

Clovis nearly reaches May goal for cutback in water use

The Fresno
Bee

Clovis' government and residents cut water consumption by 34.2%, nearly meeting the state's required reduction of 36% from 2013, city officials announced Friday.

Clovis adopted tough water-use rules and threatened fines if customers don't meet the restrictions set under state guidelines. The city is cutting consumption by capping 39,000 sprinklers in its landscaped strips along roads and adding areas that use recycled water.

The city sent explanations of the new rules to all water customers at the beginning of May.

The city used 599.4 million gallons of water last month, compared to 910.8 million gallons in May 2013. When population growth was factored in (the state doesn't make that adjustment to determine compliance), consumption was down 38.9%, from 292.3 gallons per capita per day to 178.7 gallons.

State water officials adopted regulations in May requiring all cities in California to meet reductions in water use. The regulations placed Clovis in the highest tier of mandated reductions, meaning the city must cut water use by 36% compared to 2013.

Because much of the water used in the city goes to landscape irrigation, the cool, relatively wet month of May helped conservation efforts, city officials said.