

# Non-Functional Turf Emergency Watering Ban

Turn It Off, Cap It, or Convert It.



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WATER

**YOUR URGENT ATTENTION AND ACTION IS REQUIRED. THE STATE BAN ON WATERING NON-FUNCTIONAL TURF WITH POTABLE WATER LIKELY AFFECTS YOUR PROPERTY.**



In response to severe drought conditions in California and below average rainfall and reservoir levels, the State Water Resources Board has issued a statewide ban on the watering of non-functional turf with potable water. This ban will stretch water supplies to protect the health and safety of all residents. **Landscaping is one of the biggest uses of water and we're counting on you to do your part to save and conserve the Santa Clarita Valley's precious water supplies!**

## BAN ON WATERING NON-FUNCTIONAL TURF

The drought prompted the State Water Resources Control Board to issue a statewide ban on the watering of non-functional turf with potable water (<https://bit.ly/SWRCBconservationFAQs>).

**Who does the ban apply to?** SCV Water customers subject to this ban include Commercial, Industrial, and Institutional (CII) customers including the common areas of Homeowners Associations as well as Common Interest Developments.

**What is Non-functional Turf (NFT)?** NFT is mowed grass that is ornamental and not otherwise used for human recreation purposes. It also applies to the non-functional turf maintained by homeowner associations.

NFT does not apply to residential properties, school fields, sports fields, and areas regularly used for civic or community events.

**How long is the ban?** The ban, effective June 16, 2022, is in place for one year, unless extended.

**Are there exceptions?** Exemptions include areas needed to water trees, shrubs, perennials, and native/drought-tolerant grasses.

## ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTIES

While the State Water Resources Control Board emergency order gives SCV Water the authority to enforce the ban and levy \$500-a-day fines for non-compliance; at this time, we are prioritizing education, engagement, and program support.

Over the past several decades when severe droughts have occurred in California, Santa Clarita Valley property owners and residents have answered the call to reduce water use. We are counting on the same positive effort this time and fully appreciate and recognize the community's drought response and water conservation efforts.

**The State Water Resources Control Board has banned watering non-functional turf with potable water. This affects SCV Water's commercial, industrial and institutional customers.**





## TURN IT OFF, CAP IT, OR CONVERT IT.

Here are a few ways to help you make the most of your landscape assets while observing the NFT watering ban.

**1 Turn it off.** If you have not already done so, CII and HOA customers should turn off irrigation to NFT areas immediately. These are "isolated irrigation" turf areas – meaning irrigation systems watering only the non-functional turf areas.

**2 Cap it.** Cap individual sprinkler heads that water non-functional turf areas without impacting irrigation of trees, shrubs and perennials.

**3 Convert it.** Most, if not all, areas designated as non-functional turf should be permanently converted to drought-tolerant or native "SCV Friendly Plants." SCV Water has rebates and programs to help convert lawns to a more sustainable landscape.

## REBATES AND RESOURCES

Our goal is to partner with our customers by prioritizing education, engagement, and program support.

- ✓ Lawn Replacement: [bit.ly/SCVwaterLRP](https://bit.ly/SCVwaterLRP)
- ✓ Irrigation Efficiency: [bit.ly/IrrigationEfficiencyRebates](https://bit.ly/IrrigationEfficiencyRebates)

Or go to [bit.ly/SCVRebatePrograms](https://bit.ly/SCVRebatePrograms) for more rebate information.

## LANDSCAPE CONTRACTOR SUPPORT

SCV Water has developed NFT support material for landscape contractors to assist their customers. For more information, please email [conservation@scvwa.org](mailto:conservation@scvwa.org).

**TIP** Turn off irrigation to NFT areas immediately and prepare your landscape modifications in Spring/Fall when weather is cooler.



## STAGE 2 WATER RESTRICTIONS REMAIN IN PLACE

In addition to a ban on Non-Functional Turf, other watering restrictions remain in place for ALL SCV Water customers. This includes:

### PROHIBITED MEASURES

- ✓ Water running off property (onto sidewalks, roads, parking lots, etc.)
- ✓ Washing vehicles with a hose not equipped with a shut-off nozzle
- ✓ Using potable water to wash down driveways and sidewalks
- ✓ Using outdoor irrigation during and 48 hours following measurable rain

### WATERING RESTRICTIONS

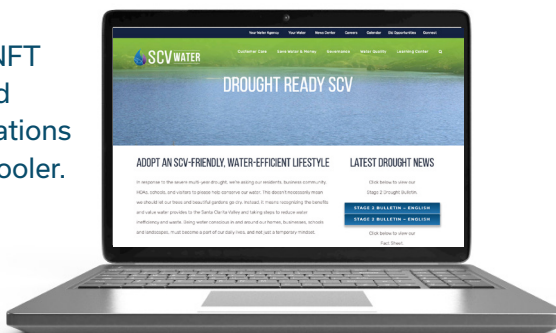
- ✓ Water landscapes no more than 3 times per week
- ✓ Water landscapes only between midnight to 9 a.m. and/or 8 p.m. to midnight (May through October) for no more than 5 minutes per cycle and/or no more than 10 minutes per zone total on designated watering days

### WATERING DAYS

ODD ADDRESSES	EVEN ADDRESSES
Monday, Wednesday, Friday	Tuesday, Thursday, Sunday
No watering on Saturdays. Adjust your watering schedules today!	

**QUESTIONS?** Email [conservation@scvwa.org](mailto:conservation@scvwa.org)  
Subject: Non-Functional Turf

Visit [DroughtReadySCV.com](https://DroughtReadySCV.com) to find water-saving resources, rebates, and tips.



For more NFT resources visit [bit.ly/SCVDroughtReadyCII](https://bit.ly/SCVDroughtReadyCII)



Information available in English and Spanish!