

Santa Lucia Community Services District

Water Conservation Policy

It is the obligation of the Santa Lucia Community Services District to encourage the protection, conservation and replenishment of the underground water supplies within the District. Promoting efficient use of water in the community's public and private landscapes reinforces the community values of resource preservation. In order to preserve and protect the water resources of the Santa Lucia Preserve, the District deems it in the best interest of the District and its residents to adopt a long-range water conservation strategy for the Santa Lucia Preserve community.

1. Planning and Overall Approach. *The District shall initiate the following measures:*

a. *Promote community awareness and planning that is essential to ground water resource management for the District and includes the following:*

1. A long-range water resource planning process which incorporates the goal of efficient water usage by residents and other users within the District and embraces the natural and cultural environment of the Santa Lucia Preserve in the water conservation effort.

2. Review and monitoring of water usage by District customers of maintaining average water usage within $\frac{3}{4}$ acre-foot per customer (approximately 244,000 gallons per year), consistent with the Final Environmental Impact Report certified by Monterey County.

3. Communication with residents on the goals and progress of the District in reaching its water conservation goals.

4. Evaluate existing water conservation usage measures and revise them if necessary to be consistent with the conservation strategy.

5. Assure that Occupancy and use of the Homeland of any residence shall comply with the provisions of Monterey County Water Resources Agency Ordinance 3539

b. *Work with the Santa Lucia Preserve Association and the Design Review Board to develop methods to encourage voluntary water conservation planning for future residences including:*

1. Requiring landscape designs comply with the Design Guidelines provisions related to landscaping contained in Sections 2.15, 2.16 and 3.15 of the Design Guidelines.

2. Encouraging residential domestic usage and landscaping designs that use less than .75 acre foot per year.

3. Request the DRB prior to approval, to refer to the CSD, any residential application with includes domestic and landscape design usage which estimates more than .75 acre foot of use per year.

4. *Request the DRB not approve any residential application unless and until a can and will serve letter has been provided by the CSD.*

5. *Reviewing planned residential landscape designs within the District that may exceed .75 acre foot per year (high water use) and provide a process for individualized education of the owners on water conservation measures and community values.*

6. *Encourage and support the DRB's exercise of control over landscaping, planting and irrigation systems so as to encourage the use of native, drought-resistant and fire-resistant plant materials, and disapproval of plans which propose the installation or use of high water use.*

c. ***Work with the Santa Lucia Preserve Association, the DRB and current residents and owners to develop methods to encourage voluntary water conservation and planning for existing residences including:***

1. *Requiring existing landscape design and landscape design modifications comply with the Design Guidelines provisions related to landscaping contained in Sections 2.15, 2.16 and 3.15 of the Design Guidelines.*

2. *Encouraging residential domestic usage and landscaping designs that use less than .75 acre foot per year.*

3. *Meet with residential users that have exceeded a .75 acre foot per year annual usage to provide individualized education of the owners on water conservation measures and community values.*

2. **Rates.** *The District shall implement the following measures related to rates.*

a. *Provide for a tiered water rate structure to encourage and reinforce water conservation efforts within our community.*

3. **Landscaping.** *The District shall implement the following measures to reduce landscaping water use and water waste:*

a. *Review of installed landscaping after establishment of plants to appropriately assist with water conservation.*

b. *Encourage landscape water be turned off during winter months.*

c. *Encourage landscape watering occur during hours of 10:00pm and 8:00am*

d. *Encourage weekly meter readings by landscape contractor to quickly discover leaks or breaks in system.*

4. **Ordinance.** *The District shall review the water conservation strategy contained in the Water Conservation Policy on an annual basis to determine if adoption of a water conservation ordinance is advisable.*