

# LVMWD Updates on the Drought and the Local Response to Conservation

City of Calabasas

May 10, 2022

Dave Pedersen

General Manager



# Sources of California's Water

2/3 of the state's water falls in the north



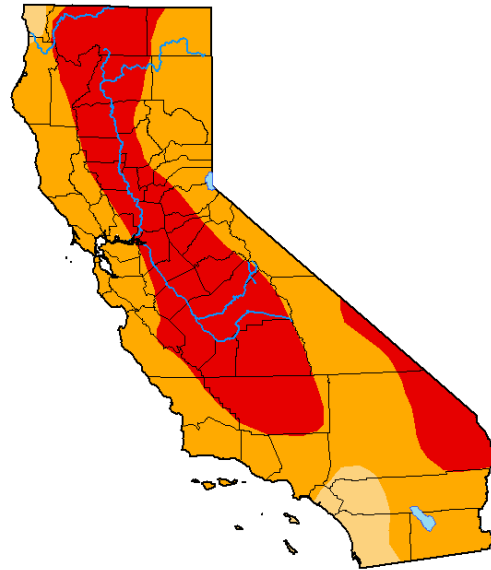
2/3 of the state's population lives in the south



# Statewide Drought

- Third consecutive year of drought on heels of 2012-16 statewide drought.
- Driest 3-month stretch between January to March since record keeping began.
- Below average snowpack, record high temperatures and runoff that did not materialize.
- Major reservoirs well below average levels.
- Urban, agricultural and environmental uses all impacted.

## U.S. Drought Monitor California



**May 3, 2022**  
(Released Thursday, May 5, 2022)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.00	100.00	100.00	95.18	40.51	0.00
Last Week 04-26-2022	0.00	100.00	100.00	95.18	40.56	0.00
3 Months Ago 02-01-2022	0.00	100.00	99.25	66.39	1.39	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-04-2022	0.00	100.00	99.30	67.62	16.60	0.84
Start of Water Year 09-26-2021	0.00	100.00	100.00	93.93	87.88	45.66
One Year Ago 05-04-2021	0.00	100.00	97.52	92.88	73.31	5.36

### Intensity:

None	D2 Severe Drought
D0 Abnormally Dry	D3 Extreme Drought
D1 Moderate Drought	D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

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[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)

