

Subject:
Attachments:

FW: URGENT: OPPOSITION TO POOL FILLING PROHIBITION
CPSA Drought PowerPoint.ppt; National Geographic April 2015 -- Pool Water Savings.pdf; SMWD Data.pdf; LA Times Article.pdf; CPSA Bill Stuffer (rev5-15)[1].pdf; CPSA FAQs 5.20.15.pdf; Letter of Opposition -- Fort Bragg.pdf

From: Alexander MacIlraith [<mailto:AMacIlraith@nalobby.net>]
Sent: Friday, August 07, 2015 2:38 PM
To: Turner, Dave; Peters, Lindy; Cimolino, Michael; Deitz, Scott; Hammerstrom, Doug; Ruffing, Linda
Subject: URGENT: OPPOSITION TO POOL FILLING PROHIBITION



Good Afternoon,

On behalf of the California Pool & Spa Association, I have attached a letter of opposition to the moratorium on filling swimming pools and spas, which is scheduled for discussion at the upcoming Council meeting. Pool filling moratoriums belong in the final stage of the plan during which no outdoor irrigation is permitted. It was just this week that the City of Laguna Beach rescinded their prohibition on pool construction and chose not to include a pool filling prohibition. After a thorough review of the water use by swimming pools and spas it becomes glaringly obvious that moratoriums on pool filling are inconsistent with water savings. A much more meaningful solution is mandatory pool covers which can reduce evaporation by as much as 90 percent. In the past month alone, cities like West Sacramento, Culver City, Thousand Oaks, and Morgan Hill have elected to remove their pool filling prohibitions because they are not supported by the facts, are highly discriminatory against one industry, and impose economic consequences that put people out of work. In every city our association has dealt with, research has determined that it takes less than two-hundredths of a single percent of the city's annual water usage to fill every new swimming pool permitted per year.

Independent studies have found that pools use much less water than traditional landscapes like lawns. This is true because pools typically only need to be filled once every 5-8 years and universally have a surrounding decking area that is typically 1.5 to 3 times the square footage of the pool. The decking area is composed of concrete or wood and no longer requires any water whatsoever. Additionally, the Santa Margarita Water District researched the water used by swimming pools and found that a pool with a cover saves more water than even drought resistant landscaping (please see attachments).

Please review the attached materials and consider rescinding the prohibition on filling swimming pools as it is unfair the only industry that would be put out of business under existing restrictions is the one that replaces a water-intensive landscape with a more water efficient swimming pool. A pool filling ban is a de facto ban on the industry as a new pool must be filled or it's shell can warp and face irreparable damage. Furthermore, an empty swimming pool is a serious safety hazard that can result in severe injury or death.

As partners with the Save our Water Campaign and educators of our own statewide campaign (Let's Pool Together) to promote water conservation and inform pool and spa owners of methods that will help them conserve even more water, we must oppose this moratorium as it is simply not supported by the facts. Thank you for your time and consideration and we look forward to hearing back from you.


N O R W O O D
A S S O C I A T E S

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California's Drought & Pool Industry 2015

Pool Industry Compared to Other Industries

Economic Sector	\$ (GSP 2001) / Acre Foot
Rice	\$58
Alfalfa	\$65
Cotton	\$252
Total Agriculture	\$893
Orchards	\$927
Vineyard	\$1,510
Fruits & Vegetables	\$3,585
Schools	\$36,378
Food Processing	\$88,784
Paper & Mills	\$124,045
Petroleum Refining	\$162,274
Total Commercial	\$547,153
Total Industrial	\$574,923
Swimming Pools	\$903,226
Hi-Tech	\$949,614

**Dollars of Gross State Product
(2001) per Acre-Foot of Water Used**

Economic Sector	Jobs / 1,000 Acre Foot
Rice	1
Cotton	3
Almond / Pistachio	6
Total Agriculture	12
Fruits & Vegetables	18
Vineyard	35
Petroleum Refining	195
Schools	1,000
Food Processing	1,081
Office Buildings	2,509
Semiconductors	9,013
Retail Stores	10,428
Swimming Pools	11,797

Actual Water Use of Average Pool

- Premise...Pools Replace Lawns
Average Pool Covers 1,200 Square Feet of Yard
(475 Square Feet (Pool) + 725 Square Feet of (Concrete))
- Year One Analysis of Water Use

Average Pool to Fill	18,000
Make-up Water	<u>14,000</u>
	32,000
- Water Used to Water
1,200 Square Foot Lawn 44,000
- Water Savings in Fill Year 12,000 Per Pool
- Water Savings Every Year
Thereafter 30,000 Per Pool

POOLS SAVE WATER

How big is your pool? - SQFT of Water	475
Shallow End Depth?	3.5
Deep End Depth?	6.5
How big is your patio? - SQFT of Decking	725
Annual Water Savings - Gallons	30,150
Pool Capacity - Gallons	17,813
Annual Water Savings - Gallons - Year of Fill	12,338

Yearly Savings

Total Savings

Year 1 - Fill Year	12,338	12,338
Year 2	30,150	42,488
Year 3	30,150	72,638
Year 4	30,150	102,788
Year 5	30,150	132,938
5 Year Water Savings		132,938

Santa Margarita Water District Data: Average Pool Installation

Enter data in shaded cells.

