

Water Budgets 101



What are Water Budgets?

A water budget is a monthly amount of water allocated to you for efficient indoor and outdoor uses at your property. Just as you budget your finances, a water budget gives you a monthly target so you can be most efficient with the water that you use.

Block 1	Low Volume Discount (Indoor Water Budget)
Block 2	Conservation Base Rate (Outdoor Water Budget)
Block 3	Inefficient
Block 4	Excessive
Block 5	Wasteful

Water Buckets...

You can think of your water budget as buckets of water. The first bucket should be plenty for your efficient indoor use and costs the least. The second bucket should be plenty for your efficient outdoor use and costs slightly more. If you are not as efficient as you could be, you can buy another bucket, but it will cost you more. If there are holes in your bucket and you don't fix them, then you're wasting water and you will pay the most for that bucket.



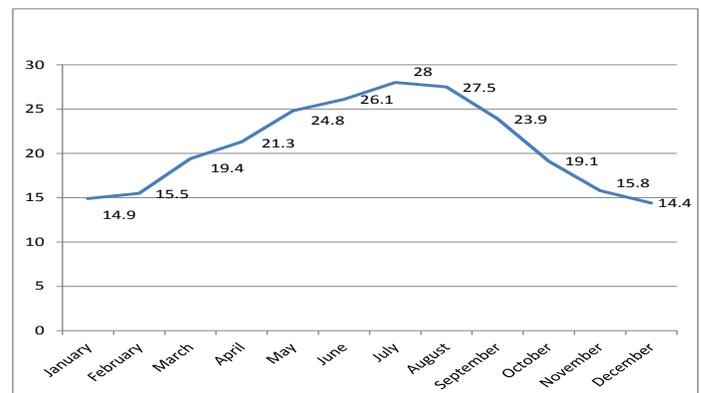
Why use Water Budgets?

Rate structures using water budgets are a very fair way to encourage efficient water use and discourage water waste. In simple terms, those who use water efficiently both indoors and outdoors -- those who stay within their budget -- will pay less than customers who are inefficient or wasteful.

How are Water Budget allocation determined?

EVMWD water budgets are based on a scientific formula that uses data from local weather stations to determine how much water plants need to survive in EVMWD's service area. Water budgets increase as the plant water needs increase. Therefore, in order to provide more flexibility for our customers, EVMWD is now using monthly water budgets to give each customer more water during the hottest part of the summer and during extraordinarily warm days in late spring and early fall.

Block 1 & 2 Monthly Water Budget Allocations



Example based on 30 day bills, and assumes 4 persons in the home and irrigated landscape size of 4,704 square feet.

How Do I Calculate my Monthly Bill?



The following examples are based on 30 day bills, and assumes 4 persons in the home and irrigated landscape size of 4,704 sq. ft. Water budgets are calculated daily so no matter how many days there are in a billing period, customers will benefit from a water budget based on the actual number of days billed. Please note, the outdoor budget is in addition to the indoor water budget.

Calculating Block 1- Low Volume Discount

Formula:

$$\# \text{ of persons in home [defaulted to 4]} \times 60 \text{ gallons per day (GPD)} = \text{Block 1 Daily Budget}$$

Example:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Persons} \times 60 \text{ GPD} &= 240 \text{ GPD} \\ 30 \text{ Billing Days} \times 240 \text{ GPD} &= 7,200 \text{ gallons} \\ 7,200 \text{ gallons} / 748 \text{ gallons or 1 CCF} &= 9.6 \text{ CCF or Block 1 Monthly Budget} \end{aligned}$$

**The EVMWD billing unit is per CCF*

Calculating Block 2- Conservation Base Rate

Determined by a formula that includes the amount of water various types of landscape plants need to survive, square feet of your property's irrigated area and the typical weather for the time of the year.

Formula:

$$\frac{(\text{Monthly ETo}^* \times (.60)\text{Landscape Needs Factor}^{**})}{\text{Gallon Conversion Factor}} \times \text{Area (sq. ft.) of Landscape (located on your bill)} = \text{X gallons}$$

$$\frac{\text{X gallons}}{\text{Conversion from gallons to CCF (748)}} = \text{CCF- Block 2 Monthly Budget}$$

Example for month of July:

$$\begin{aligned} [7.82 \times .60 / 1.6043] \times 4,704 \text{ sq. ft.} &= 13,757.51 \text{ gallons} \\ 13,757.51 \text{ gallons} / 748 &= 18.4 \text{ CCF} \end{aligned}$$

*ETo (Evapotranspiration Rate): The amount of water used by various plants that is evaporated into the air. Below is a graph of your Monthly ETo.

January	2.25	May	6.47	September	6.08
February	2.50	June	7.00	October	4.04
March	4.15	July	7.82	November	2.64
April	4.98	August	7.60	December	2.02

**Landscape Needs Factor: A percentage that incorporates the type of plant or ground coverage and their associated irrigation efficiency. EVMWD uses a factor of 60% which assumes a mix of high and low water using landscaping and an irrigation system with average efficiency.