

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

February 10, 2014

Contact:

Rebecca Long
External Affairs Manager
909.993.1638
rlong@ieua.org

Inland Empire Utilities Agency Provides Tips for Reducing Water Use

Inland Empire, California – On January 17, 2014 Governor Jerry Brown declared California in a statewide drought calling for an immediate voluntary 20 percent water reduction.

The following tips are provided by the Inland Empire Utilities Agency to encourage the community to reduce their water use:

OUTDOOR TIPS:

- Choose climate appropriate and drought-resistant trees and plants.
- Water early in the morning or later in the evening when temperatures are cooler.
- Check sprinkler systems frequently and adjust sprinklers so only the lawn is watered and not the house, sidewalk or street.
- Adjust sprinklers to avoid unnecessary overspray.
- Install a more-efficient irrigation system such as drip irrigation for trees, shrubs, and flowers.
- Adjust irrigation controllers, seasonally.
- Water more frequently in shorter schedules to create healthier and stronger landscapes and reduce overspray and run-off.
- Put 2-4 inches of mulch around trees and plants to reduce evaporation and keep the soil cool. Organic mulch also improves the soil and prevents weed growth.
- Use a broom to clean driveways, sidewalks and patios.
- Wash cars/boats with a bucket, sponge, and a hose with a self-closing nozzle.

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INDOOR TIPS:

- Use the washing machine for full loads only to save water and energy.
- Purchase a qualifying high efficiency clothes washer and receive a \$150 rebate.
- Run the dishwasher only when full to save water and energy.
- Install a water and energy efficient dishwasher.
- Install aerators on the kitchen faucet to reduce flows to less than 1 gallon per minute.
- Install high efficiency shower heads.
- Take five minute showers instead of 10 minute showers.
- Fill the bathtub halfway or less.
- Install a high-efficiency toilet.
- Install aerators on bathroom faucets.
- Turn water off when brushing teeth or shaving.
- Don't use the toilet as a wastebasket.

For more tips and great water saving rebates visit <u>www.ieua.org</u>. Visit <u>www.iegardenfriendly.com</u> for a list of low-water usage plants.

The Inland Empire Utilities Agency covers 242-square miles, distributes imported water, provides industrial/municipal wastewater collection and treatment services, and other related utility services to more than 830,000 people. The Agency's service area includes the Cities of Chino, Chino Hills, Fontana, Montclair, Ontario and Upland, as well as the Cucamonga Valley Water District, Monte Vista Water District, and Fontana Water Company.

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