5	Enter Average depth of Pool (Feet)
480	Enter Pool area (Square Feet)
769	Enter area of hardscape and decking (Square Feet)
1,249	Area of traditional landscaping being removed or not installed due to pool install (Sq.Ft.)

17,952 Initial Pool Fill Volume (Gallons)

14,952 Annual Pool Water Use without Cover (Gallons)

8,971 Annual Pool Use with Cover (Gallons)

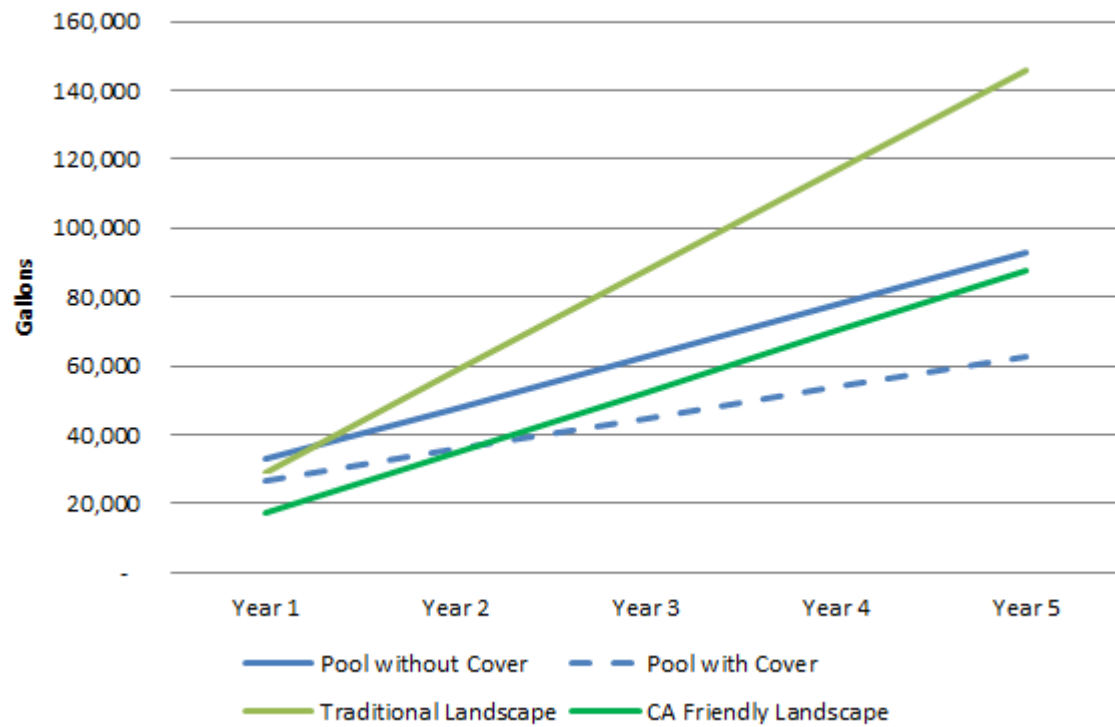
29,180 Annual Water Use of Efficient Landscape (Gallons)

17,508 Annual Water Use of CA Friendly Landscape (Gallons)

Cumulative Water Use Comparison (Gallons)

	Pool without Cover	Pool with Cover	Traditional Landscape	CA Friendly Landscape
Year 1	32,904	26,923	29,180	17,508
Year 2	47,856	35,894	58,360	35,016
Year 3	62,808	44,866	87,539	52,524
Year 4	77,760	53,837	116,719	70,031
Year 5	92,712	62,808	145,899	87,539
5 Year Water Cost	\$ 310	\$ 210	\$ 488	\$ 293

Water Use Comparison





California is now in the fourth year of a drought! Here are simple tips for pool, spa and hot tub owners to save water and money! As a residential swimming pool, spa or hot tub owner, you are already conserving water compared to what a conventional residential backyard uses. That's right! Swimming pools, spas and hot tubs use less water than the same square footage of a lawn, and if you add in the pool deck area that would otherwise be grass, the water saved is multiplied. In fact, swimming pools with covers use less water than even drought resistant landscaping!

But there is even more you can do to conserve water simply by following these easy tips.

