

## **NEWS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 28, 2014

Contact: Jen Michelsen 831-430-4627

## **SLV Water District Implements Stage 2 Water Shortage Restrictions**

## Restrictions Focus on Outdoor Water Use

BOULDER CREEK, CA – The San Lorenzo Valley Water District will implement Stage 2 water shortage restrictions, beginning May 1. The District declared a State 2 emergency in response to ongoing drought conditions. Stage 2 mandatory restrictions aim to reduce overall water demand District-wide by 20% by focusing on reductions in outdoor water use.

Stage 2 outdoor water restrictions include:

- No watering or irrigating between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.
- No outdoor watering on Monday.
- Outdoor irrigation is permitted only 3 days a week: if your address ends in an EVEN number, water only on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday; if your address ends in an ODD number, water on Wednesday, Friday and Sunday.
- On your watering days, limit irrigation to 15 minutes per station.
- Do not wash down hard or paved surfaces.
- Do not initially fill, or drain and refill residential swimming pools.
- Drinking water will only be served at restaurants upon request.
- Shut-off nozzles are required on all hoses.

Exemptions include: drip irrigation and edible gardens. Water use restrictions will remain in effect until further notice.

By reducing overall system demand by 20%, the District aims to avoid implementing Stage 3 Water Restrictions, which would include rationing. In summer months, when customers increase irrigation of their landscapes, peak water demands cannot be satisfied without reducing the water supply to a level that risks having sufficient water for human consumption, sanitation and fire protection.

To educate customers about the Stage 2 restrictions, the District is mailing an informational postcard listing the curtailments involved that will be implemented May 1. Customers will also be receiving a letter with their May water bills explaining the switch from a bi-monthly to monthly billing cycle. The change will help encourage conservation by enabling customers more closely track their water usage.

As this summer approaches, rainfall to date is approximately 43% of the annual average total. Significant additional rainfall is highly unlikely and surface flows are what we would expect to see in August. The District's water supplies are comprised of surface water from tributaries to the San Lorenzo River and deep well aquifers located in the Boulder Creek, Ben Lomond, Zayante, and Scotts Valley areas. The District does not have any large water storage reservoirs, and does not receive any imported water. The District is 100% dependent on local water supplies, which are directly impacted by the cumulative lack of rainfall.

More information is available on the District's website <a href="www.slvwd.com/">www.slvwd.com/</a> and Facebook page, <a href="www.slvwd.com/slvwaterdistrict">www.slvwd.com/</a> and Facebook page, <a href="www.slvwd.com/slvwaterdistrict">www.slvwd.com/</a> and Facebook page,