



Permanent Special Agricultural Water Rate (PSAWR) FAQ

What is the PSAWR program?

The Permanent Special Agricultural Water Rate is a pass-thru rate from the region's wholesale supplier, the San Diego County Water Authority. This program provides a discount to agricultural customers in exchange for reduced reliability in times of emergency operations or drought. Customers do not pay for the class of water that includes costs for storage and supply reliability (i.e. carryover/emergency storage, QSA supplies, and seawater desalination supplies). In the event the region's water agencies issue allocations due to drought or emergency, PSAWR customers will be asked to reduce the amount used accordingly.

How much does the water cost?

The PSAWR rate will be \$5.09 per HCF (748 gallons)

Is the agricultural rate beneficial to me as a rate payer?

Customers will have to evaluate their water use and business costs to determine if the PSAWR rate is beneficial to them. Customers can view their historical water use by logging onto the customer portal available at sfidwater.org.

How do I enroll?

Fill out the two applications, pay the application fee and staff will confirm your enrollment via email.

I have a dedicated irrigation meter. Does this change my rate?

No. Customers currently on a dedicated irrigation meter will have an option to transition to the PSAWR program. If customers wish to switch, they have to fill out the applications, and pay the \$34 application fee. If customers do not want to enroll in the PSAWR program, they will stay in the Commercial Agriculture Program.

What if I am on a residential meter?

Agricultural customers on a residential meter will be charged the first 44 HCF to the residential rate per billing cycle (bi-monthly). All water used after 44 HCF will be charged the agricultural rate.

What if the region goes into allocations?

In the event wholesale suppliers go into supply allocations, regional and local water agencies will determine the cutbacks necessary. Customers will be contacted about their supply cuts and a timeline for those cuts to go into effect.

How much will my water be cut back?

Allocations will vary depending upon supply conditions by the region's wholesale suppliers, The San Diego County Water Authority and Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

Is there a penalty for using more water than my allocation?

In the event a customer is asked to cutback due to allocations, and they do not meet the required water use reduction, they will be charged the residential rate.

How do I unenroll from the program?

Contact SFID staff to request to unenroll from the program. An email documenting the request will need to be sent to staff and verified before the customer is removed from the program.

Can I re-enroll in the program if I change my mind?

Once leaving the program, customers cannot re-enroll unless the property is sold to a new owner.

How is water quality affected?

PSWAR program water is the same high-quality water all customers at SFID enjoy on a daily basis.

I have additional questions, who do I ask?

Feel free to email questions to customerservice@sfidwater.org