



Water-Efficient Guidelines for Cleaning Sidewalks and Hardscapes

Outdoor Water Use Restrictions Are In Effect for San Francisco

In accordance with statewide drought measures, the SFPUC is asking all customers to reduce water use and avoid water waste from:

- Watering outdoor landscapes in a manner that causes runoff to sidewalks, streets, and hardscapes;
- Using a hose, without a shut-off nozzle, for any purpose;
- Using drinking water in non-recirculating fountains or decorative water devices; and
- Washing driveways and sidewalks for purposes other than immediate health and safety needs.

All hoses must be fitted with an automatic shut-off nozzle or other water-efficient device and any washing to address immediate health and safety needs should be done as water-efficiently as possible, without causing runoff into the street, catch basins, or storm drains. The responsible account holder for sites not complying with the above restrictions may be subject to warnings, visits, and further action by the SFPUC.

Tips for Water-Efficient Sidewalk Cleaning

- Commercial business should discuss water conservation goals with vendors and employees. Require that all maintenance staff use water-efficient practices.
- Pick up or sweep away debris and dispose of it in trash bins.
- Use a broom or other non-water using means for routine maintenance.
- Use water sparingly to spot wash areas where substances have accumulated and where needed to address immediate health and safety situations. The most efficient methods of cleaning include using a wet mop, a bucket and scrub brush, or a pressure washer with a maximum flow rate of 1.6 gallons per minute. If a hose is used, it must be equipped with an automatic shutoff nozzle.
- Do not run water continuously. Avoid runoff into to the storm drain, street or neighboring properties.
- Use liners in compost and trash bins to avoid hosing down with water, causing runoff into the street.

Additional resources are available at www.sfwater.org/conservation or call (415) 551-4730.

- Water Conservation Checklists and Tips
- Restaurant Signage - Tap water served upon request
- California Outdoor Water Use Restrictions Frequently Asked Questions