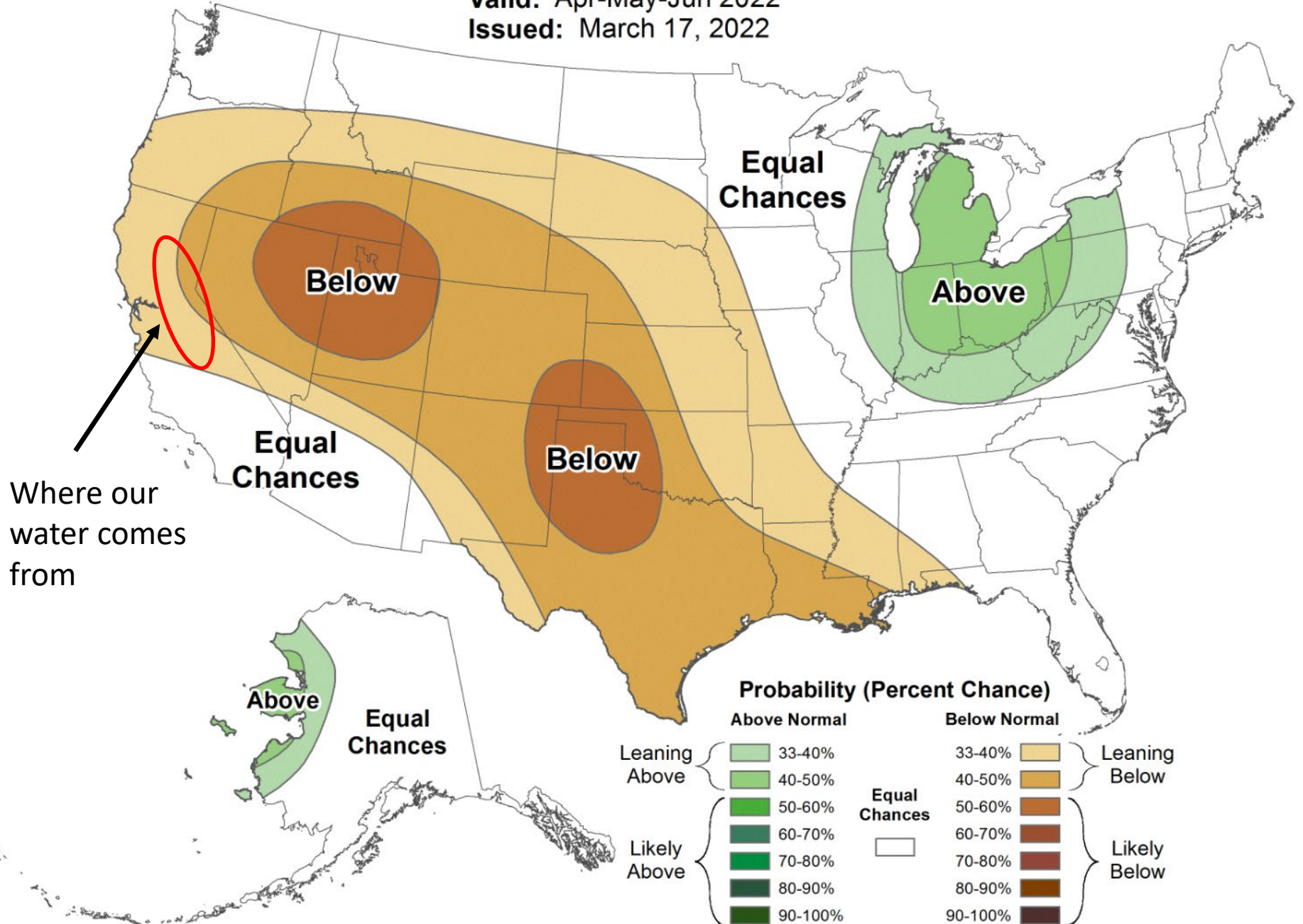




# Seasonal Precipitation Outlook



Valid: Apr-May-Jun 2022  
Issued: March 17, 2022



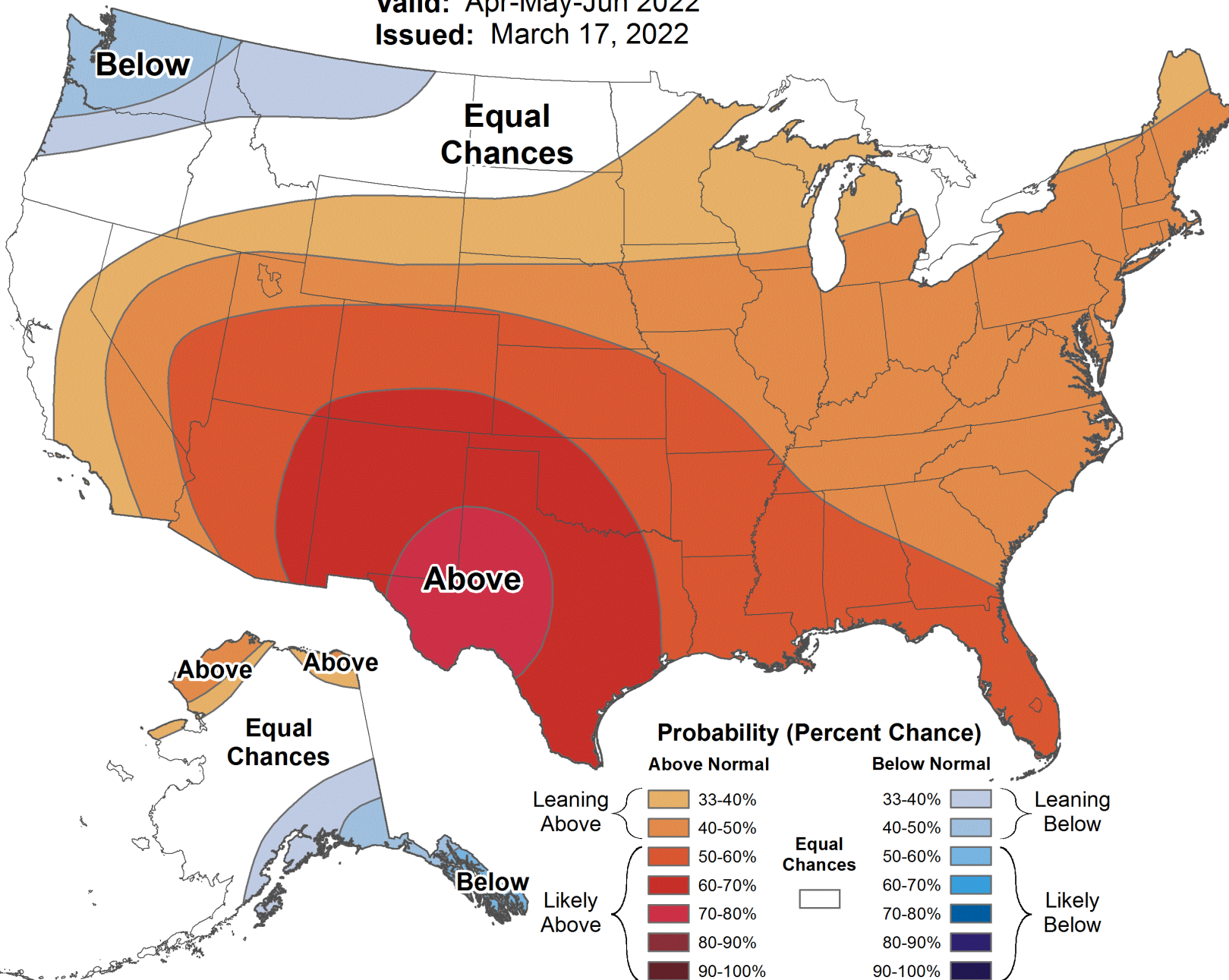


