

Using Water Wisely...

California's New Water Regulation

and what it means for Truckee

The State of California now requires all Urban Retail Water Suppliers — including Truckee Donner Public Utility District — to meet specific water conservation targets. This isn't something TDPUD created. It's a statewide regulation designed to ensure California communities are prepared for a drier future.

The good news: we're in this together.

Compliance is measured for the Truckee community as a whole—not household by household. No individual monitoring, no individual fines. If we meet the target together, everyone benefits. However, **failure to meet the goal will result in financial penalties for TDPUD, which could translate to water rate increases** in the future.

TDPUD customers will need to consider how they can reduce both their indoor and outdoor water usage. California's indoor use target is **47 gallons per person per day**, and **big reductions in outdoor irrigation** will need to happen in order to achieve the target. TDPUD is also doing its part by fixing pipeline leaks and installing monitoring technologies to reduce water loss in its water distribution system.



New indoor use target:

47 gallons per person, per day

Compliance begins

Jan. 1, 2027



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Indoor Water Use

What does 47 gallons look like?



Toilet:

Approx. **24 gallons/day**
(largest indoor use for most households)

Did you know?

A leaky toilet can waste more than 200 gallons a day. Check yours.



Shower:

5 Minutes: Approx. **10 gallons**
10 Minutes: Approx. **20 gallons**

Washing Machine:

Front-load: Approx. **13 gallons/load**
Top-load: Approx. **23–40 gallons/load**

Running Faucet:

Approx. **2 gallons/minute**



Simple Action Tips

- **Pay attention** every time you use water. Are you only using the water you need?
- **Fix dripping faucets** and **running toilets**
- **Check your meter alerts.** Unusual spikes often signal a hidden leak.

Indoor Rebates

- **Low-Flow Toilet Rebates**
- **Water Leak Repair Rebate**
 - 50% of costs up to \$500, following a leak notification
- **NEW! Smart Home Water Monitor Rebate**
- **NEW! Low Water-Use Clothes Washing Machine**



Flip over for more info!



TRUCKEE DONNER
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Outdoor Water Use

The biggest opportunity is outside...

Outdoor irrigation is where most Truckee households can make the biggest difference. TDPUD water customers use more than three times the water in the summer than in the winter. Lawns and traditional landscaping use far more water than necessary, and much of it evaporates before it ever reaches plant roots.

The good news: there are beautiful, low-maintenance alternatives that thrive in our climate and dramatically reduce water use.

Visit TDPUD's Conservation Garden and webpage for detailed information.

Five Low-Water Landscaping Principles:

1. Choose drought-tolerant, climate-appropriate plants
2. Place plants with similar needs together to improve irrigation efficiency
3. Reduce or eliminate turf in favor of groundcover, gravel, or native plants
4. Use efficient drip irrigation instead of sprinklers
5. Mulch around plants to retain moisture

Changes started this fall will carry into winter and contribute to 2027 water-use targets.

Outdoor Rebates

- **Turf Replacement Rebate**
 - \$3 per sq ft, up to \$5,000, for work done by a Sierra Smart Landscape Network member business
 - \$1.50 per sq ft for work done by the owner, up to \$2,000 reimbursement for materials
- **Best Native Garden Contest**
 - Enter to **WIN** a \$150 water bill credit



Lamb's Ear

TRUCKEE DONNER PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT

We are doing our part



Meeting the state's conservation target is a community effort and TDPUD is leading by example. While we're asking customers to reduce water use, we're investing heavily in our own systems to find and fix water leaks before it ever reaches your tap.

What TDPUD is doing:

- **Leak Detection & Repair:** Proactively finding and fixing leaks in the distribution system
- **Advanced Meter Technology:** Real-time monitoring helps identify unusual usage and alerts customers to potential leaks
- **Infrastructure Upgrades:** Ongoing investments in pipe replacements, valve maintenance, and system improvements to reduce water loss
- **Conservation Rebate Programs:** Financial incentives to help customers make water-efficient upgrades
- **Working Closely With Regulators** to educate them on the essential water needs of our community to ensure that the regulation does not hurt our customers

Delivering water takes energy.

When our community uses less water, we also reduce energy consumption and our collective carbon footprint. **Water conservation is a climate win.**



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