LOS ALAMOS COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT Notice of Extended Water Conservation Requirements

On July 15, 2014, the State Water Board adopted new water conservation regulations to address California's emergency drought situation. The new regulations require all public water supply distributors to impose certain conservation requirements on their customers. The regulations also impose new restrictions directly on all water users in California. The regulations had an expiration date of April 25, 2015. On March 17, 2015, the State Water Board amended the regulations and extended the term to December 22, 2015. On May 5, 2015, the State Water Board again amended the regulations and further extended the term to February 12, 2016.

Restriction Applicable to Los Alamos Community Services District Customers

In order to comply with the portion of the water conservation regulations that apply to public water supply distributors, on August 27, 2014, the Los Alamos Community Services District adopted Ordinance No. 88 setting forth the following restriction:

ALL CUSTOMERS RECEIVING WATER SERVICE FROM THE LOS ALAMOS COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT SHALL LIMIT OUTDOOR IRRIGATION OF ORNAMENTAL LANDSCAPES OR TURF WITH POTABLE WATER TO NO MORE THAN TWO DAYS PER WEEK.

Under the Ordinance, the term "ornamental landscapes" means trees, shrubs, bushes, flowers, ground cover, turf or other vegetation planted for the purpose of beautifying or improving the aesthetic appearance of property, but does not include crops or other agricultural products. The term "turf" means lawns, grass and similar ground-covering vegetation planted as part of an ornamental landscape.

On April 22, 2015, the District extended the term of the Ordinance to December 22, 2015. On January 27, 2016, the District extended the term of the Ordinance indefinitely until repealed by the District. Violations of the Ordinance can result in penalties of up to \$500 per day, termination of service or other enforcement actions.

Restrictions Applicable to All California Water Users

Under the amended water conservation regulations adopted by the State Water Board, the following restrictions apply to all California water users:

- Using potable water to wash sidewalks and driveways is prohibited
- Allowing runoff when irrigating with potable water is prohibited
- Using hoses with no shutoff nozzles to wash cars is prohibited
- Using potable water in decorative water features that do not recirculate the water is prohibited
- Irrigating outdoors during and within 48 hours following measureable rainfall is prohibited
- Restaurants are prohibited from serving water to their customers unless the customer requests it
- Hotels and motels must offer their guests the option to not have their linens and towels laundered daily, and prominently display this option in each guest room
- Irrigation of ornamental turf on public street medians with potable water is prohibited
- Irrigation of landscapes outside newly constructed homes and buildings with potable water is restricted

A violation of the above restrictions is an infraction, punishable by a fine of up to \$500 for each day in which the violation occurs. An exception applies where water use is necessary to address an immediate health and safety need or to comply with a permit issued by a state or federal agency.

The District appreciates your cooperation in complying with these new water conservation requirements. If you have any questions or if you need more information, please call the District at (805) 344-4195.