## PALOMINO LAKES MUTUAL WATER COMPANY

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## **New Water Conservation Policy**

The Board of Directors of the Palomino Lakes Mutual Water Company has voted to change our Water Conservation Policy in response to the State of California Office of Administrative Law's *Notice of Approval of Emergency Action* effective 5/18/2015.

Although the Community in general has reduced water consumption, there continues to be a significant number of members who are exceeding the 275 gallon per day per household voluntary maximum use limit. Therefore, based on discussions at the July 26<sup>th</sup> Board of Director's open meeting with members of the community who attended, and, based upon recommendations from our Attorney, we are transitioning from a Voluntary Program to a Mandatory Program. This Mandatory Program will begin on August 1, 2015 and will continue until we receive formal notice from the State Water Resources Control Board that our curtailment order has been lifted. Please note that August 1<sup>st</sup> will be the first full day of the *next* Quarterly billing period.

The new policy sets in place a graduated penalty structure that is intended to provide a relatively modest fine to those who only go over the limit a relatively small amount, but result in a large fine for those that greatly exceed the limit. The fine schedule is as follows:

0 to 275 gallons per day (gpd) - no fine

276 to 375 gpd - \$100 fine

376 to 475 gpd - \$300 fine

476 to 575 gpd - \$1,000 fine

576 to 675 gpd - \$1,500 fine

Over 675 gpd - \$2,000 fine

The penalty will be assessed quarterly based on the average use for that quarter and fines will not be assessed until the *end* of the August through October 2015 billing period, and then assessed each quarter until the Curtailment Order is lifted.

For example, if a household were to use 600 gpd in August, but only 150 gpd in September and October, their average use would be approximately 300 gpd and they would be assessed a \$100 fine with their quarterly bill. If a household were to use 300 gpd in August, but only 150 gpd in September and October, their average use would be approximately 200 gpd and they would not be assessed a fine.

We will continue to read meters monthly and continue to send out the high use letters soon after the monthly reading.

PLMWC Board of Director's President – Doug Chamberlin Vice President – Jan Tolbert Secretary/Treasurer – Janet Vail