, destructive wildfires, more intense flooding, and shrinking snowpack – California needs to make our water go as far as possible. To improve water conservation and drought planning the California legislature and governor passed [Senate Bill 606](#)(Hertzberg) and [Assembly Bill 1668](#)(Friedman) ----into law in 2018. Collectively, these efforts provide a road map for all Californians to work together to ensure that we will have enough water now and in the future. This new conservation legislation **DOES NOT** regulate personal water use. The new laws create water amounts for water districts, not individual water customers or businesses. The laws do not set any water use standards on individual customers, nor do they levy any fines on individuals. Individual water use standards are used to calculate a supplier's total water use objectives for their total customer base.

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. Call Efficiency Services Group at 855-516-2105 to schedule your audit or survey.

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.

The City also offers the following rebates:

- High Performance Low-Flush Toilet - \$100
- High Performance Clothes Washer - \$100
- Automatic Irrigation Controller - \$100

(Certain restrictions apply. Call 275-7400 for more information)

Turf Replacement Rebates still available

California still offers rebates for turf replacement. Go to www.saveourwaterrebates.com for additional information.

OUTDOOR TIPS FOR SPRING

Here are some helpful Springtime tips

1. **Tune up your system.** Inspect irrigation systems and check for leaks and broken or clogged sprinkler heads. Fix sprinkler heads that are broken or spraying on the sidewalk, street, or driveway. Just one broken sprinkler head can waste up to 25,000 gallons of water over a six-month irrigation season.
2. **Separate your plants into zones.** When planting, assign areas of your landscape different hydro-zones depending on sun/shade exposure, soil and plant types, and type of sprinklers, then adjust your irrigation system or watering schedule based on those zones' specific needs. This helps you avoid overwatering some areas or under-watering others.
3. **Add a pre-emergent to your lawn.** A healthy, thick grass will use water more wisely once summer is here. Adding a pre-emergent to your lawn in the spring will help reduce, if not eliminate any weed growth.
4. **Keep it balanced.** Put measuring cups in various places around your lawn and run the sprinklers for 15 minutes. This will give you an idea of how much water the grass is getting and where. You're looking for about one to two inches—depending on the soil—evenly distributed.

Visit our Website:

www.cityofshastalake.org

for more information on

Rebates and Conservation Tips