

MCCSD Press Release

For Immediate Release

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MCCSD Declares Stage 2 Water Shortage

Due to higher than expected Depth to Water measurements on August 31, 2020, the Mendocino City Community Services District (MCCSD) Board of Directors has reduced the Stage 4 Water Shortage Emergency Declaration to Stage 2.

Depth to Water measurements are the primary tool used by MCCSD during the normally dry summer months, according to the Groundwater Shortage Contingency Plan adopted May 11, 2020.

Due to below normal rainfall in Mendocino from January 1 to May 31, 2020, the Mendocino City Community Services District (MCCSD) Board of Directors declared a Stage 4 Water Shortage at the District's June 29, 2020, regular monthly meeting.

The rain year is from October 1 to September 30, and Mendocino receives an average of 40.04 inches of rain annually. This year MCCSD has recorded a total of just 20.35 inches of precipitation since the start of the 2019-20 rain year on October 1, 2019. This is 50.8% of normal annual rainfall, and what triggered the Stage 4 Water Shortage Emergency.

Although lower than normal rainfall was recorded from October 1, 2019 through August 31, 2020, higher than expected Depth to Water measurements in our Five Drought Monitoring Wells led to the Stage 2 declaration.

MCCSD will continue to closely monitor Depth to Water measurements and rainfall every month and advise the Board if changes in the Water Shortage Declaration are recommended.

To help extend the water supply in Mendocino, the following water use restrictions will go into effect on September 1, 2020:

1. Request voluntary 15% reduction in water use by all residents and businesses
2. Designated irrigation times: 7:00 PM to 10:00 AM
3. No vehicle washing except with a hand-held bucket or hose equipped with a positive shutoff nozzle
4. Prohibition on washing driveways, parking areas, walkways, or other paved areas
5. Prohibition on use of water to clean exterior buildings
6. Prohibition on refilling of decorative fountains or ponds unless such water is part of a recycling system
7. No refilling of hot tubs or swimming pools
8. Drinking water served in restaurants only upon request
9. Display of conservation information by hotels and restaurants