



COUNTY OF YOLO

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Yolo County Issues Emergency Proclamation for Unincorporated Areas of the County Due to Exceptional Drought Conditions

(Woodland, CA) – Yolo County has issued an emergency proclamation due to exceptional drought conditions in the unincorporated areas of the county and urges all residents and businesses throughout the county to immediately begin conserving water. Due to little rainfall, historically dry conditions, and exceptionally warm temperatures in April and May, Yolo County is in an ‘exceptional drought,’ characterized by dry wells, depleted reservoirs, and nearly dry surface water leading to insufficient water for agriculture, wildlife, and urban needs. In an exceptional drought, water quality decreases along water supply and fire season lasts year-round while increasing in intensity, threatening drinking water, irrigation supplies, wildlife habitat, and agricultural economic activity.

"The severity of the drought in Yolo County highlights the need to take simple actions to conserve water to ensure sustainable water supplies," said Chair of the Yolo County Board of Supervisors Jim Provenza. "As a community effort, we ask that residents do what they can to conserve water."

In May, Governor Gavin Newsom added 41 counties, including Yolo County, to the State’s drought emergency list that was first announced in April. In July, the Governor signed an Executive Order, which expanded the drought emergency list to include 50 of California’s 58 counties and called on all Californians to voluntarily reduce their water use by 15 percent compared to 2020 levels.

The issuance of a local emergency proclamation will allow Yolo County to set rules, regulations and other mandates as deemed necessary to reduce water usage during this emergency to protect the safety of persons and property within the unincorporated areas of Yolo County.

In conditions of exceptional drought, it is more important than ever for residents to do their part to help conserve water in what is a collective effort to protect a vital and increasingly scarce resource. Simple actions, such as taking shorter showers, turning water off when brushing teeth, only washing full loads of clothes and dishes, and replacing lawns with native water-wise plants can save hundreds of gallons of water every day per household.

For more simple actions that save water, visit <https://saveourwater.com/>. To learn about the resources available to households, farmers, and local jurisdictions and special districts, visit: <https://bit.ly/3j4mcaI>. For a list of places to cool down in times of extreme heat, visit <https://bit.ly/3rLfe4L>.

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