

# BCPUD PIPELINE



SPRING 2015

270 Elm Road, P.O. Box 390, Bolinas, CA 94924 (415) 868-1224

## In Brief...

There will be a Uniform District Election on November 3, 2015 and two seats on the BCPUD Board of Directors are up for candidate nominations. The nomination filing period is **July 13, 2015 through August 7, 2015**. If either of the two incumbent directors do *not* file by August 7, 2015, there will be an extension of the nomination filing period to **August 12, 2015 for non-incumbents only**.

If you are interested in running for the BCPUD Board of Directors, more information is available at [www.marinvotes.org](http://www.marinvotes.org). In particular, there is a Candidate's Guide, Candidate Nomination Papers, and Information about Important Dates for Candidates on the website. Questions about these publications or requests for additional information also can be directed to Dan Miller at the Marin County Department of Elections: [DanMiller@marincounty.org](mailto:DanMiller@marincounty.org).

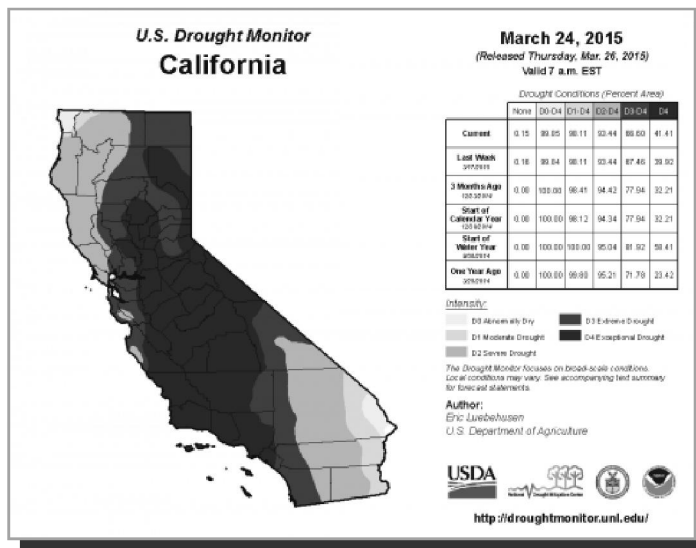
Thanks for your interest in serving the Bolinas community!

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**Water or Sewer-Related emergency?**  
Call 415-868-1224  
(24 hours)

## STATUS OF THE BOLINAS WATER SUPPLY - 2015

The BCPUD has received many questions from the community about the status of our water supply in light of California's ongoing drought, especially since Governor Brown issued Executive Orders in March and April 2015 compelling the State Water Resources Control Board ("SWRCB"), among other things, to impose mandatory water restrictions "to achieve a statewide 25% reduction in potable urban water usage through February 28, 2016. These restrictions will require water suppliers to California's cities and towns to reduce usage as compared to the amount used in 2013."



What does this mean for Bolinas? Thanks to YOUR conservation efforts during 2014, this community already has exceeded the Governor's mandates. Specifically, the water use in Bolinas for all of 2014 was **30%** less than the water use for all of 2013. As such, if we all continue our best efforts to employ the water-saving practices that we employed during 2014, the community again will exceed the requirements of the Governor's order. Most importantly, **please keep your automatic landscape irrigation systems turned OFF!!!** We cannot emphasize enough how important it is to significantly limit your landscape watering as the drought lingers. In our experience, automatic irrigation systems are prone to leaks, which can go undetected for weeks, resulting in tremendous water waste. **Hand watering is the best way to keep your plants alive with minimal water use.**

As for the water supply in Bolinas, we received more rain this year (33.4 inches) than last (27.4 inches) due largely to the heavy rains during December. Our two emergency reservoirs are full. However, apart from the early February rains and one rain in April, we have not received any significant rain in 2015. **If we do not receive late rains this year, it will be a very, very difficult summer and fall as we will be increasingly reliant on our emergency water supply and may have no choice but to implement mandatory rationing as we did in 2009.** As always, we will continue to keep you updated via the Hearsay News, our website ([www.bcpud.org](http://www.bcpud.org)) and via customer mailings.