# Seasonal Temperature Outlook

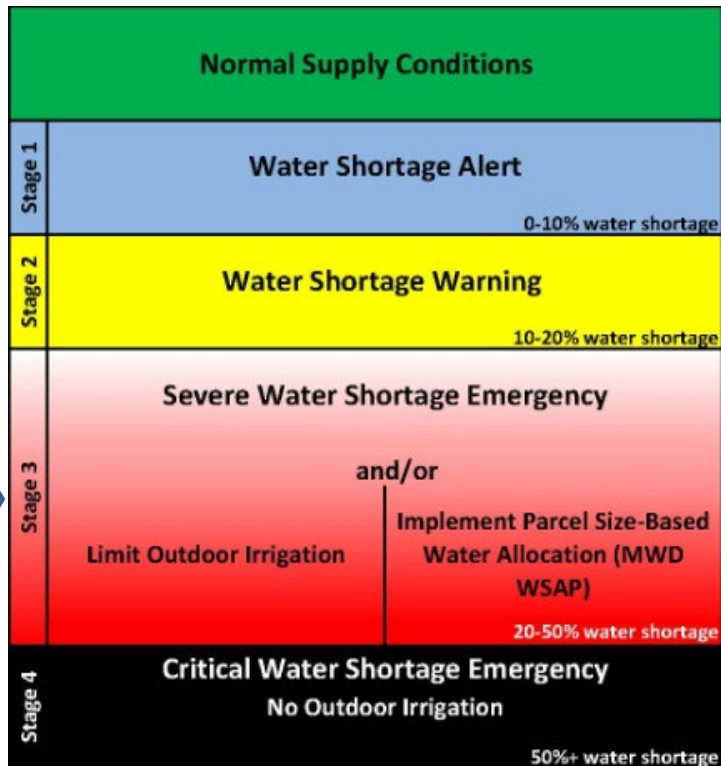


Valid: Apr-May-Jun 2022

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# Regional and Local Actions

