



## Q&A: Integration of Water Service in Oildale

Efficiency Increased with Oildale Mutual as Sole Retail Provider North of the River Municipal Water District (NOR) and Oildale Mutual Water Company have completed the transfer of all retail water service to Oildale Mutual while retaining all wholesale services with NOR. This action returns each water provider to their original purpose – serving the citizens of Oildale without overlap, questionable charges or resulting conflicts.

This simple arrangement will allow for greater efficiencies for the customers and an end to wasteful, redundant spending. The final integration of water service, which brought current NOR customers over to Oildale Mutual's service territory, was completed on July 1st.

We will continue the same prompt and financially responsible service that Oildale Mutual has been providing since 1919 and welcome our new shareholders to the Company. Please see some common questions regarding the integration below:

**Q: I am a current Oildale Mutual Water Company customer. Will anything change regarding my service?**

A: No, all current OMWC customers will see no changes with their water delivery. The Company is developing a new website which will allow more options for accessing your account and making payments, but all services will remain the same.

**Q: I was paying my water bill to NORMWD. What changes should I expect?**

A: Welcome to our company! If you are a property owner, you are now a shareholder in Oildale Mutual Water Company. Your water service will continue uninterrupted and you will receive new payment information in the mail. Stock in OMWC is normally purchased by the owner of a parcel of land at the time water service is provided. The amount of stock required is determined by the size of the parcel which in most cases is 290 shares per acre of land owned. As part of this transfer process, stock has been issued on all developed property in the transfer area at no cost to the property owner.

The amount of stock issued to you has been calculated using the Kern County Assessor's records. For your convenience, all stock will be held at the Company's office for safekeeping unless you come to the office and request the Certificate. When our website update is

completed, you will also have access to your account via the web.

**Q: Why did the two water entities decide to integrate their retail service under Oildale Mutual?**

A: Oildale Mutual Water Company (Company) is privately owned by the customers, with each owning stock in the Company. North of the River Municipal Water District is a public entity originally formed as a wholesale water provider to Oildale Mutual – charging the Company for the delivery of that wholesale water. When NOR began making its own retail water deliveries, Oildale Mutual Water Company questioned the allocation of costs and litigation was initiated to determine the correct charges to Oildale Mutual. As long as NOR remained a retailer and wholesaler of water, there would be potential for misallocation of expenses.

Returning the two entities to their original purposes – NOR resuming wholesale service and Oildale Mutual remaining the only retail supplier – will lead to greater efficiencies, more stable financial reserves and lower water rates for NORMWD customers as they are shifted to Oildale Mutual's rate structure.

**Q: I was paying my water bill to NORMWD by ACH (electronic funds transfer) or other automatic payment system, will that simply continue?**

A: No! Your water provider is not permitted to transfer personal financial information to Oildale Mutual Water Company without your authorization. If you have not yet made this change and wish to use automatic withdrawal from your checking/savings account (ACH) or prefer using a recurring credit card to pay your water bill you will need to contact Oildale Mutual Water Company to set this up.

**Q: What if I still have questions about my water service or my bill?**

A: You can call Oildale Mutual Water Company's office at (661) 399-5516. Please keep an eye on our website – [www.OildaleWater.com](http://www.OildaleWater.com) as we post information there and will also be updating the site very soon.

# State Approves Emergency Regulations Due to Drought

## *Conservation remains a key focus for Oildale Mutual Water Company*

We have all been reminded, nudged and encouraged to conserve water. It is a hot topic for debate as we are in our 3rd consecutive drought year. In January, Governor Jerry Brown became heavily involved after issuing a drought emergency proclamation and drought conditions will likely continue for the foreseeable future. **Conservation has never been more critical.**

The State Water Resources Control Board has now approved restrictions to promote more responsible water use and basic conservation across the state.

What does all this mean for you? According to the State Water Board, in order to encourage statewide water conservation, they have approved these temporary restrictions:

- **The direct application of water to any hard surface for washing.**
- **Watering of outdoor landscapes that cause runoff to adjacent property, non-irrigated areas, private and public walkways, roadways, parking lots or structures.**
- **Using a hose to wash an automobile, unless the hose is fitted with a shut-off nozzle.**
- **Using potable water in a fountain or decorative water feature, unless the water is recirculated.**

Local agencies could ask courts to fine water users up to \$500 a day for failure to implement these temporary

restrictions.

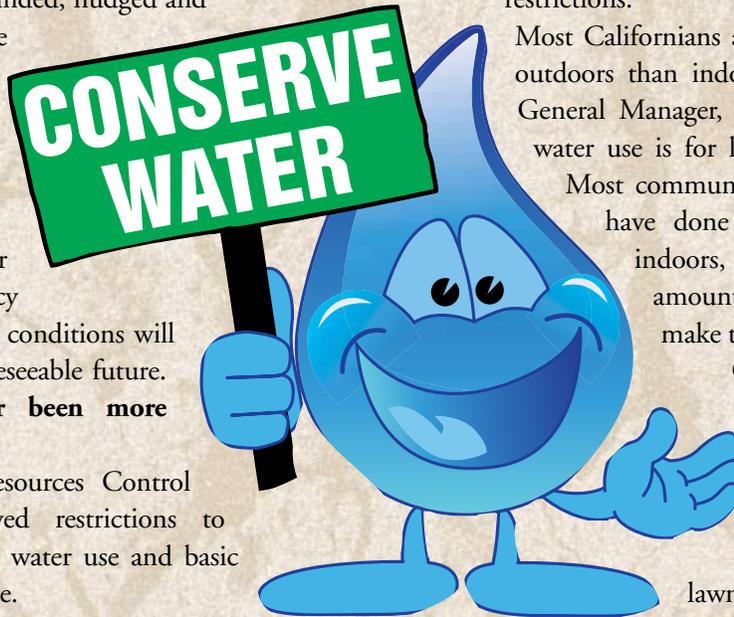
Most Californians are reportedly using more water outdoors than indoors. Doug Nunneley, OMWC General Manager, says about 70 percent of daily water use is for lawns and outdoor landscaping.

