



CVWD sets drought penalties

Following the state's conservation requirement for water agencies to reduce overall water use by 15%, the Board of Directors has adopted a drought penalty plan.

CVWD's penalties aim to encourage conservation by limiting outdoor water use by 10 percent. They go into effect in August and will show up in customers' September water bills. This approach will not affect 60 percent of customers who are efficient water users.

Customers who do not limit their outdoor water use below their monthly outdoor water budget are subject to penalties as follows:

Tier 1: No penalties for customers who remain in Tier 1 (indoor water budget).

Tier 2: No penalties for customers who stay within 90 percent of their water budget. Above 90 percent, penalty is \$0.29 per CCF (100 cubic feet or 748 gallons of water).

Tier 3, 4, and 5 customers pay a standard rate plus a penalty.

Tier 3: \$3.59 plus \$1.80 penalty per CFF.

Tier 4: \$4.21 plus \$3.16 penalty per CFF.

Tier 5: \$6.44 plus \$6.44 penalty per CFF.

Revenue from drought penalties will fund more customer conservation programs, including turf replacement rebates. Residential customers are encouraged to increase water-use efficiency by replacing turf with desert-friendly landscaping. CVWD offers rebates of \$3 per square foot.

CVWD has committed \$2 million in turf conversion rebates since July 1 including turf conversions spurred by the District's partnership with the City of Rancho Mirage offering \$6 per square foot to customers who live within its city. CVWD is seeking other partnerships to encourage a reduction in water use and participation in cost-share rebate programs for customers.

For more information: CVWD.org/drought.

	Tier 1	Tier 2 up to 90%	Tier 2 above 90%	Tier 3	Tier 4	Tier 5
Standard rate (per ccf*)	\$0.94	\$1.17	\$1.17	\$3.59	\$4.21	\$6.44
Drought Penalty (per ccf*)			+\$0.29	+\$1.80	+\$3.16	+\$6.44
Total per ccf* unit			=\$1.46	=\$5.39	=\$7.37	=\$12.88

* 1 CCF is equal to one hundred cubic feet or 748 gallons and is also 1 unit of water.



Outdoor Water Efficiency Rebates & Discounts

Smart Irrigation Controller Installation



Sprinkler Nozzle Replacement



Turf Conversion - Now \$3/Square-Foot



Visit www.cvwd.org/rebates for program details and requirements. Or call us at (760) 398-2651. Some programs require pre-approval.



Visit cvwd.org/drought for local updates and water-use restrictions.

Let your lawn go gold

Homeowners, HOAs, businesses and golf courses are encouraged to skip overseeding lawns this fall. It's a longstanding practice in the Coachella Valley but can be wasteful and unnecessary, especially during the ongoing drought.

Let your lawn go dormant to conserve water and save on seed and extra lawn maintenance.

Extra water needed for the overseeding process can boost your water bill into a higher tier with costly penalties. Most grass grown in the desert will stay alive in a dormant state until spring with only occasional watering.

Also, consider these:

- ✓ Current water restrictions include no spray irrigation during daylight hours.
- ✓ Scalping grass before reseeding kicks up dust, dried grass and pollen into the air causing health problems for some.
- ✓ Your grass won't be brown forever. If you don't overseed, you can expect brown grass for about eight weeks between mid-January and the end of March. If you do overseed, the grass goes brown for 2-3 weeks in the fall.

Rather than overseed, take advantage of CVWD's turf conversion rebate program that gives customers \$3 per square foot to replace grass with low-water use, desert-friendly landscaping or artificial turf.

Visit [CVWD.org/rebates](https://www.cvwd.org/rebates) to apply or for details.



Keep trees alive during the drought

CVWD encourages customers to keep trees alive during the drought.

Trees take precedence over other landscaping plants. Lawns and landscape plants are easily replaced; a large shade tree takes many years to become established.

Mature trees are important for cooling, provide shade and wildlife habitat, absorb carbon dioxide, release oxygen, filter pollution from air and water and reduce energy use.

If your trees are surrounded by grass, they may suffer when water for lawns is reduced or eliminated because they never developed extensive, deep roots due to shallow irrigation.

Here are steps you can take to keep your trees healthy during drought if they do not have a dedicated water source.

- ✓ Apply mulch in a circle around the tree from the drip line to about 8 inches from the trunk. Avoid using rocks as they hold heat and stress roots.
- ✓ Water trees slowly, deeply and widely to a depth of 2 to 3 feet. You can circle a tree with a soaker hose, wrapping rings around the tree starting about 2 feet from the trunk out to the drip line.
- ✓ Try a watering device created by UC Davis and the California Center for Urban Horticulture. The Tree Ring Irrigation Contraption, TRIC, uses inline drip tube technology to help homeowners water trees to a depth of 3 feet.

For more details, visit <https://ccuh.ucdavis.edu/tric>.

For information on how much water your trees need, look at CVWD's watering guide at [cvwd.org/conservation](https://www.cvwd.org/conservation).



Board Meetings

Board meetings are open to the public and are generally held at 8 a.m. the second and fourth Tuesday of each month.

Meetings alternate between the Steve Robbins Administration Building in Palm Desert and the Coachella Office.

Visit our website to watch meetings online and to view the agenda.

Main line: (760) 398-2651
Customer Service: (760) 391-9600
Website: www.cvwd.org