With regard to the statewide drought conditions and the import of Governor Brown's Executive Order, the SWRCB has a considerable amount of information on its website: [www.waterboards.ca.gov](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov) and we encourage you to consult this site for up-to-date information about the state's response to the drought. The SWRCB has issued an "FAQ" about its 2015 emergency conservation regulations and the following is an excerpt:

On March 17, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board or Board) adopted an expanded emergency conservation regulation to safeguard the state's remaining water supplies as California enters a fourth consecutive dry year. While there are many ways to boost local water supplies, conservation is the easiest, most efficient, and most cost effective way to quickly reduce water demand

and extend supplies into the next year, providing flexibility for all California communities. With our inability to predict the remainder of this rainy season or the next, water saved today can improve a region's water security and add flexibility to systems that may need to withstand another year or more of warm temperatures and low precipitation.

The enhanced emergency conservation regulation targets both individual water use, by identifying the practices from which every Californian should abstain during this drought emergency, as well as the steps that local water suppliers should be taking to reduce water demand in their service areas. These updated restrictions set a minimum level of effort in this continuing drought emergency. Everyone should take additional steps to conserve water. As the drought wears on, the State Water Board will closely watch local implementation of the regulation, and will take further action as needed.

What types of water use are prohibited for all Californians? The 2015 emergency conservation regulation prohibits:

- Using potable water to wash sidewalks and driveways;
- Allowing runoff when irrigating with potable water;
- Using hoses with no shutoff nozzles to wash cars;
- Using potable water in decorative water features that do not recirculate the water; and
- Irrigating outdoors during and within 48 hours following measureable rainfall

In addition, per the Governor's Executive Order in April, the following types of water use also are prohibited for all Californians:

- Irrigating ornamental turf on public street medians with potable water; and
- Irrigating outside of newly constructed homes and buildings with potable water unless this water is delivered by drip or microspray.

Are businesses required to conserve water as well? Yes, the prohibitions above apply to businesses and residents. In addition, the 2015 emergency regulation also focuses on the restaurant and hospitality sector:

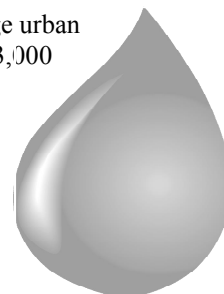
- Restaurants are prohibited from serving water to their customers unless the customer requests it; and
- Hotels and motels must offer their guests the option to not have their linens and towels laundered daily, and prominently display this option in each guest room.
- Restaurants are also encouraged to use table cards to help convey the conservation message.

Do water suppliers have to implement conservation measures? Yes, there are requirements for both large urban water suppliers serving more than 3,000 customers, as well as small water suppliers serving fewer than 3,000 customers. Large urban water suppliers (serving more than 3,000 connections) must:

- Impose restrictions on outdoor irrigation;
- Notify customers about leaks that are within the customer's control;
- Report on water use monthly; and
- Report on compliance and enforcement

Small water suppliers (serving fewer than 3,000 customers) must:

- Limit outdoor irrigation to two days per week or implement comparable measures to achieve a 20 percent reduction in water use; and
- Report water use for June – November 2015 as compared to June-November 2013.



Accordingly, since the BCPUD serves fewer than 3,000 customers, we are obligated to limit our customer's outdoor irrigation to two days per week OR implement comparable measures to achieve a 20% reduction in water use. **Since, as noted above, our community has achieved a 30% reduction in water use, the BCPUD is not specifically limiting customers' landscape irrigation to two days per week at this time; however, it is critical that our community continue its existing conservation practices to ensure that water use does *not* increase.**

In closing, the BCPUD extends its sincere appreciation to each and every one of you for your amazing water conservation efforts. We are so impressed by this community's awareness of the limited nature of this precious resource and the creative approaches you have employed to use the water we supply to you as efficiently as possible. Please continue to conserve and do not hesitate to call us, e-mail us, or stop by the office if you have any questions or want more information about the Bolinas water supply.

Finally, landlords, please provide copies of this newsletter to your tenants to inform them of our water supply status and the need to continue their conservation efforts — thank you!