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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DROUGHT CONDITIONS FORCE WATER RESTRICTIONS

MORGAN HILL, Calif. (June 17, 2021)—At the June 16 City Council Meeting, the City of Morgan Hill declared a Level 2 Water Supply Shortage effective immediately. The declaration comes on the heels of the Santa Clara Valley Water District Board’s announcing a water shortage emergency impacting the entire county.

There are multiple components to the new water restrictions, but significant changes include limiting lawn watering hours, duration and days, and limits on washing vehicles or paved areas.

Typical lawn and garden bed sprinkler irrigation is now limited to:

- Mondays and Thursdays for ODD numbered addresses and properties with no address
- Tuesdays and Fridays for EVEN numbered addresses
- Irrigation shall only be scheduled before 9 a.m. or after 7 p.m.
- Prevent runoff in any watering cycle
- Each valve or zone shall run for a maximum of 15 minutes in any one day

For businesses, limits now exist on automatically serving water at restaurants, hotels offering guests the option to decline daily linen service, and construction sites using non-potable water for most site activities.

The City of Morgan Hill has a complete list of restrictions, plus several tips and resources available at mhvalueswater.com.

“Put simply, it’s been a dry year,” said Christina Turner, city manager for the City of Morgan Hill. “Water resources and reserves are lower both in and out of the county affecting residents in many cities. The restrictions in place now are meant to avert an even worse crisis in the future. Conservation and a minimal water use mindset are a part of life for all of us.”

About 50 percent of the county’s water supply comes from outside the county. The low rainfall and depleted Sierra Nevada snowpack caused a significant reduction in imported water the county can receive this year.

A Level 2 Water Supply Shortage is defined as a 21 to 40 percent consumer demand reduction to make more efficient water use. Full descriptions of Levels 1, 2, 3 as described by the City of Morgan Hill Ordinance No. 2236 are available at mhvalueswater.com.

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