



Office of Communications
City of Beverly Hills
455 N. Rexford Dr.
Beverly Hills, CA 90210-4817

For Immediate Release
September 2, 2015
Contact: Therese Kosterman
(310) 285-2456

City Council Approves Changes in Water Restrictions

Allows water-saving options for washing buildings and vehicles

Beverly Hills, CA – The Beverly Hills City Council has approved changes to the water conservation ordinance that will allow exterior washing of cars and buildings under certain circumstances. The changes were adopted in order to make use of best management practices in water-saving technology and allow residents and businesses to clean vehicles and buildings and give options to local businesses that provide car washing services.

The ordinance will go into effect on Oct. 1, 2015; however, the deadline for vehicle washing compliance measures may be extended at the discretion of the Public Works Services Department if there is a good-faith effort to comply with the new rules.

Because of the historic drought, the City in May passed a Stage D emergency water conservation ordinance that specifically prohibited washing building exteriors or outdoor washing of vehicles. Since the original ordinance was written in 1992, new technologies and techniques have been developed that make it possible to efficiently reclaim and reuse water used in outdoor cleaning and vehicle washing. In addition, new products are available that can clean cars with minimal water use.

Buildings and sidewalks:

Under the new rules, buildings and sidewalks can be washed periodically only if a reclaimed water system is used. The frequency requirements are as follows:

- Retail building frontages can be washed down no more than once a month.
- Office and commercial buildings can be washed now no more than twice per year.
- Building frontages involved in food service may wash no more than is necessary to comply with health laws and regulations.
- Residential buildings can be washed down once per year solely for the purpose of preparing the structure for painting.



Office of Communications
City of Beverly Hills
455 N. Rexford Dr.
Beverly Hills, CA 90210-4817

Vehicles:

Exterior washing of vehicles is now permitted under the following circumstances:

- If a system is used that collects the runoff water, treats it and reuses it for non-potable uses.
- If an alternative plan is approved in writing by the Director of Public Works that demonstrates minimal water use, where minimal water use is described as using less than five gallons of water per vehicle.
- If frequent washing is necessary for the health and welfare of the public, such as the cleaning of garbage trucks or trucks transporting food.

For more information on the new ordinance, please call Public Works Customer Service, (310) 285-2467.

####