



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **SLV Water customers asked to reduce water use by 15%**

San Lorenzo Valley Water District is requesting all customers to cut back 15% on water use during the summer. The voluntary reduction is part of the drought contingency water conservation program, approved unanimously at the District's Board meeting on June 21.

"Our customers have been responsive, and have voluntarily reduced water use in past drought years," according to Rick Rogers, the district's Director of Operations. "We expect that they will respond favorably again, and that voluntary reductions will be all that is needed."

Customers will find a flyer, "Water Saving Tips," enclosed with their water bills, reminding them of the need to conserve water.

Lower than normal rainfall throughout the state has required many water agencies to call for reduced water use from their customers. This year, rainfall in the San Lorenzo Valley was approximately 27 inches, or 53% of the average annual rainfall amount of 50.8 inches. As a result, the volume of streamflow in the San Lorenzo River is at its lowest since 1994.

The SLV Water District's water supply comes both from mountain creeks and from groundwater wells. Low streamflow requires the District to start taking water from its Olympia wells earlier in the season, more quickly drawing down the underground water supply stored in the aquifers.

What is the single most important thing customers can do to save water in this dry year? "Finding and stopping water leaks tops the list," says Rogers. "And if you see a leak on the street, please report it right away to the water district. Call 338-2153."

The focus of all water agencies in the county this year is saving water through landscaping. Customers can cut back considerably on landscape watering, especially lawns, according to Rogers. For more information, customers can check the District website <http://www.slvwd.com>, or call 338-2153.

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