



May 1, 2022

Subject: Drought Surcharge Proposal – Notice of Public Hearing

Dear Valued Water Customer,

Facing a third-consecutive dry year and severely reduced water supplies, Gov. Newsom in March issued an executive order to boost water conservation. The order calls on suppliers like Contra Costa Water District (CCWD) to enter Stage 2 of their Water Shortage Contingency Plans (WSCP).

To comply with the state order, CCWD is implementing an updated drought program. On April 20, the CCWD Board of Directors (Board) activated Stage 2 of our WSCP, setting a water conservation goal of 15 percent and incorporating new water-use prohibitions to comply with statewide mandates. Reductions will be measured against 2020 water usage.

On June 15, the Board will hold a public hearing to consider adopting changes to the CCWD drought management program consistent with State directives, including an up to 15 percent drought surcharge to cover the costs from the drought impact, keeping the District financially sustainable during the drought. The surcharge also provides an additional incentive for customers to conserve water. Households that reduce water use by 15 percent will be able to lower their water bill. Residential accounts using less than 200 gallons per day are considered to be efficient and may be provided a rebate using non-rate funds to offset the proposed drought surcharge. See the notice for more detail.

You and your neighbors have been working diligently to reduce discretionary water use last year and the District commends you for your efforts. If you need help finding additional ways to save water, we are here to help. We offer numerous water efficiency rebates and services free of charge. Our water efficiency team is available to help customers maximize every drop of water they use. Please visit www.ccwater.com/drought or call 925-688-8320.

We welcome your comments and questions on the proposed drought surcharge. Written protests to the proposed drought surcharge must be submitted prior to the conclusion of the public hearing. To submit a written protest, please include identification of the affected property (by assessor's parcel number, street address, or account number). Only one protest per parcel will be counted. Please send or deliver written protests to: Contra Costa Water District, 1331 Concord Avenue, Concord, CA 94520. Protests may also be submitted through the online form at www.ccwater.com/rates.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen J. Welch", is written over a light blue background.

Stephen J. Welch
General Manager

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
AND ORDINANCE SUMMARY**

Contra Costa Water District's (CCWD) wishes to notify you of a public hearing where CCWD's drought management program, including a drought surcharge, will be discussed and adoption of an ordinance will be considered. Additional potable water use prohibitions will be considered, including those ordered by the Governor to be established by the State Water Resources Control Board pursuant to Executive Order N-7-22.

Following the public hearing, the Board of Directors will consider adoption of the proposed drought surcharge. The public hearing will be held on Wednesday, June 15, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. at 1331 Concord Avenue, Concord, CA in the Board Room. **If the drought surcharge is approved, it will become effective July 1, 2022.**

The drought surcharge will result in up to a \$0.79 per unit (748 gallons) increase in the treated water usage charge. Residential accounts using less than 200 gallons per day are considered to be efficient and may be provided a rebate using non-rate funds to offset the proposed drought surcharge.

	Proposed (\$/unit)
Drought Surcharge	\$0.79

Unit = 100 cubic feet, or roughly 748 gallons.

Pursuant to California Government Code section 53759, there is a 120-day statute of limitations for challenging any new, increased, or extended fee or charge.

For further information on the proposed water rate/charge adjustments or to review the CCWD's Code of Regulations regarding rates, please visit www.ccwater.com/rates or call Customer Service at (925) 688-8000.