



*Press Release*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Water Rates to Drop September 1, 2016, for City of Hemet Water Customers!**

The City of Hemet would like to thank, and congratulate, the Hemet community for their success in meeting and exceeding State mandated conservation requirements over the last 15 months! Due to the diligence of the customers in the City of Hemet Water Department service area, the department not only met, but exceeded the conservation standards set by the State. According to Kris Jensen, Public Works Director, “The hard work of our customers and staff, and the support from our City Council for billing and program staffing changes, made successful navigation of the restrictive conservation requirements possible. The department not only exceeded the State’s mandate, but Hemet is the first City to have a formal Conservation Order rescinded by the State Water Quality Control Board. Their decision to rescind Hemet’s order was based on the consistent positive results we were able to report because of the community’s response to conservation.”

Given the good news of conservation compliance, the City Council took action at their regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, August 23, 2016, to lower water consumption rates to “non-drought” or normal consumption rates from the current “drought” rates that were placed in effect on October 1, 2015. The action will reduce the current \$6.25 per billing unit (100 cubic feet of water) of water to \$4.28 per billing unit effective September 1, 2016. This equates to a 31% decrease in the consumption portion of the water rates.

Mayor Bonnie Wright stated, “The decision to drop rates was a direct result of the incredible efforts made by our water service area customers in reducing water use. Although the drought is not over, the customers have shown that they are committed to responsible and efficient use of our water resources. Returning to lower, non-drought rates should bring some much needed, and well deserved, relief for our customers.”

The City of Hemet Water Department would also like to thank its customers for their amazing efforts and look forward to working together to continue to find ways to conserve our precious water resources into the future.

For questions regarding your City of Hemet Water billing, please contact the Utility Billing Department at 951-765-2350. For information about receiving a free residential indoor or outdoor water conservation kit, or for additional information on how you can conserve water, please contact the City of Hemet Water Department at 951-765-3876.