

News Release

Mammoth Community Water District
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 21, 2023

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Water Conservation Level 1 Remains in Effect

The Mammoth Community Water District maintains water conservation measures following a big winter with large snowpack.

Mammoth Lakes, California – At the March 16 Board of Directors meeting, the Mammoth Community Water District’s (MCWD) Board of Directors voted unanimously to reduce the District’s Water Conservation Level from Level 3 to Level 1. This move was in response to record snow water content reported over Mammoth Pass, which the District relies on for the community’s surface water supply.

It is important for the public to remember that the District relies on both surface and groundwater sources to meet the needs of the community. While the Mammoth Basin is fortunate to have more water this year from the massive snowpack, local groundwater resources are still feeling the effects from multiyear and widespread drought conditions. In addition, the intense winter snowpack of 2023 caused damage to MCWD infrastructure, limiting full production.

In 2017 we experienced a similar scenario of an abundance of snow following a multiyear drought. At that time, MCWD was in a Water Conservation Level 4 and reduced to Level 0. In hindsight, the increased water demand inhibited a full recovery of our groundwater supply after only one heavy snow season. Full recharge of our groundwater aquifer system will likely require an additional season of average to above average snowpack.

Customers are reminded that, in addition to the District’s permanent water conservation measures (Level 0), Water Conservation Level 1 asks customers to remain water conscious and to keep demand low. Level 1 Restrictions include:

- Irrigation from 1:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m. and between 5:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m.
- No washing or hosing down hard surfaces like sidewalks and driveways, unless for health and safety requirements
- No planting of new landscape without an approved Landscape Plan that meets the current Town of Mammoth Lakes Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance
- No replacing or reseeding more than 5% of existing turf area

For more details, please read about Water Conservation Levels by visiting the District’s website. Details for Water Conservation Levels can be found on the Conservation section of our website by visiting: <https://mcwd.dst.ca.us/water-conservation-regulations/>

The District is committed to protecting our most valuable resource. Balancing the needs of the community with the protection of our resources is an important task that we take very seriously. MCWD thanks the community for their continued support by conserving water and following Level 1 restriction guidelines while helping to protect our resources.

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MCWD provides water and wastewater utility service to the Town of Mammoth Lakes and surrounding areas. MCWD strives to provide reliable, affordable utility service to our customers and to conduct our operations in a manner reflecting our stewardship role. We encourage our customers to practice responsible use of our limited water resources, and to take advantage of the information and services available to support this goal.