



NEWS ADVISORY (Advisory No. 2-14)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, January 28, 2014

**SFPUC General Manager Harlan Kelly’s Statement on
 Voluntary, 10% Water Conservation Request**

SAN FRANCISCO, CA – San Francisco Public Utilities Commission General Manager Harlan Kelly issued the following statement today regarding a request for customers to voluntarily curtail water use by 10%.

“On Friday, January 31st, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission will ask customers of the Hetch Hetchy Regional Water System to voluntarily curtail water consumption by at least 10%. Over the next few days, I will be working closely with Mayor Ed Lee, San Francisco city departments and our Bay Area wholesale customers to develop strategies to meet this water conservation goal.

I believe voluntary water conservation efforts are the best way to avert mandatory cutbacks and other water restrictions should drought conditions persist.”

A formal announcement and media availability will take place on Friday. Details will be made available in a press advisory the day prior. The SFPUC provides reliable, high quality drinking water to 2.6 million people in San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara and Alameda Counties.

As always, the SFPUC encourages our customers to conserve water. Here are some helpful tips to conserve water around the house.

1. Turn off the faucet when you are brushing your teeth or doing the dishes - save 2 gallons per minute.
2. Take shorter showers. Each minute you cut saves 2.5 gallons. Make sure you or your property owner have installed a high-efficiency showerhead.
3. Operate your clothes and dishwashers with full loads only, even if the machine has an adjustable load setting.
4. Use a broom to clean sidewalks, driveways and pavement instead of using a hose.
5. Reduce outdoor watering needs by planting species appropriate for the Bay Area’s dry climate.
6. Water during the cool part of the day. Reduce evaporation by watering lawns and plants only at night or early morning before dawn.
7. Detect leaks. Do you hear the toilet running or your faucet dripping? Contact the SFPUC or your local water agency for information on locating your water meter and detecting plumbing leaks using meter readings. Conducting a dye-test in toilet tanks can identify costly silent leaks.
8. Install aerators on bathroom and kitchen sinks to reduce indoor water use by about 4%.

Edwin M. Lee
 Mayor
Vince Courtney
 President
Ann Moller Caen
 Vice President
Francesca Viotor
 Commissioner
Anson Moran
 Commissioner
Art Torres
 Commissioner
Harlan L. Kelly, Jr.
 General Manager

- more -



9. Many Bay Area water utilities provide a number of efficient conservation plumbing fixtures for free. The SFPUC provides free faucet aerators, low-flow showerheads and garden spray nozzles to San Francisco residents. Pickup in person with proof of address at 525 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco – Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
10. Replace your old toilet, the largest water user inside your home. New high-efficiency toilet models flush at 1.3 gallons or less compared to older models, which use up to 7 gallons per flush. Bay Area water agencies offer cash rebates for the purchase of select high-efficiency toilets.
11. Replace your clothes washer, the second largest water user in your home. High efficiency clothes washers can reduce water and energy use by 40%. Bay Area water agencies offer cash rebates for the purchase of select high-efficiency clothes washers.

Updates and additional information will be available at sfwater.org/supplyupdate.

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