

California Special Districts Association
Annual Conference and Exposition
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LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE 2014 DROUGHT

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**California Special
Districts Association**
Districts Stronger Together



Session Overview

- 2014 Drought Facts
- First Ever State Water Board Curtailment Order
- What This Means for Your District
- Opportunities!
 - Turning Drought into \$\$\$\$ for Your District



Drought – a State or Trait?

- Driest year since 1840 (beginning of records)
- Possibly driest in 500 years
- History shows 100 year dry periods
- 20th Century has been wet, so.....What's your prediction?
- Dozens of communities **without** water
- Stable aquifers now dangerously low
- Statewide water conflict increasing



1st Ever Curtailment Order

- State Water Board gets it feet “wet”
- All permitted water rights holders mandated to discontinue surface water diversions
 - Groundwater curtailed next time
 - Exemption for some
- Near Armageddon for Pre-1914 water rights
- Goal – eliminate waste and unreasonable use



Will My District be Impacted?

- YES..... If you sell OR USE water!
- Higher level of public scrutiny and expectation for efficient water use
- No state grants without achievement of conservation mandates
- Groundwater regulation
- Supply planning for Water Districts will increase
 - Complexity and cost



Predictions by Pete...

- 20% x 2020 will seem like child's play
- Mandatory drought contingency planning
- Drastic changes in supply forecasting methods
- Push toward and support of artificial turf
- Water rates to increase drastically
- Bottom line: Be prepared to do more with less at a higher cost

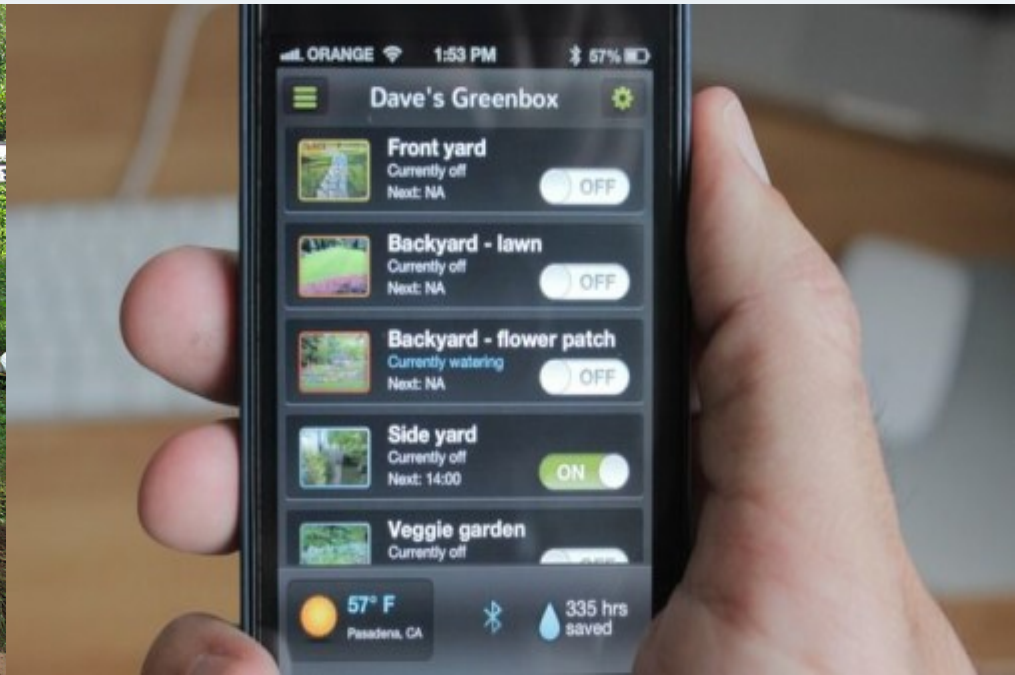


Opportunities:

