

MCHA's Coalition of Peninsula Businesses
Brief Summary of Stage 5 Water Rationing

July 13, 2011

At the Peninsula's present rate of water consumption, the cutbacks from Carmel River pumping ordered by the Cease and Desist Order (CDO) and cutbacks in Seaside Basin pumping ordered by adjudication will put our area in Stage 5 Rationing of the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District's (MPWMD) and Cal Am's expanded water conservation and standby rationing rules. This could happen as early as 2013; it will surely happen by 2014.

This will be the first time in decades the Peninsula has faced curtailment of water use this severe. And because of the way the CDO is written, no new water produced will help us avoid rationing. For instance, neither MPWMD's Aquifer Storage and Recovery project(s) or Sand City's desal plant will help.

The following is a brief summary of measures that will be taken or implemented in Stage 5.

- ❖ The goal of Stage 5 is immediate reduction of water use by 16% to 34% among all water user categories.
- ❖ Cal Am shall implement CPUC-approved rationing rate schedules.
- ❖ All rules of MPWMD Rule 161 continue in effect (the conservation rules now in effect – essentially, all prohibitions against water waste as defined complete with penalties to be paid for violations).
- ❖ Water rations will be determined by user category.
 - Rations for each user shall be determined by dividing the reduced available production by the percentage of use for each user category based on the latest unrationed full water year (October 1 to September 30).
 - Residential rations shall be based on the number of occupants, but shall not be less than 35 gallons per day per person.
 - Commercial Water Rations will be determined by applying the current Non-Residential (ie, Commercial) Water Use Factors to the type(s) of use and/or by using the Landscape Water Budget, if it exists, established for the specific user. An alternate Water Ration may be determined by completion of an audit by Cal Am or MPWMD that documents Best Management Practices for the type of use.
 - Golf courses may be rationed individually or as a group upon request to MPWMD General Manager and will be based on the Landscape Water Budget.
- ❖ MPWMD shall adopt restrictions on outdoor water use that include any or all of the following (and any other conservation method deemed feasible):
 - Limit outdoor watering or irrigation to one day per week or every other week.
 - Prohibition of outdoor watering and irrigation or prohibition of irrigation of turf areas with water from the affected water resource system.
 - Discontinue irrigation of Public Landscaped areas.
 - Reduction of golf course irrigation from the affected Water Distribution System by a percentage of the amount required to water tees, greens and landing areas only.
 - Prohibition against the use of water to wash any motor vehicle, motorbike, boat, trailer, airplane or other vehicle except at a facility that recycles water.
 - Prohibition against the use of hydrants for construction or any purpose other than fire fighting.