



Dear Water Board and Others:

In the media it sounded as if Governor Brown was committed to the fines--just didn't know yet who to apply them to!

You can THREATEN FINES, even IMPOSE them, but can you COLLECT on them?? Everything I've read (and collected) over the past four years or so on water-related issues suggests very few fines are being collected much less imposed...

I live in Cambria, California, recently named as the highest conservation community in the state of California (out of 412) for a month in 2014 (September) when residents used only 40 gallons per person of potable water. (Overall, we were No. 3). We are banned from using any potable water on landscaping and have been for over a year. My wife and I have a vacation rental and managed to stay under 675 units of water per month per two month billing period, or about 50 gallons per person for a two person household, in the past year. We continue to stay under the "limits."

I do FREE DIY demonstrations of my rainwater harvesting system, whereby I can store 2000 gallons. (I could store much more if I had the tanks). Next demo: September 12, 11:30 a.m. It is REMARKABLE how much can be collected. A piece about my system appeared in the nationwide *Countryside and Small Stock Journal Magazine* in early 2015.

Anyway, here, in my opinion based on plenty of research (I am an author, see williamseavey.com) **are TEN perpetrators:**

the Worst Water Wasters (WWW) in California: Give them ONE warning, a reasonable period of time to comply, then FINE them (and of course collect):

1. Municipalities not recycling/treating waste water but dumping it in the ocean or streams when it could at least recharge groundwater.
2. Farmers irrigating crops with portable sprinkler systems or flooding fields from culverts--as well as drilling deeper wells to deplete the aquifers
3. Corporations using large amounts of water to wash/rinse/sterilize products that don't recycle this water for later use; reconsider product lines?
4. Golf courses or private parks/resorts using potable water for keeping grass/turf green when reclaimed water is available
5. Hotels/motels not decommissioning in-room hot tubs/spas (unless recycling water). Imagine how much water is going down the sewer each time a room turns over (I have a hot tub using rainwater that is chemically treated to stay pure)
6. Homeowners with "estates" (1/4 acre plus) continuing to irrigate expansive lawns and fill large pools/fountains despite the realities of evaporation (especially in desert areas)

7. Homeowners with large lawns who continuously refuse to "brown" them and replace with succulents, rock gardens, artificial turf etc. (Come up with a formula for what is the minimum size lawn acceptable).
8. Schools/colleges not implementing recycling measures and browning playfields (or replacing with artificial turf).
9. Government offices that do not in some way monitor use of water by employees, in cafeterias etc.
10. Car washes that do not recycle water; our local one claims to but I must admit I haven't any idea how it's done or IF it's really done.

At some point, of course, there are limits to what can be done without a technological solution. Cambria's containerized, portable emergency "desal" plant installed recently shows promise--it was sited in only a few months and will recycle some sewer water. It has received a lot of attention in California already but is still in the testing phase--and is not completely benign. However, desalination is the ultimate solution for drought-prone regions--along with much more conservation (and conscientiousness) in general.

As fellow Cambrian citizen/activist Mary Webb has stated in her letter to you, the pain needs to be spread much more evenly until reasonable, practical solutions can be implemented....

Please send this to Governor Brown and others who have the power and influence to make a difference.

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cc: various media