



News for Immediate Release

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DWR RELEASES 2008 URBAN DROUGHT GUIDEBOOK

SACRAMENTO – To help local water agencies and communities prepare for the possibility of a dry year or water supply interruptions, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) has published an updated version of its Urban Drought Guidebook.

DWR staff, in cooperation with the California Urban Water Conservation Council and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, held drought workshops throughout the State last year to solicit input for the guidebook update.

Now available, the guidebook provides a step-by-step approach for preparing Water Shortage Contingency Plans.

The Governor's recently announced target of a 20 percent reduction in per-capita water use statewide by 2020 presents a challenge for both water suppliers and California residents. Water suppliers may find many of the guidebook's demand management measures timely and useful.

Court-ordered restrictions on Delta pumping may also make water shortage contingency planning an essential and ongoing issue, even if the State is not experiencing a climatic drought.

A copy of the Guidebook has been posted on the DWR Web site at <http://www.owue.water.ca.gov/docs/UrbanDroughtGuide.pdf>

The Department of Water Resources operates and maintains the State Water Project, provides dam safety and flood control and inspection services, assists local water districts in water management and water conservation planning, and plans for future statewide water needs.

Contact the [DWR Public Affairs Office](#) for more information about DWR's water activities.