



Hello,

My mother lives in Colton, California (San Bernardino County). After the Governor first announced a drought my mother cut back on watering her lawn. Colton is in the inland valley so naturally when the temperatures began to climb her grass began to die. Similar conditions exist at other homes throughout the city as others have also elected to conserve water. Now the City of Colton is fining my mother \$250 (additional penalties up to and including liens and seizure of her property), citing the fact her lawn may not be as green as some of her neighbors who constantly run their sprinklers. In essence, she is being **penalized for conserving water!** Under threat of losing her home (she is on social security and cannot afford the fine) she has begun watering again.

In researching this subject, I learned that the Colton City Council was given a State of Drought presentation at a regular council meeting on March 18 of this year. The council's response ranged from insinuations the drought does not affect our city (Councilman Frank Gonzales, District 3) to jokes about how teenagers waste more water than individuals who irrigate their lawns (Hon. Mayor Sarah Zamora). The meeting can be viewed here (Business item 11) :

[http://colton.12milesout\[dot\]com/MeetingVideo.aspx?VideoId=6dc581a5-32b9-4dba-b149-d659a9f0fc2a](http://colton.12milesout[dot]com/MeetingVideo.aspx?VideoId=6dc581a5-32b9-4dba-b149-d659a9f0fc2a)

(note: replace the 'dot' in brackets with '.')

Clearly some cities have no intention of doing their part to conserve water, making it a necessary step to begin penalizing public agencies who refuse to help out.

Thank you,

David Crawford
1635 Rancho Ave
Colton, Ca 92324
909-872-0398

PS: I can provide a scan or fax of the citation if necessary.