If you own a pool or in-ground spa:

1. Install a pool cover to reduce water evaporation by as much as 90%.
2. Shut off waterfalls, fountains, and other water features to reduce water loss and evaporation.
3. Check the pool for leaks. Contact your pool service professional for guidance.
4. Minimize splashing or lower the pool's water level to reduce "splashout."
5. Plug the overflow line when the pool is in use.
6. Replace sand and DE filters with cartridge filters that do not require backwashing.
7. Keep your pool clean to reduce frequency of backwashing.
8. If your pool is heated, reduce the water temperature to reduce evaporation.

If you own a hot tub or spa:

1. Keep it covered.
2. Maintain the chemicals to extend water life.
3. Check the equipment for leaks.
4. Drain only when absolutely necessary.
5. Check with your pool service professional for new technology that helps keep the water clean and reduce the need to drain the spa.
6. If you drain your spa, reuse the water to irrigate plants and landscaping.



For more info, visit www.theCPSA.org

Frequently Asked Questions

How many pools are there in California?

There are more than 1.2 million residential pools and 46,000 commercial pools, which includes hotels, apartments and municipal pools.

How many pools are constructed each year in California?

There were approximately 12,600 new residential pools constructed in California in 2013. Approximately 698 acre-feet of water were used to fill all of the pools built in 2013.

Why is the pool and spa industry important for our states's economy?

From the tens of thousands of small business owners and employees to the millions of dollars in economic output, the pool and spa industry helps keep California solvent.

Doesn't it make sense to target the pool and spa industry during a drought?

The governor has made it very clear he does not want local agencies to pass drought restrictions that will solely impact one industry. Every industry should be working together to save water during the drought. When water districts propose regulations affecting just pool and spa owners and builders, they are promoting a policy that will adversely affect just one industry. From builders to suppliers to maintenance workers, the pool and spa industry is composed of local small, often minority-owned, businesses. Imposing such industry-specific regulations will put hundreds of local workers out of business and mean less money for local governments that rely on money from building permits and tax revenues.

Does a pool or spa really save more water than a lawn?

Yes! A well-maintained pool or spa uses less water per day than an irrigated lawn. Since most pool designs include a footprint larger than just the pool itself, wooden or concrete decking replaces even more traditional, water-intensive landscaping. In fact, according to a study done by the Santa Margarita Water District, a 1,200 sq. ft. pool installation uses about the same amount of water as California-friendly, drought-resistant landscaping in the year after the pool has been constructed.

In the first year of pool construction, a new pool requires less water than a traditional lawn. On average, water use, including filling a new 1,200 square-foot pool after it's installed is 32,000 gallons. A 1,200 square-foot lawn uses approximately 44,000 gallons per year.

(more on reverse side)



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Will a ban on constructing new pools really hurt the economy?

Yes. The pool and spa industry generates more than \$5 billion in economic activity every year. In 2013, the California pool and spa industry contributed:

- \$555 million in sales revenue from the installation and construction of all in-ground swimming pools in California.
- \$918 million from retail/accessory purchases for all pools, which can include associated equipment and chemical purchases.
- \$758 million from maintenance and/or recurring pool services for residential and commercial pools.
- \$205,226 in state sales tax for every acre-foot of water used by the pool and spa industry.

How many jobs does the pool and spa industry provide?

In 2013 alone, more than 54,800 Californians were employed by the pool and spa industry. The pool and spa industry generates 11,700 jobs per 1,000 acre-feet of water it uses. That is considerably higher than other industries, like agriculture, which only produces 12 jobs per 1,000 acre-feet.

What can pool and spa owners do to save water during the drought?

Pool and spa owners should visit www.letspooltogether.com to learn more about tips on how to save water during the drought. Some simple tips include:

- Using a pool cover, which decreases evaporation by 90 percent and makes a pool and decking as efficient as drought-resistant landscaping.
- Making this a “splashless” summer since splashing accounts for considerable water loss.
- Lowering your pool’s water level to limit water displacement.



For more info, visit www.theCPSA.org



EXPLORE
Planet Earth

Splash Down

More than one million swimming pools gleam from California's backyards. With the state in its fourth year of drought, these residential oases have become a target of local water restrictions. Yet pools can waste less water than traditional lawns, research has shown.

"The big thing with a pool is that you fill it once," says Jonathan Volzke, spokesperson for the Santa Margarita Water District in Orange County, which rolled back its pool prohibitions after analyzing water usage. Pools are also usually surrounded by decks, which means an area up to three times the size of the pool no longer requires any water at all. Add a cover to prevent evaporation, and a pool can use even less water over time than drought-tolerant landscaping. — Rachel Hartigan Shea

PHOTO: DAMION BERGER

Santa Margarita Water District Data: Average Pool Installation

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