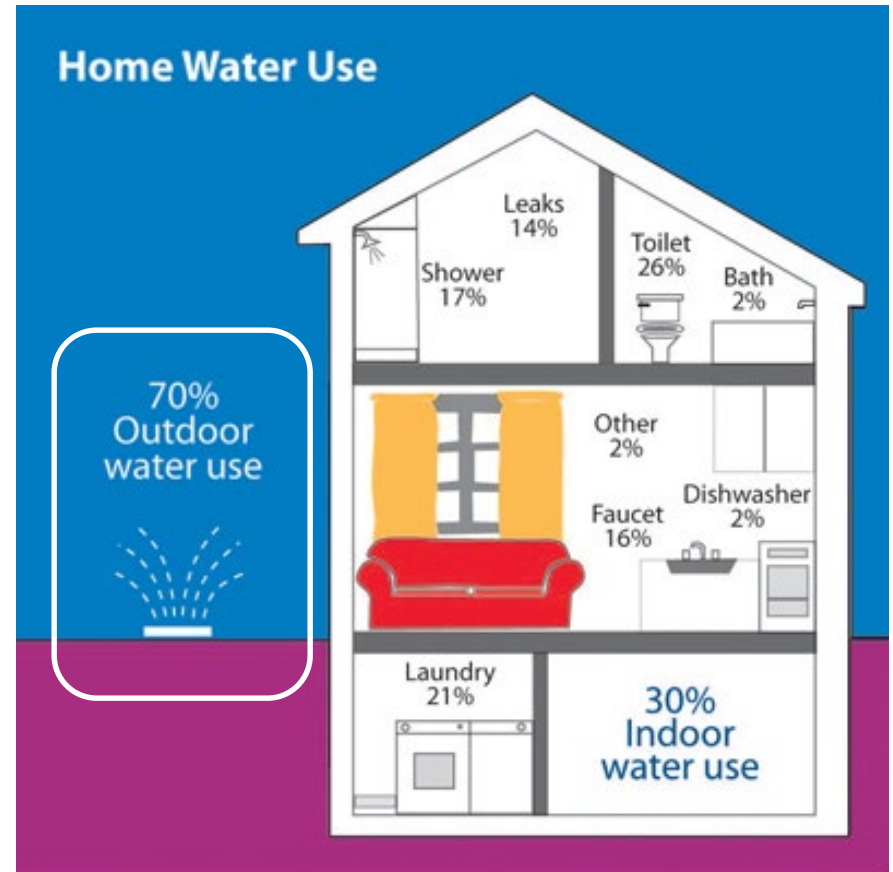


- June 15<sup>th</sup> – District declared a Stage 1 Water Shortage Alert.
- July 20<sup>th</sup> – District declared a Stage 2 Water Shortage Warning and called for 15% voluntary reduction in water use.
- August 17<sup>th</sup> – MWD issued Water Supply Alert.
- November 2<sup>nd</sup> – District Board adopted additional measures including local drought emergency and Stage 3 Water Shortage.
- April 5<sup>th</sup> 2022 – Board reduces outdoor water budgets to 50%.

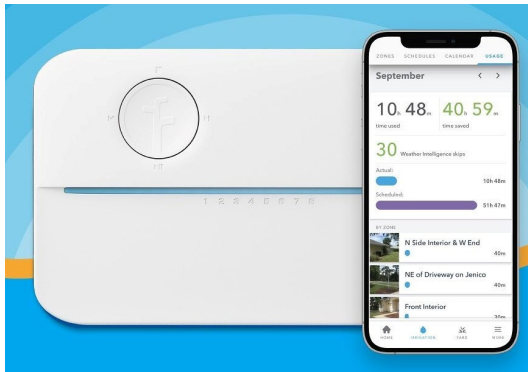


# What Does It All Mean for Us?

- Reduce outdoor water use by 50% (of outdoor budget).
- Eliminate water waste.
- Take advantage of available conservation rebates/incentives.