- Water Conservation Grants (SAVE \$\$\$)
 - Reducing turf/irrigated areas
 - Irrigation technologies and efficiency improvements
 - Transition to efficient plants
 - Fixture upgrades
- Water Supply Development Grants
 - Greywater and rainwater reuse for irrigation
 - Wastewater reclamation projects



Increase Outdoor Use Efficiency



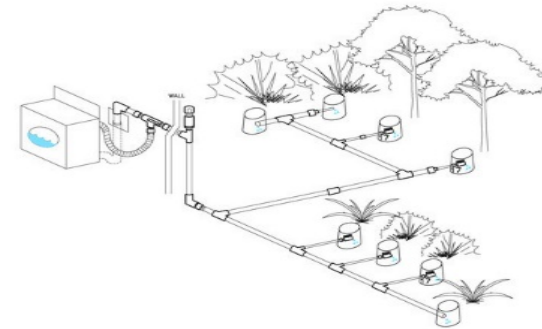
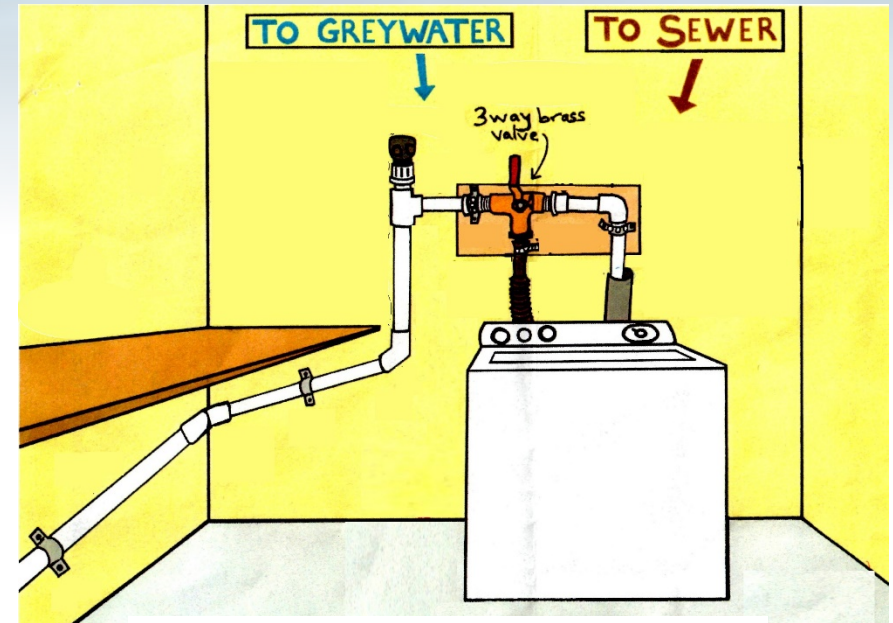
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Reuse Indoor Water



- Laundry to landscape
- Greywater conversions
- Advanced treatment technologies
- Recycled water distribution



Harvest Rain for Irrigation



Be Proactive

- Understand your water usage
 - Identify high water saving projects
- Understand your customer's water usage and provide assistance tools
 - In addition to or in lieu of enforcement!
- Tap grants for efficiencies to save \$
- Staff training (and certification)
- Conduct public workshops



Show Me the \$\$\$

- Integrated Regional Water Management Plan
 - \$339 Million requested in 43 applications
 - Awards by October 2014
 - \$200 Million Available
 - Projects and Programs
 - Drought preparedness
 - Increase local water supply reliability
 - Deliver safe drinking water
 - Fund Non-cost effective water conservation measures
 - Reduce water quality/ecosystem conflicts



And More Grants...

- Department of Water Resources Water/Energy Grants
 - \$19 Million Available
 - \$2.5 Million per Project (or suite of projects) no match
 - Facilities or programs that conserve water
 - Water or wastewater treatment/collection
 - Water distribution
 - Recycled water treatment or distribution
 - End User Programs
 - DAC Higher Priority
 - PSP October, workshops in November, applications due December 2014
 - Grant awards April/May 2015

