



Office of Water Use
Efficiency and Transfers

www.owue.water.ca.gov

Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance

Landscape Graphic Courtesy of
Sonoma County Water Agency,
Ali Davidson Landscape Architect
David Bunnett Illustrator

AB 1881

Water Conservation in Landscaping Act

Office of Water Use Efficiency &
Transfers
Department of Water Resources



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- ❑ This is not a public hearing even though we are in the public comment period.
 - ❑ Discussions during this meeting are not public record.
 - ❑ DWR may make some part of the discussion as “materials relied upon”.
 - ❑ To have comments part of the rule making they must be submitted in writing as specified in the Notice of Rule Making released November 26, 2008 and are due December 30, 2008.
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Background

1990 – AB 325 Water Conservation in Landscaping Act required DWR develop to a Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance.

1993 – Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (Ordinance) took effect January 1, 1993.

2004 – AB 2717 Landscape Task Force convened and developed 43 recommendations.

2005 – “Water Smart Landscapes for California” report released from Landscape Task Force

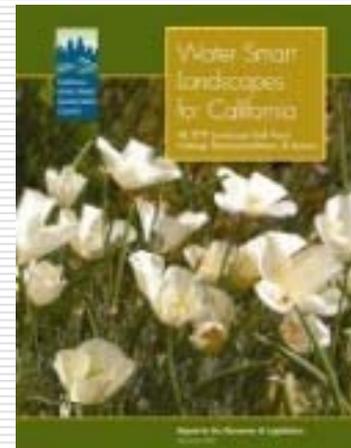
2006 – AB 1881 Water Conservation in Landscaping Act directed DWR to update the Ordinance

AB 2717



AB 2717 directed the California Urban Water Conservation Council (CUWCC) to **convene a stakeholder group** develop, evaluate and recommend proposals for improving the efficiency of water use in new and existing urban irrigated landscapes in California.

The Landscape Task Force released their **final report** of recommendations entitled "Water Smart Landscapes for California" on December 1, 2005.



AB 1881

AB 1881 directs DWR to:

- Update the model water efficient landscape ordinance
- Report statewide compliance of existing ordinance (AB 325)
- Recommend a new ET adjustment factor