# Take “Control” of your Irrigation Controller



## Steps:

1. Find the controller.
2. Check days and duration.
3. Days x Duration = total minutes per week.
4. Multiple by 0.50.
5. Spread over two days.





# Mandatory Measures in Effect

No irrigation between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Irrigation may not occur during or 48 hours following a rain event.

Irrigation may not result in excess runoff.

Washing down of sidewalks and driveways is prohibited.

Trigger nozzle is required on hoses used for home car washing.

Hotels/motels must give multi-night guests the option not to have towels and linens replaced daily.

Restaurants may only serve water upon request.





# Enforcement

- Door hanger/Warning Letter.
- Escalating fine structure (\$100, \$200 or \$500).
- For usage exceeding 150% of water budget, District may apply wasteful water use penalties and possibly install a flow restriction device.



Las Virgenes  
Municipal Water  
District  
(818) 251-2200



**LVMWD Water Conservation  
Alert**

Date: 4/11/2022 Time: 1:00pm

Sorry we missed you. LVMWD staff was at your residence today to respond to a wasteful water event and to assist in correcting the issue.

Runoff from property

Broken sprinkler

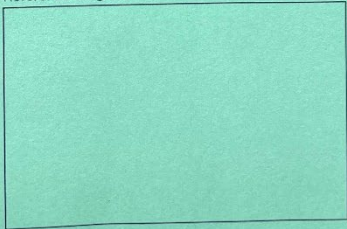
Irrigation running between 10 am and 5 pm

Irrigation running within 48 hours after a rain event

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Notes: Runoff into street/  
Gutter

Reference Diagram



over →

# Enforcement of Outdoor Water Budget Exceedance

- 1<sup>st</sup> penalty: A warning will be provided along with an estimate of what the penalty amount would have been.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> penalty: An extra charge of \$2.50 per unit of water (748 gallons) over 150% of water budget.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> penalty: An extra charge of \$5.00 per unit of water over 150% of budget. Customers that receive a 3<sup>rd</sup> or subsequent penalties are also subject to the **installation of a flow restriction device**.
- 4<sup>th</sup> penalty: An extra charge of \$7.50 per unit of water over 150% of budget.
- 5<sup>th</sup> and subsequent penalties: An extra charge of \$10.00 per unit of water over 150% of budget.



# Exceptions

- Drip Irrigation Systems
- Hand Watering – bucket, watering can, hose with auto shutoff nozzle
- Trees - vary depending on the species, size and maturity of the tree – but generally we would recommend watering trees by hand up to twice a week – and a bit deeper watering to reach the root zone of the tree.



# HOA Compliance

- An HOA cannot issue a fine or assessment on a homeowner for reducing or eliminating the watering of vegetation or lawns during a **state or locally-declared drought emergency** (Civil Code section 4735(c)).
- An HOA cannot enforce architectural or landscaping guidelines or policies that prohibit, or have the effect of prohibiting, compliance with most local water-efficient landscape ordinances.
- An HOA cannot require that a homeowner pressure wash the exterior of their home, vehicles and concrete surfaces during a declared state of drought emergency (Civil Code section 4736(b)).



# Bottom Line

- We are in a locally-declared water emergency.
- LVMWD customers are 100% dependent on imported water for drinking (State Water Project (SWP) Dependent Area).
- Water conservation targets are falling short.
- District is increasing enforcement of outdoor watering restrictions (50% of outdoor budget) with continued penalties and monitoring via “drive arounds.”
- MWD considering a one day a week watering restriction beginning June 1, 2022 – Just held meeting on Tuesday April 26, 2022.
- Odd address one day, even another – 8 minutes per station (proposed)
- Current watering restrictions are unprecedented and could lead to a complete ban on outdoor watering this year.
- This drought could continue into next year.



# Everyone Can Help

## Anonymous Reporting

Send a photo or e-mail from  
your smartphone to:

[stopthewaste@LVMWD.com](mailto:stopthewaste@LVMWD.com)

or

Call LVMWD (818) 251-2200

