



The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

NEWS RELEASE

P. O. Box 54153, Los Angeles, California 90054-0153 • (213) 217-6485 • www.mwdh2o.com

Contacts: Lynn Lipinski, (213) 217-6603; (213) 324-6430, mobile
Armando Acuña, (213) 217-6853; (530) 574-3111, mobile

Sept. 30, 2010

**METROPOLITAN OFFERS BUSINESSES 12 WAYS TO SAVE MONEY, WATER THROUGH REBATE PROGRAMS AVAILABLE IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
Incentives ranging from \$3 to \$1,750 available to qualifying commercial, industrial, institutional customers through “Save Water, Save A Buck” program**

Facilities with large landscapes, commercial kitchens and dental offices are among the Southland organizations eligible for money-saving rebates on water-saving devices offered by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

Metropolitan’s “Save Water, Save A Buck” program rebates are available to commercial, industrial and institutional customers for installing devices such as dry vacuum pumps, connectionless food steamers, ice-making machines and weather-based irrigation controllers. A total of 12 different water-saving devices are eligible for rebate.

The water savings can be significant. Businesses such as restaurants, delis, hotels and hospitals can reduce water use by upgrading to connectionless food steamers and air-cooled ice-makers. A connectionless food steamer, used to warm food, saves an average of 81,500 gallons per year, or \$776 in annual water cost savings, over traditional boiler-based connected steamers. A \$485 rebate is available for the connectionless food steamers that use less than two gallons per hour.

In addition, studies show replacing a water-cooled, ice-making machine with an air-cooled model could save as much as 191,000 gallons a year, resulting in a potential annual water cost savings of \$1,280. A rebate of \$300 is available for air-cooled machines.

In dental offices, traditional dental vacuum pumps can be replaced with a waterless model that saves up to 800 gallons per day and are eligible for a \$125 or higher rebate.

Manufacturers and other businesses using cooling towers that are older than five years can save as much as 800,000 gallons a year by installing new cooling tower conductivity controllers. This could result in annual savings of up to \$4,800 in water and sewer bills. A rebate of \$1,750 is available for a pH cooling tower controller and \$625 for a cooling tower conductivity controller.

more

Other technologies eligible for rebates to commercial customers are:

- Commercial high-efficiency toilets using 1.28 gallons of water per flush or less (\$50 rebate for retrofit; \$30 in new construction)
- Ultra-low water urinals or zero water urinals using less than .25 gallons per flush and replacing urinals flushing at 1.5 gallons per flush or more (\$200 rebate for retrofit; \$60 in new construction)
- Water brooms for customers required to wash down surfaces to comply with state or local health and safety codes (\$110 rebate)
- Weather-based irrigation controller or central computer irrigation controller (\$25 rebate per irrigation station)
- Rotating nozzles for pop-up spray head retrofits (\$3 rebate per nozzle)
- Large rotary nozzles (\$7 rebate)

Rebate reservations are required for the “Save Water, Save A Buck” program, and must be made in advance of purchasing a device. Funding is limited, with reservations taken on a first-come, first-served basis. Rebate amounts may change without notice. The program runs through April 30, 2011, or until funds are exhausted, whichever comes first.

More water-saving tips and information about the region’s and state’s water supply challenges are available at www.bewaterwise.com.

###

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is a cooperative of 26 cities and water agencies serving 19 million people in six counties. The district imports water from the Colorado River and Northern California to supplement local supplies, and helps its members to develop increased water conservation, recycling, storage and other resource-management programs.