

Hot Water News

New! Outdoor Watering Schedule

Effective February 11, 2016, until further notice, Mesa Water® customers are allowed to water outdoors before 8am or after 5pm, according to the following [schedule](#):

- 💧 **February-April** (2 days/week): Tuesday/Saturday
- 💧 **May-September** (3 days/week): Tuesday/Thursday/Saturday
- 💧 **October-November** (2 days/week): Tuesday/Saturday
- 💧 **December/January** (1 day/week): Saturday only

Please adjust your sprinkler settings accordingly. All other conservation rules remain in effect, including no runoff onto sidewalks or streets, and no watering during, and 48 hours after, rainfall. Thank you for your continued water use efficiency efforts!

Fresh Water Facts

Mesa Water® Achieves District of Distinction for Fifth Time

The [Special District Leadership Foundation](#) has recognized Mesa Water® as a District of Distinction for the 5th consecutive time since 2007 for its commitment to transparency and open government. The biannual accreditation considers fiscal responsibility, transparency, ethics, budget, audit, compensation, reserves, and Board governance, in addition to providing information about elections and board meetings on its website. The District's accreditation is also supported by its commitment to continuing education and clean audits.

Mesa Water® Meets State-Mandated Drought Conservation Goal, Continues Saving Efforts

The statewide drought is requiring everyone in California to be more efficient with their water use. Mandatory conservation and reporting began in June 2015. Under an Executive Order from Governor Brown, water agencies are required to monitor water production and use through February 2016. All agencies have been required to cut water use compared to a 2013



baseline, depending on the conservation percent assigned by the state to individual water providers. Mesa Water's conservation mandate was established at 20 percent.

The District initially exceeded the goal during summer 2015, against a high 2013 baseline, by implementing a 2-day-a-week outdoor watering schedule. As fall and winter emerged with warmer-than-average temperatures, light rainfall, and a shrinking baseline, the District reduced watering to 1-day-a-week; however, conservation shrunk and the District fell below the 20 percent goal. As the December holidays arrived, Mesa Water® tightened outdoor watering rules even further and watched conservation improve. Outdoor watering days were eliminated for all customers except single family homes from mid-December through mid-February and the conservation mandate was once again met.

2016 has brought rainfall and water conservation, allowing the District to continue meeting the state-mandated 20 percent conservation goal. Thanks to conscientious customers and community members, Mesa Water® reported to the state that it has met its drought conservation mandate.

A new conservation goal has been established by the state for March - October 2016, allowing water providers to apply for adjustments and credits for the development of local water supplies. Mesa Water® expects an adjustment to its state-mandated conservation goal for the maximum 8 percent allowed, bringing its new conservation goal to 12 percent.

Mesa Water's outdoor watering schedule allows all customers to water outdoors according to the watering schedule mentioned in this newsletter, in Hot Water News. The number of watering days adjusts for seasonal temperatures and rainfall. For additional, up-to-date information, please visit MesaWater.org, and follow @MesaWater on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

Strong on Safety

2 1/2 Years Without a Lost Time Accident

In February, 2016, Mesa Water® celebrated 2 1/2 years of diligent service to the community without a lost time accident. For comparison purposes, the national average is one lost time accident every three days. District staff stays focused on safety through its safety ambassadors, weekly meetings, and ongoing trainings. Through regular discussions about injury and illness prevention, proper lifting and use techniques, CPR and First Aid, and assessment of policies and protocols, safety remains a priority for staff. A recent forklift training for operations staff produced excellent results.



In addition to keeping employees safe and healthy, there are financial benefits to reducing insurance claims. In 2015 alone, safe practices resulted in a \$67,000 savings on insurance premiums and a \$167,000 refund from our insurance provider ACWA-JPIA. Staff plans to continue putting safety first. For updates on our safety record, please follow @MesaWater on [Instagram](#).

Conservation in the Community

Drought Survival for Your Garden

There are many ways to continue being efficient with your water use. To help educate the public, Mesa Water® is hosting a garden survival expo at Home Depot to help. The Expo takes place Saturday, April 30, 2016 from 8am to 12pm at the Costa Mesa Home Depot located at 2300 S. Harbor Blvd. Learn how to save water and eliminate runoff with California-Friendly Plants, irrigation techniques, and more. Meet Mesa Water's Customer Services staff who can share water-saving information with you.



The event is co-sponsored by Mesa Water®, the OC Stormwater Program, Municipal Water District of Orange County, University of California Cooperative Extension, and The Home Depot.

Learn how to make your landscape ocean-friendly. Visit [MesaWater.org](#) for more information or follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#) for updates.

Employee Excellence

Administrative Services Demonstrates Excellence

Mesa Water District provides staff support to the Board of Directors and General Manager in policy setting, management, and district operations. Led by Assistant General Manager Coleen Monteleone, the Administrative Services team includes an Executive Assistant to the General Manager, Records Management Specialist, Senior Human Resources Analyst, Human Resources Assistant and two part-time Office Assistants. Administrative Services is responsible for the preparation and implementation of Board and Committee meetings and packets (64 in 2015), and handles all official Board actions, district records, and ongoing

administrative services. In 2015, the Human Resources group managed eight retirements, promotions, and transfers, thirteen recruitments, and implemented a District-wide wellness program. Their dedication keeps Mesa Water® working smoothly and effectively. We're thankful for the extraordinary work of these fine individuals and their work together as an efficient team.



MesaWater DISTRICT®

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Board Meetings

Mesa Water's Board meets the second Thursday of each month. Regular meetings begin at 6 p.m. at 1965 Placentia Avenue, Costa Mesa, and are open to the public. For more information, call 949.631.1206.

Produced by Mesa Water's Board of Directors, **Water District News** is a bi-monthly publication to inform Mesa Water's customers and community about water-related issues and events.

We welcome your comments:

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