

# DEPARTMENT OF WATER



*Service, Quality, Community*

## PRESS RELEASE

### Contact Information

Bennett Rossell, Water Conservation and Communications Supervisor

Phone: (909) 866-5050

Email: [brossell@bbldwp.com](mailto:brossell@bbldwp.com)

### New DWP Irrigation Restrictions from the State

**Big Bear Lake, CA: Thursday, June 09, 2022— New State regulations related to the drought means outdoor irrigation will soon be limited to two days a week and no drinking water can be used for non-functional grass at commercial or institutional properties.**

This news comes as the State ramps up efforts to combat increased drought conditions heading into the summer season. The goal is to reduce, or hopefully eliminate, the use of precious drinking water for irrigation purposes that are considered wasteful during these extreme conditions. Though Big Bear Lake DWP's groundwater sources have yet to be significantly impacted by the drought, it is a possibility. Starting June 10, 2022, we join the State in asking customers to accept these extra measures to conserve this vital resource.

For residents and businesses, watering your landscape with drinking water will be limited to twice per week and continues to be prohibited between the hours of 9:00 am to 6:00 pm. Addresses ending in an even number, may irrigate Wednesday and Saturday and addresses ending in an odd number, may water Thursday and Sunday. Please set your automatic irrigation controllers to operate within those limits and contact us if you have any questions. The DWP offers rebates for WaterSense labelled irrigation controllers and sprinkler heads as well as, rain barrels and turf removal. Additionally, irrigation using grey water from baths or kitchens, or by using a rain barrel, is allowed anytime.

Commercial and institutional sites that have turf in common areas including planned unit developments (HOA's) and multi-family housing, now face a "use it or lose it" situation with any non-functional turf. If any existing irrigated grass cannot be shown to provide regular, recreational use, or used for civic or community events, no watering of it is allowed. Exceptions are made for irrigation limited to the area necessary for the health of trees and shrubs. Violations are subject to a \$500 per day penalty from the State's Department of Water Resources, *not* the BBLDWP. We appreciate the cooperation of all those affected by this regulation and encourage eligible customers to seize the moment by participating in our Turf Buyback Rebate Program that offers \$1 for every square foot of irrigated turf removed. For more information, please visit: [bbldwp.com/conservation](http://bbldwp.com/conservation)

As drought conditions change and as state regulation continue to evolve, the BBLDWP will continue to adapt to the situation. We encourage you to visit our website regularly and follow us on social media @bigbearwater.

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Department of Water, City of Big Bear Lake

41972 Garstin Drive, P.O. Box 1929 · Big Bear Lake, CA 92315-1929 · Phone 909/866-5050 · Fax 909/866-3184 · [www.BBLDWP.com](http://www.BBLDWP.com)

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