

Sweetwater Authority



Responding to the Drought
Level. . . 2?

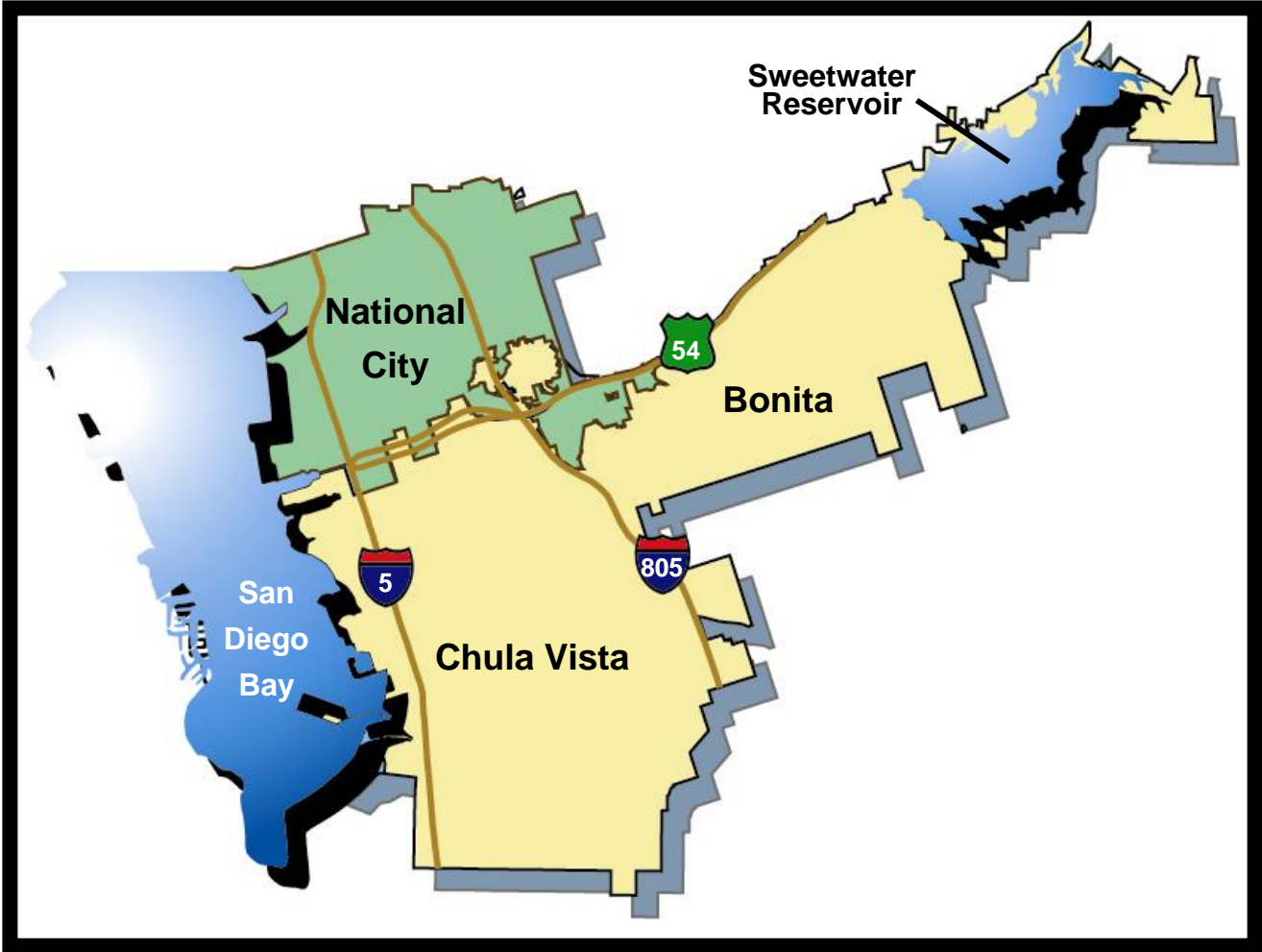
Conservation Action Committee

May 3, 2009

Sue Mosburg

Program Supervisor

Our Service Area





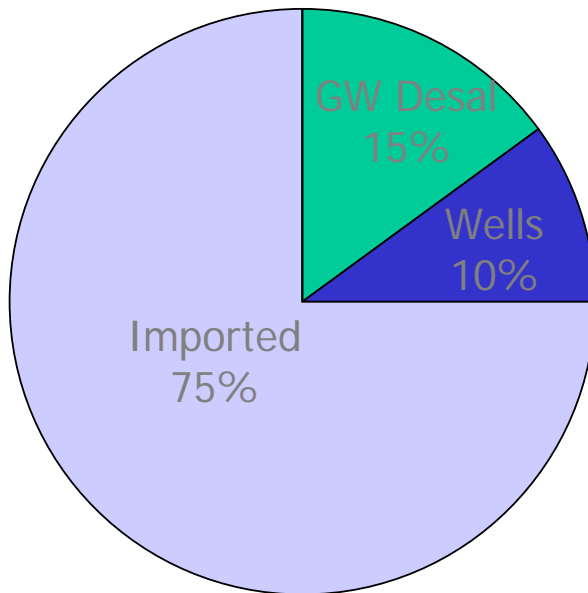
Drought Response

- Source Diversification
- Resolution 08-19
- Education & Outreach
- Demand Reduction
- May 27, 2009 - Next Step

