

October 18, 2022

«CUSTOMER_NAME»
«MAILING_ADDRESS»
«CITY» «PROVINCE CD» «POSTAL CD»

Subject: Water Budget Adjustments in Response to Ban of Irrigation on Nonfunctional Turf at Commercial, Industrial and Institutional Properties

Dear «CUSTOMER NAME»:

On behalf of Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD), we wanted to provide you with information regarding California's ongoing drought and recently adopted regulations that apply to Commercial, Industrial and Institutional (CII) customers.

In late May 2022, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) adopted regulations that prohibit the irrigation of nonfunctional turf with potable (drinking) water in response to California and the entire western United States facing severe and unprecedented water supply shortages. Nonfunctional turf is grass that is used for decorative purposes only and does not provide active recreational benefits to the community.

Please note the regulations do <u>not</u> apply to:

- Parks, sports fields, and other turf used for recreation
- Turf that is on the same irrigation valve as trees, shrubs and other perennial plants
- Sites irrigated with recycled water

Beginning in June 2022, EMWD has been working closely with CII customers to provide education and assistance through a series of communications and workshops in order to comply with the statewide regulations prior to enforcement actions.

In order to enforce those regulations, EMWD will be adjusting water budgets for CII customers who have eligible nonfunctional turf effective December 1, 2022.

Board of Directors

As a result, your current water budget, which has a Conservation Factor (CF) of 70 percent, will be reduced to 50 percent effective December 1, 2022. The CF adjusts the amount of evapotranspiration (ET) assigned to the irrigated area. ET is the amount of water required to maintain turf grass based on daily weather information. A landscape with less turf grass and more low-water landscaping along with more efficient irrigation systems can be maintained on a lower CF. In fact, all new construction connected after June 2015 are assigned 50 percent of ET.

If you feel your account is exempt from this regulation, please contact our Water Use Efficiency Department at 951-928-3777 ext. 3322 or email conservation@emwd.org.

As California continues to face historic drought conditions, we appreciate your partnership in helping stretch our water supplies by complying with all applicable state and local water use regulations, including those adopted by the State Board and EMWD. EMWD offers a variety of customer-focused programs such as rebate opportunities, technical resources, and educational information to help your organization use water as efficiently as possible. Please visit our website at https://www.emwd.org/business-customers to learn more.

We thank you for your time and understanding as we all work to do our part and look forward to working together for a more sustainable future.

Sincerely,

Joe Mouawad, P.E General Manager