

For Immediate Release

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Conserving water=preventing stormwater pollution?!

Winter is usually the rainy season for California; however with consecutive dry years and no immediate relief, Governor Brown has already declared drought emergency for California. State officials are working to put emergency plans in place, what can we Californians do to help? Let's start with re-considering the way we use water.



Photo credit: ATP

Many of our daily activities that involve water may be overlooked; not only water is wasted, our environment also gets impacted. Activities such as washing our cars at home or over watering our lawns create excess water that flow down storm drains. Water that flows into the storm drain is not treated before entering our waterways. Therefore, sometimes our beaches have to be closed due to high bacteria levels.

A little change could mean a big difference: just a little change may help conserve water and prevent stormwater pollution at the same time.

Home cleaning -

- Sweep sidewalks and patios, instead of hosing them down. Not only this behavior wastes water, the runoff usually picks up pollutant on the ground and continues to drain to the nearby storm drain and creates stormwater pollution.
- Properly dispose of household hazardous waste by recycling them. Visit www.888cleanla.com or call 1 (888) CLEAN LA for permanent recycling centers near you or upcoming temporary recycling events.

Gardening –

- Water your lawn, not the sidewalk: fix broken sprinklers to avoid water wasting and runoff.
- Landscape with drought tolerant plants that require less water.
- Water early in the morning or in the evening to limit evaporation. Adjust your irrigation schedule by using the water index at <http://www.saveourh2o.org>.



-More-

Vehicle maintenance -

- Inspect and maintain your car regularly to prevent/stop leaks.
- Recycle used oil and filters. Visit www.calrecycle.ca.gov/UsedOil/Reports/CenterSearch for recycling centers near you, or call your trash hauler (EDCO or UWS) for a curbside collection of used oil and filters.
- Use absorbent kitty litter and sweep up leaks and spills. Dispose of the litter in garbage containers. Never wash spills into the storm drain.

We are all in it together, so let's do our part to conserve water and reduce pollution in this drought! For questions, upcoming events or to get more information on the city's environmental programs, go to <http://www.palosverdes.com/rpv/publicworks/waste-recycle-conservation2.cfm> or call the Public Works Services Department at (310) 544-5245.

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