

Water rationing is a reality

The last time that Manhattan Beach rationed water it was a calamity! They so wisely took the amount that we had used in a certain month and dictated a 20 percent reduction in use. Sounds sensible at first glance but it wasn't.

For example, as a native Californian, I have never wasted water. My grandfather, in the 1950s, drummed into me that water was sometimes not a renewable resource, as California was basically a desert, and it cost money that could be used elsewhere. I have drought-resistant plants, many in pots; I sweep my backyard, I do not use my toilet as a garbage can, I have no sprinklers - in short, I do everything that your article says that saves water. I even use water left in a drinking glass to water a plant.

One of my neighbors, on the other hand, washes his car, rain or shine, every day, flooding the alley, and waters the sidewalk in front of his house. It was no problem for him, but I was penalized for being water-wise. **The only answers that I have for this problem is to price the water higher to encourage conservation, charge much higher rates for massive users and stop all this runaway development.**

Do we really need another mall or condo project?

- MICHELE COLMAN

Manhattan Beach