



**NORTH MARIN
WATER DISTRICT**

THE WATER LINE

NOVATO'S WATER CONSERVATION NEWSLETTER • VOLUME 10 ISSUE 22 FALL 2009

Thank You!

In response to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) mandated reduction in Russian River water diversions this summer, NMWD enacted an Emergency Water Conservation Ordinance and asked customers to reduce their summer water use. Novato customers responded admirably and were successful in reducing summer water consumption by 21% from June 1 through September 30, 2009. Novato customers assisted the Sonoma County Water Agency to comply with the SWRCB order.

NMWD fully utilized the Stafford Treatment Plant local supply and recycled water delivery to Stone Tree Golf Course which enabled NMWD Russian River water deliveries to be reduced by 45% compared to 2004 deliveries during the same summer period (SWRCB chose 2004 as the metric for measuring Russian River water diversions reductions). As a region, Russian River water diversions serving water users from Windsor to Sausalito were reduced by 31% compared to 2004. This was accomplished through increased water conservation and use of local supplies and recycled water.



As a result, there is now sufficient water stored in Lake Mendocino for release this fall as the Chinook salmon begin their migration and spawning. We are hopeful this will ensure a healthy population of Chinook salmon in future years.

Even though the state mandated period for water conservation has ended and NMWD's Emergency Water Conservation Ordinance has sunset, customers are asked to continue conserving water. Now is a good time to participate in the NMWD

Novato customers responded admirably and were successful in reducing summer water consumption

Cash for Grass program. (See the back page for details.) Fall is typically the time to turn down your outdoor irrigation, make necessary irrigation system upgrades or repairs and plant new drought tolerant landscaping so it is established for next year's growing season.

We are not aware of what this winter's

weather patterns will bring in rainfall; and although we do expect similar situations in the years to come, we must prepare now should dry year conditions occur again. Customers are encouraged to participate in our water conservation programs outlined in this edition of the *Water Line*.

Expanded Recycled Water is Coming!

NMWD is working with Novato Sanitary District and Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District to expand the use of recycled water in Novato. Recycled water is currently used to irrigate Stone Tree Golf Course and the expanded Novato projects are part of the North Bay Water Reuse Authority (NBWRA). Release of NBWRA's Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is expected in November 2009. The EIR will subsequently be considered for adoption by NMWD's Board of Directors on or about December 2009. Check NMWD's web site at www.nmwd.com for more details.

Enter to Win! NMWD is giving away a FREE water- and energy-efficient clothes washer to recognize customer water conservation efforts. This High-Efficiency Clothes Washer can **save up to 50% of water and 65% of energy** when compared to conventional top-loading clothes washers.

The winner will be selected from eligible entries. Please include all information requested on the entry form. NMWD customers only. Entries must be received by May 17, 2010. The drawing will be held at the Board of Directors meeting on May 18, 2010.

WIN a High-Efficiency Clothes Washer!

Customer Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Customer No. _____
(from your water bill)

Questions? Call 897-4133 ext. 8711

Clip and mail to: North Marin Water District
PO Box 146
Novato, CA 94948

Fall is Here!

Shorter days and cooler temperatures are here. Remember to turn off or adjust watering times for your irrigation system. As plants slow their growth with the decreasing daylight, they also slow down their water use. Cut back on watering as needed — sometimes by as much as one-third to one-half.

Water Smart Savings Program

More water saving programs at www.nmwd.com

North Marin Water District wants to help customers conserve water and reduce water waste. That's why we've put all of our water saving promotions under one umbrella. The *Water Smart Savings Program* encompasses all you need to get started on saving water and saving money.

Cash for Grass

Lawns require a tremendous amount of water to keep healthy. As part of the *Water Smart Savings Program*, you can get cash back when you remove your lawn and re-landscape with California native low water use plants or District approved synthetic turf. See web site or call for complete program details and requirements.

Rebate Amount: Up to \$1.00 per square foot of lawn removed depending on project scope, maximum rebate of \$1,000. Rebates available until funds are depleted.

How to Participate: Develop a qualifying landscape plan and plant list and call NMWD at 415-897-4133, ext. 8711, to schedule a brief pre-inspection. Dead or already removed lawns may not qualify.

Water Smart Home Survey

NMWD offers free *Water Smart Home Surveys* as the cornerstone of the *Water Smart Savings Program*. This **free** service includes indoor and outdoor water efficiency checks, a landscape irrigation system efficiency test and a leak detection test.

Our friendly, knowledgeable survey technicians can show how you can easily conserve more water and save money. Best of all, your appointment can be scheduled at a time that is convenient for you.

How to Participate: Call (415) 897-4133 ext. 8711 to set up your free appointment.

Water Smart Landscape Efficiency Rebate

Efficient landscapes can be achieved through a number of strategies including efficient irrigation devices and equipment, and soil maintenance. You may be eligible for rebates when you install District-qualified water-efficient landscape equipment including:

- Drip irrigation systems
- Water pressure-regulating device
- Check valves
- Multi-stream rotating sprinkler nozzles (for lawn areas only)
- Rain shut-off devices
- Mulch
- Soil conditioner/amendment

Rebate Amount: 50% of the actual cost of District-approved items, up to a maximum of \$200 for residential customers. Rebates available until funds are depleted.

How to Participate: Confirm eligibility during your *Water Smart Home Survey* to identify water-efficient landscape actions to be taken.

High-Efficiency Toilet Rebate

Don't flush money away. Now you can get a rebate of up to \$150 per High-Efficiency Toilet (HET) when you replace your non-water conserving toilets. HETs use 20% less water than standard ultra-low flush toilets, so not only will you save water, but you'll save money, too. HETs eligible for rebate must be on the District Approved List of Qualified Models.

Rebate Amount: Up to \$150 for each qualifying HET. Rebate amount for HET good through the end of each calendar year (December 31), or until funds are depleted.

How to Participate: During your *Water Smart Home Survey*, your NMWD representative can conduct the simple pre-inspection.

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WATER DISTRICT

www.nmwd.com

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