SamTrans Water Consumption and Conservation

Overview

- Statewide drought, mandatory conservation measures
- Historical SamTrans water usage
- Voluntary conservation efforts
- Initial results
- Next steps
25% statewide reduction in urban potable water use
- Beginning June 2015, compare to baseline year 2013

By water district:
- 8% CalWater SSF (NB, Colma P&R)
- 16% CalWater Mid-Peninsula (Central, SB)
- 8% Redwood City (Brewster, Sequoia, P&R)

Water districts have discretion on how to meet goals
- Increased pricing for usage over “drought budget”
- What can SamTrans do to conserve more?

Prohibitions
- Except for immediate health or safety need, or to comply with permit condition:
  - No irrigating within 48 hours of measurable rain
  - No irrigating that causes runoff onto adjacent property, non-irrigated areas, private and public walkways, roadways, parking lots, or structures
  - No applying potable water to driveways and sidewalks
  - No using hoses without shut-off nozzle to wash motor vehicles
Mandatory Measures

• Outdoor irrigation schedules
  − Max 2x per week watering (odd addresses Mon/Thurs; even addresses Tues/Fri)
  − NO watering 8am-6pm
• Enforcement
  − Fines ($50 – $500 per day)
  − Flow restrictor

Historical Water Usage
**Historical Water Usage**

- Intense summertime water usage for irrigation
- Aging infrastructure

**Voluntary Efforts**

- Prioritize initial efforts
  - Can be implemented immediately
  - Low cost
  - Significant savings
- Initial efforts in 3 categories
  - Facilities
  - Fleet
  - Employee behavior and messaging
Voluntary Efforts: Facilities

- Eliminate irrigation at Park & Rides (completed)
- Reduce irrigation at Bases, Brewster (completed)
- Replace Central’s flowerbeds with California-native, drought-tolerant species (in progress)
- Install faucet aerators to reduce water use by 25% – 40% (completed at Central)

Voluntary Efforts: Fleet

- Wash bus exteriors every other day (50% reduction)
- Implemented June 2015
- Winter schedule may be different, as needed
- Note: bus washers recycle 70% – 85% of water
Voluntary Efforts: Employees

- Signage in kitchens, restrooms, showers
- SamTimes
- Emails, website, social media
- Implementation in progress

Initial Results

Graph showing water consumption at North Base and South Base for 2013 (Baseline) and 2015, with 54% savings at Bases.
Initial Results

- Monitor water usage
- Evaluate success
  - Calculate savings
  - Modify as needed
- Consider additional strategies
  - Retrofit indoor plumbing fixtures
  - Delivery of recycled water
  - Drip irrigation systems

Next Steps