*Mandatory Use Reductions through
Voluntary Actions*

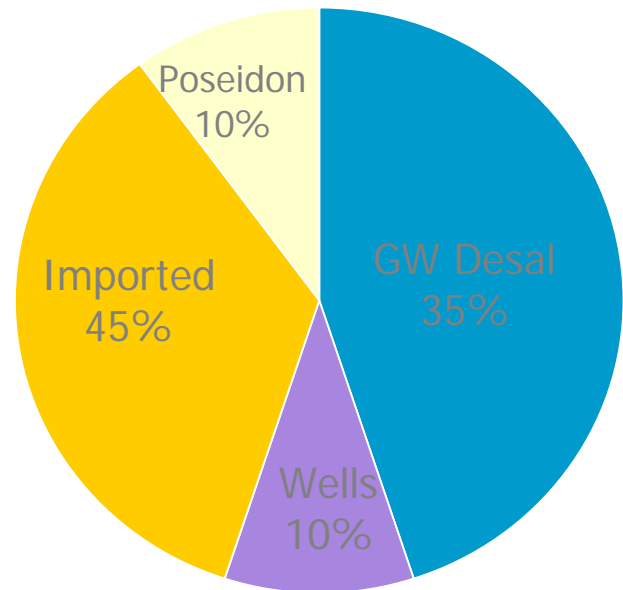
Sweetwater Authority Supplies

Drought Year



**Drought Resistant
Supply=25%**

Proposed 2011
Drought Year



**Drought Resistant
Supply=55%**



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Drought Resolution

- Water use **allocations**
 - Residential: by account
 - Non-residential: by billing cycle (combining multiple accounts/meters)
 - Large users: through partnerships
- Enforced through **penalties**
- Accompanied by drought **rates**
- **Balanced** by
 - Health and safety needs
 - Past water efficient activities
 - Exemption and appeal process
- Supported through **partnerships** with Cities of National City and Chula Vista, and County of San Diego
- Communicated through customer assistance and **education**



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Education & Outreach

- Drought **Helpline** – Established December 23, 2008
- Drought Rates - Prop 218 and Public hearing
- Standard Communication **Tools** –
 - newsletters
 - bill inserts
 - website
 - lobby media rack
 - customer service and water conservation staff
 - Water Conservation Garden at Cuyamaca College
- **Reaching out** into the community
 - special events
 - school educational programs
 - speaker's bureau engagements



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Demand Reduction

- Per Capita water use
 - 112 Gallons per person per day
- Mandatory reduction requirement
 - 6.1 % demand reduction from base year
- **Success**
 - Efficiency leader among California water agencies
 - 8.56% reduction achieved for last 9 months
 - Focus on landscape opportunities & partnerships



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Voluntary Measures

- **Level 1** *The following measures shall apply at all times:*
 1. Water should be used reasonably and productively at all times.
 2. Customers are to keep water from draining onto adjacent properties, public or private roadways, and streets.
 3. Customers are to repair major water leaks immediately and minor water leaks within 24 hours of discovery.
 4. Customers are encouraged to restrict hose washing of sidewalks, driveways, parking areas, tennis courts, patios, or other paved areas to periods of immediate safety or sanitary hazards.
 5. Customers are encouraged to use drip methods or hand-irrigation whenever possible and prudent, and to restrict sprinkler operation to the hours of 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 a.m. the following morning, except for the first 30 days necessary to establish a new lawn.
 6. Customers are encouraged to use an automatic shut-off nozzle when using a hand-held hose for spraying, lawn watering, vehicle washing, or structure washing.
 7. Customers are encouraged to use re-circulating systems for decorative fountains and landscape water features.
 8. Serve and refill water in restaurants and other food service establishments only upon requests.
 9. Offer guests in hotels, motels and other commercial lodging establishments the option of not laundering towels and linens daily.
- **Additional in Level 2**
 1. Customers are encouraged to limit residential and commercial landscape irrigation to no more than three assigned days per week on a schedule established and posted by Sweetwater Authority.
 2. Customers are encouraged to limit lawn watering and landscape irrigation using sprinklers to no more than ten (10) minutes per watering station per day. This recommendation does not apply to landscape irrigation systems using water efficient devices, including but not limited to weather-based controllers, drip/micro-irrigation systems and stream rotor sprinklers.
 3. Customers are encouraged to water landscaped areas, including trees and shrubs located on residential and commercial properties by using a bucket, hand-held hose with positive shut-off nozzle, or low-volume non-spray irrigation.
 4. Customers are encouraged to stop operating ornamental fountains or similar decorative water features unless recycled water is used.

Questions?

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for more information