

In California, Saving Water Is All Over the Map

By Jim Carlton

ROCKLIN, Calif.—With this state’s drought entering its fourth year, orders for urban water districts to curb their use have met wildly uneven results, with some places barely conserving at all and others soundly exceeding statewide averages.

In the latter category is this Sacramento suburb, which since Jan. 1 has cut its water use by one-third—by ripping out grass, letting some parks go brown and closing three water parks. “It was...

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