



Long Beach Water Department
The Standard in Water Conservation &
Environmental Stewardship

10 SIMPLE STEPS FOR WATER CONSERVATION FOR APARTMENT OWNERS

These 10 simple tips are a necessary course of action for Long Beach residents to help with the current Southern California water shortage. The Long Beach Water Department thanks you for all of your efforts!

- 1.** Know how much water is being used at your properties. Know where that water is being used on your properties.
- 2.** Monitor your results at each property. It is possible for you to follow this history and get an immediate idea how well each property is doing compared to the previous year's period. Use charts, graphs, and other records to keep track of your conservation progress.
- 3.** Please do not allow staff to wash driveways, sidewalks, parking areas, patios or other outdoor areas with a hose unless using a water conserving pressurized cleaning device; a simple spray nozzle does not qualify as water-conserving pressurized cleaning device. See <http://www.lbwater.org/pdf/conservation/presswash.pdf> for a list of approved washers.
- 4.** If your building doesn't have high-efficiency toilets, consider replacing them now! Rebates are available at www.mwdsaveabuck.com, and your bottom line will show an immediate improvement. Consider not only the water and energy savings, but the lower maintenance costs of not having to do service calls on old, inefficient toilets.
- 5.** Tenants should not wash their vehicles on your property, but should take them to a car washing establishment. Car Wash facilities are required to reuse some of the water and dispose of the soapy water properly (aka it doesn't run into the storm drain)
- 6.** Make sure that your landscapers and/or property management are aware of leaks in the sprinkler system, toilets, or faucets.
- 7.** Have a standard preventative maintenance program in place. Check sprinklers once a month to determine if heads are working and positioned properly, change-out faucet aerators on a regular basis, and make sure those water-saving showerheads are still in place. Regularly check for system leaks.

- 8.** It is your responsibility to make sure your landscaper/property management staff knows what the violations of prohibited uses of water are.
- 9.** Involve your employees by teaching them water awareness. Post signs throughout your buildings. Once employees start thinking about their water use, water consumption usually decreases.
- 10.** Set a conservation goal. It is important to have realistic goals, but goals high enough to require substantial effort. Allow these goals to serve as performance measures. They will illustrate the effectiveness of your water conservation program.

The Long Beach Water Department is here to help. If you would like more information, or would like to schedule a water audit for your property, please give us a call

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