

Water Allocation Waiver Policy

MOWD's water allocations for each customer are based on the larger of the following two criteria:

- 1) A minimum amount that should be sufficient to meet the demands of a typical residential customer. This amount is intended to protect human health and safety. This may also allow for some limited outdoor water use.
- 2) A percentage of a customer's historical demand. This supports additional uses of water that historically occurred at that property before the current drought started.

This approach ensures that everyone will have the minimum amount of water they need for health and safety, while allowing an additional amount of water for those who need it for long-standing improvements like businesses, orchards, horse facilities, etc.

MOWD may grant a customer an additional allocation if the customer can demonstrate that he/she meets one of the following criteria:

- 1) The customer's current allocation does not include a portion adequate to meet the minimum needs for indoor use to protect health and safety. Considerations will include:
 - A change in occupancy that results in more than 5 full-time residents
 - Medical needs supported by a letter from a medical provider
 - Evidence of below-normal indoor use during 2010-2012
- 2) The customer's historical use from 2010-2012 was not representative of reasonable and efficient water uses that historically occurred on the property. For example, a house or business may have been unoccupied between 2010-2012.
- 3) The customer implemented new water demands after December 31, 2012 that provide a significant new public benefit to residents of Meiners Oaks, beyond considerations of profit. These new water demands cannot include extraneous landscaping. Specific examples include:
 - Licensed care facility (adult or child)
 - Schools
 - Public health facilities
 - An increase or correction in the number of dwelling units on the property

In applying these criteria, a customer may separate his/her indoor and additional outdoor water uses for the purpose of evaluating each.

Additional allocation amounts will generally not be approved for new water uses that have been added to a property since December 31, 2012, unless those uses provide an appreciable public benefit. A drought is not a good time to seed a new lawn, plant new trees, acquire new horses, or start new water-intensive hobbies.