Most communities as well as water customers have done a great job conserving water indoors, but it turns out, reducing the amount of water used outdoors can make the biggest difference of all.

Oildale Mutual is not restricting the number of days you can water your lawn but is requiring all customers to cut back on the amount of time you are watering your lawn by 30%. For example, if you normally water your lawn 10 minutes then cut back your time to 7 minutes.

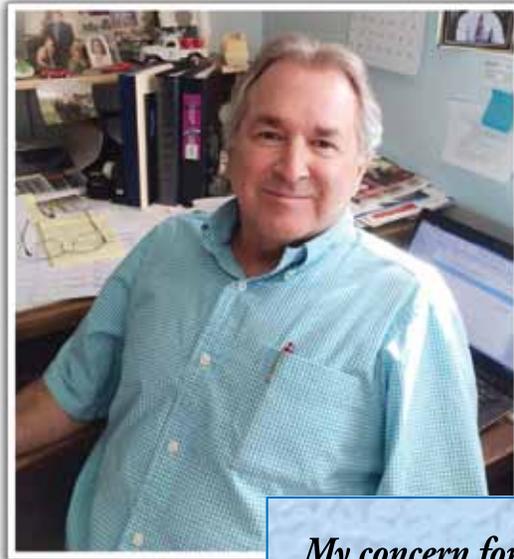
This will considerably decrease the amount of water used by your household. Also, water no later than 10 a.m. or water after 6 p.m. as less evaporation will occur and more water will be applied to the lawn. Once on your lawn in the cooler temperature, the water will stay in the soil longer instead of evaporating, which is what occurs when the hot sun is beating down on your lawn during the afternoon.

In all other water uses, always be conscious of your habits and see our website for more water savings tips. Oildale Mutual has a water patrol program that has been in existence for decades and has proven especially helpful during this continued drought period. This is another great tool for our company to use to cut down on water use and raise awareness about the importance of conserving. Our company wants you to understand water is precious; please do your wallet and your community a favor by using only what you need.



# Jude Hupp: An Oil Man for All of Oildale

As a lifelong resident of Bakersfield and a North High school graduate, Jude Hupp is no stranger to the Bakersfield community, specifically the Oildale area. At age 62, Hupp has spent most of his career in the oil industry including twenty-five years at Golden Bear Refinery. Since 2005, Hupp has worked as an outside sales representative for Wholesale Fuels where he has gained a wealth of experience in management, sales, project planning and implementation. Wholesale Fuels is a diesel, gasoline and lube oil marketer. Hupp is a member of the Society of Lubrication Engineers and Tribologists, and is both a Certified Lubrication Specialist and a Clarion Food Grade and Environmental oils Specialist. He is also on the Board of Directors for a local credit union where he helped re-establish that institution's financial health.



*Jude Hupp*

*My concern for Oildale led me to volunteer for this position on the board.*

have the option to appoint someone at their August board meeting and Jude Hupp is certainly ready to get an early start representing the citizens of Oildale should they choose to appoint him.

“My concern for Oildale led me to volunteer for this position on the board. I am disappointed with some of the spending decisions made by the NOR Municipal Water District. The residents here deserve greater accountability when it comes to the spending habits of our water providers and I believe my background has equipped me

well for serving on the NOR Water board.”

Since Hupp was the only individual to file for this seat in the upcoming election, he will automatically become the area representative in 2015 on the North of the River Municipal Water District Board of Directors. Currently, NOR directors

Hupp and his wife of 36 years have 4 adult children. They are proud to be in Bakersfield and Hupp is passionate about fighting for a safe, clean and reliable water supply at an affordable cost for the Oildale community.

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## Water patrol raising awareness about wasting water in Kern County

Amanda Gomez  
May 29, 2014

OILDALE, Calif. - An Oildale water company is patrolling the streets to encourage homeowners not to waste water.

Oildale Mutual Water Company has had a water patrol program for decades and uses it as another tool to cut down on water use.

“I get to go all around Oildale. I usually cover the whole area during time I work,” said Kristina Meier.

The water patrol employees aren't like police officers. The goal isn't to enforce the rules, but instead to raise awareness about saving water.

“If I see some water running into the street then I just go by and make people aware that their hose is running because sometimes people forget,” explained Meier.

Doug Nunneley, General Manager for the Oildale Mutual Water Company, told 23ABC in the past the company has hired anyone from college students to teachers and even retired California

Highway Patrol officers.

“We usually try to get someone that is a people person,” said Nunneley.

Meier is working to pay for college and also make a difference by helping others save water.

“That's what we're out there for is to raise awareness that people need to conserve,” said Meier.

“Water is precious and they should use what they need, but not anymore than they need,” said Nunneley.

Nunneley told 23ABC 70 percent of the water usage is from people watering their lawns. Nunneley also said the best time to water is after midnight before the sun rises.





Oildale  
Mutual  
Water  
Company

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## Pay Your Bill Online

*It has never been more convenient  
to pay your water bill – visit our website at*

**[oildalewater.com](http://oildalewater.com)**

*and pay online!*

*And check out our previous newsletters here as well!*



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