News reports recently provided inaccurate information regarding new water use efficiency laws taking effect in 2020. SCV Water would like to clarify a few points for our customers.

On January 1, 2020, new conservation legislation became effective. Senate Bill 606 and Assembly Bill 1668 establish, among other things, annual urban water use objectives which include indoor and outdoor water-use targets for water agencies like SCV Water.

Contrary to a recent media report, the laws will not set fines on individual water customers taking a shower and doing laundry on the same day.

Key facts:

- **Customers will not be fined $10,000 per day if they exceed the indoor water use standard of 55 gallons per person per day.** Instead, the residential indoor water use standard of 55 gallons per person per day will be used to determine an annual agency-wide urban water use objective, and it would be the water agency (like SCV Water) that could be fined for not meeting the cumulative objective, starting in 2025.

- **There is no law against showering and doing laundry on the same day.** There are no specific statewide laws that require individual households to meet a specific target or standard. Rather, the urban water use objectives will be set for an entire service area.

- **Water efficiency standards will be determined based on multiple factors.** This includes the 55 gallon per person per day residential indoor target, but also residential outdoor water use, commercial outdoor water use, and a water loss target.

SCV Water customers are continuously leading the way in conservation efforts. In 2019, more than 10,000 customers engaged in our residential water conservation rebate programs and education activities. Additionally, SCV Water hosted 24 gardening workshops and educated more than 560 residents on how to efficiently maintain and irrigate their landscapes. With our customers, we’ve converted more than 1,575 irrigation stations to smart controllers, conducted nearly 310 residential home check-ups, rebated over 1,400 ultra-high efficiency toilets, and converted over 200,000 square feet of lawn to water efficient landscapes.

Because of these efforts, SCV Water customers on average are already close to or below the new standard of 55 gallons per person, per day, for indoor water use.

In addition, SCV Water continues to develop its diverse water supply portfolio, focusing on local reliable and sustainable supplies.

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