Key Deliverables

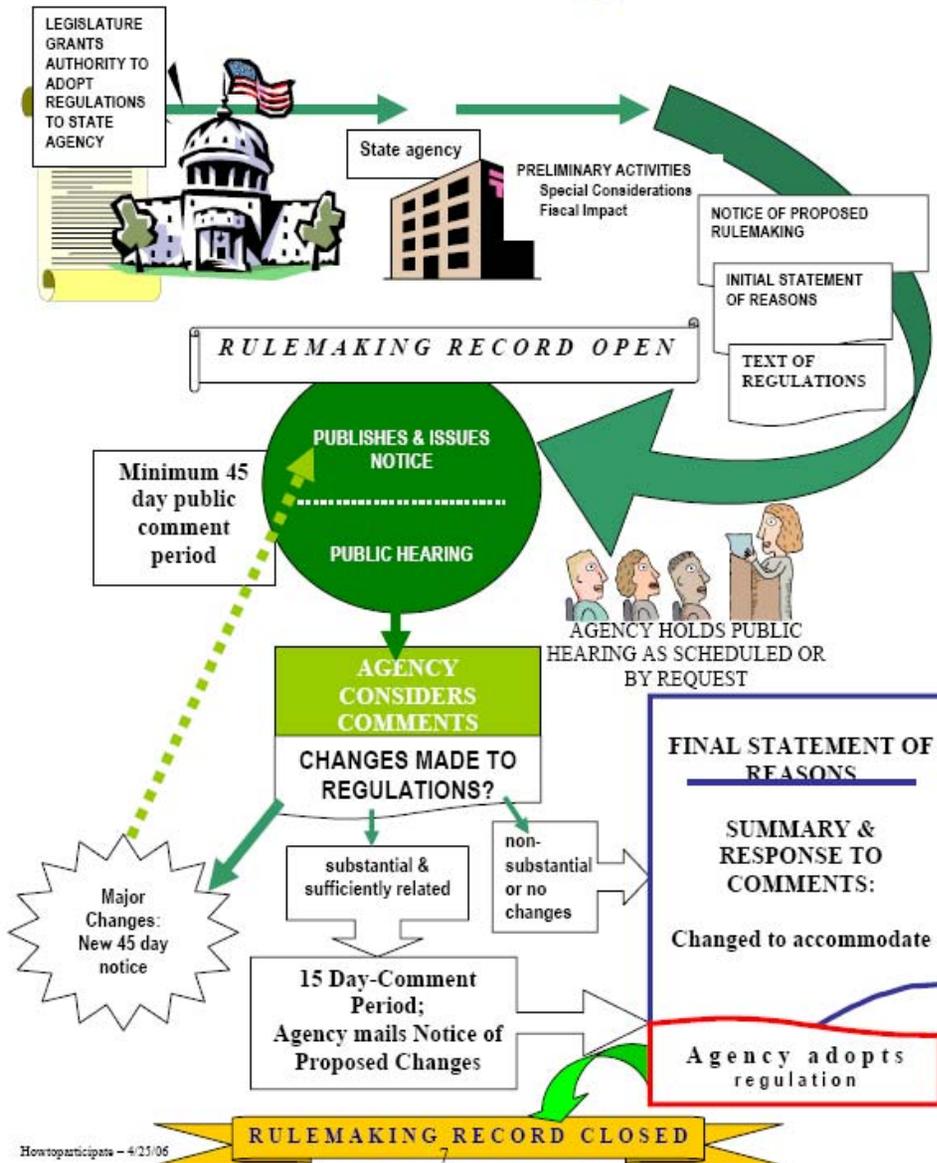
Required by AB 1881:

- **January 1, 2009** – DWR shall adopt the updated Model Ordinance.
- **January 31, 2009** – DWR shall distribute the updated Model Ordinance.
- **January 1, 2010** - Local agencies shall adopt the Model Ordinance or one that is “at least as effective as.”
- **January 31, 2011** - DWR shall submit a report to legislature on the status of adopted ordinances by local agencies.

Other related items:

- **2008** – Water purveyors will be required to separate landscape water meters for new development with landscaped area greater than 5,000 square feet; excluding single-family homes.
- **2010** – CEC is directed to adopt performance standards and labeling requirements for landscape irrigation controllers and moisture sensors.
- **2012** – Sale or installation of irrigation controllers or moisture sensors will be prohibited unless the equipment meets the requirements adopted by CEC.

The Rulemaking Process



Public Comments

- DWR must summarize and respond on the record.
 - Substantial and sufficiently related changes
 - notices will be made to participants and posted to OWUET website
 - available for public comment for 15 days.
 - Comments and responses will be summarized in “Final Statement of Reasons”.
 - Final documents submitted to OAL and posted to OWUET Website.
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Updated Draft Changes Include;

- ❑ Simpler, Shorter, Smarter Version
 - ❑ A Drop In Regulation
 - ❑ Flexible; adaptable to the many varied regions of the State
 - ❑ Include Provisions of Statute AB 1881
 - ❑ Recommendations of Landscape Task Force
 - ❑ Public Comments
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Modified Text of Proposed ~~Regulations Formatting~~

- ❑ Original document had existing language from the original MO in standard font and new language in italicized font and deleted text with single line strike out.
 - ❑ Modified Text has double strike out for deleted text and double underline for new text.
 - ❑ These are requirements of the OAL and APA.
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Looking Forward

- Review comments and respond
 - Update MO
 - Possibly another public comment period
 - Submit Final Statement of Reason to OAL
 - Adopt
 - Begin Outreach
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