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# News Release

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## City of Sacramento to Issue “Spare the Water Alert” During Summer Heat Waves

Sacramento, Calif. – The City of Sacramento Department of Utilities today announced their plans to issue a “Spare the Water Alert” during projected heat waves, urging customers to cut back non-essential water use to both conserve water and energy.

“When temperatures reach their peak, demand for water stretches the City’s treatment and pumping abilities, making it difficult to refill storage supplies overnight,” said Department of Utilities Director and Assistant City Manager Marty Hanneman. “Refilling these supplies is critical to running the distribution system efficiently, having enough water pressure and retaining adequate reserves for fire emergencies.”

In addition, energy costs for treating and pumping water to homes are typically most expensive during peak temperatures, especially during late afternoon when electricity demand is high. This means higher energy costs for the City, and can mean higher water and energy bills for customers.

“People may not realize the important link between water and energy, but electricity is our single largest expense as a water provider,” Hanneman said. “So, when it comes to conserving water and energy, especially during peak temperatures and hours, turning off the faucet is like turning off a light.”

The City plans to issue a Spare the Water Alert when temperatures are projected to reach 100 degrees for at least three consecutive days. Customers will be urged to reduce and delay non-essential water use in order to conserve water and energy, especially in the late afternoon.



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Tips for quickly reducing water use include:

- Delaying all outdoor water use, including landscape irrigation, until early morning or late at night.
- Waiting to use big appliances, such as the clothes washer or dishwasher.

The City will notify customers about a Spare the Water Alert via the City's Web site and announcements to the news media.

Additional tips on reducing water can be found at [www.SpareSacWater.org](http://www.SpareSacWater.org).

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