

Non-Drinking Uses for Recycled Water Allowed¹ in California

Use of Recycled Water	Treatment Level			
	Disinfected Tertiary Recycled Water	Disinfected Secondary – 2.2 Recycled Water	Disinfected Secondary – 23 Recycled Water	Undisinfected Secondary Recycled Water
<i>Irrigation of:</i>				
Food crops where recycled water contacts the edible portion of the crop, including all root crops	Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed
Parks and playgrounds	Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed
School yards	Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed
Residential landscaping	Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed
Unrestricted-access golf courses	Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed
Any other irrigation uses not prohibited by other provisions of the California Code of Regulations	Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed
Food crops, surface-irrigated, above-ground edible portion, and not contacted by recycled water	Allowed	Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed
Cemeteries	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Not Allowed
Freeway landscaping	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Not Allowed
Restricted-access golf courses	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Not Allowed
Ornamental nursery stock and sod farms with unrestricted public access	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Not Allowed
Pasture for milk animals for human consumption	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Not Allowed
Non-edible vegetation with access control to prevent use as a park, playground or school yard	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Not Allowed
Orchards with no contact between edible portion and recycled water	Allowed	Allowed	Not Allowed ²	Not Allowed ²
Vineyards with no contact between edible portion and recycled water	Allowed	Allowed	Not Allowed ²	Not Allowed ²
Non food-bearing trees, including Christmas trees not irrigated less than 14 days before harvest	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed
Fodder and fiber crops and pasture for animals not producing milk for human consumption	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed
Seed crops not eaten by humans	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed
Food crops undergoing commercial pathogen-destroying processing before consumption by humans	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed
Ornamental nursery stock, sod farms not irrigated less than 14 day before harvest	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed
<i>Supply for impoundment:</i>				
Non-restricted recreational impoundments, with supplemental monitoring for pathogenic organisms	Allowed ³	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed
Restricted recreational impoundments and publicly-accessible fish hatcheries	Allowed	Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed
Landscape impoundments without decorative fountains	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Not Allowed
<i>Supply for cooling or air conditioning:</i>				
Industrial or commercial cooling or air conditioning involving cooling tower, evaporative condenser, or spraying that creates a mist	Allowed ⁴	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed
Industrial or commercial cooling or air conditioning not involving cooling tower, evaporative condenser, or spraying that creates a mist	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Not Allowed

Recycled Water Uses Allowed¹ in California

(continued)

Use of Recycled Water	Treatment Level			
	Disinfected Tertiary Recycled Water	Disinfected Secondary – 2.2 Recycled Water	Disinfected Secondary – 23 Recycled Water	Undisinfected Secondary Recycled Water
<i>Other uses:</i>				
Groundwater recharge	Allowed under special case-by-case permits by RWQCBs ⁵			
Flushing toilets and urinals	Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed
Priming drain traps	Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed
Industrial process water that may contact workers	Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed
Structural fire fighting	Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed
Decorative fountains	Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed
Commercial laundries	Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed
Consolidation of backfill material around potable water pipelines	Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed
Artificial snow making for commercial outdoor uses	Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed
Commercial car washes, not heating the water, excluding the general public from washing process	Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed
Industrial process water that will not come into contact with workers	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Not Allowed
Industrial boiler feedwater	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Not Allowed
Non-structural fire fighting	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Not Allowed
Backfill consolidation around non-potable piping	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Not Allowed
Soil compaction	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Not Allowed
Mixing concrete	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Not Allowed
Dust control on roads and streets	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Not Allowed
Cleaning roads, sidewalks, and outdoor work areas	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Not Allowed
Flushing sanitary sewers	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed

This summary is prepared from the December 2, 2000-adopted Title 22 Water Recycling Criteria and supersedes all earlier versions. Prepared by Bahman Sheikh and edited by EBMUD Office of Water Recycling, who acknowledge this is a summary and not the formal version of the regulations referenced above.

¹ Refer to the full text of the December 2, 2000 version of Title 22: California Code of Regulations, Chapter 3 Water Recycling Criteria. This chart is only an informal summary of the uses allowed in this version, with the exception of orchards and vineyards noted as "Not Allowed²" on page 1 and explained below.

² Per California Department of Public Health letter of January 8, 2003 to California Regional Water Quality Control Boards.

³ Allowed with "conventional tertiary treatment." Additional monitoring for two years or more is necessary with direct filtration.

⁴ Drift eliminators and/or biocides are required if public or employees can be exposed to mist.

⁵ Refer to Groundwater Recharge Guidelines, available from the California Department of Public Health.