

City of Petaluma Water Supply Self-Certification 2016

Background

On May 18, 2016, the State Water Resources Control Board adopted an updated Drought Emergency Water Conservation Regulation that allows local water conservation standards to be developed based on the City of Petaluma's specific water supply circumstances. The May 2016 regulation requires all urban water suppliers to project available water supply for the next three years based on current supply conditions assuming three additional dry years mirroring the 2013, 2014 and 2015 water years. The supply projection is compared to a water demand based on the average water production for 2013 and 2014 to determine a conservation standard if a shortfall in supply exists.

City of Petaluma Water Supply Self Certification

City of Petaluma water customers receive a majority of their water supply from the Sonoma County Water Agency (SCWA) supplemented with local groundwater supply from wells that are operated during the summer months of peak water demand. The SCWA is a water wholesaler, providing water to Sonoma and Marin Counties from Lake Sonoma and Lake Mendocino. The City of Petaluma worked closely with SCWA to calculate water supply availability for Petaluma and other urban water suppliers for the next three years.

SCWA calculated that after three additional drought years the available water supply stored in Lake Sonoma would be 178,398 Acre-Feet. The amount of water to be supplied to Petaluma and other urban water suppliers receiving water from SCWA will be lower than the available supply from Lake Sonoma and the local supply sources for each urban water supplier. For Petaluma, the analysis shows that the average water demand is 9,081 Acre-Feet, and this demand can be met with water supply available from Lake Sonoma and local groundwater supply. Therefore, additional water supply would be available at the end of Year three, and no mandated water conservation is required for Petaluma and other urban water suppliers receiving water from SCWA water sources. The updated May 2016 Drought Emergency Water Conservation Regulation is in effect from June 1 through January 2017.

Documentation from SCWA on Supply Availability Analysis and Self Certification Conservation Standard for Petaluma and other urban water suppliers is located here:

[Sonoma County Water Agency: Supply Availability for Urban Water Suppliers:](#)

[Water Supply Reliability Analysis and Self Certification Conservation Standard:](#)

Although Petaluma no longer has a mandatory conservation target, the City will continue to implement water waste prohibitions and encourage water-use efficiency. The City is encouraging water customer to voluntarily reduce demand by 10 percent from 2013 demands. Demand reductions can be met by limiting outdoor irrigation and by participating in the City's Water Conservation Programs.

A complete list of current water waste prohibitions is summarized here:

Petaluma's Water Use Prohibitions

[Click here to learn more about the City of Petaluma Water Use Prohibitions](#)