Calif. moves to end unprecedented water restrictions

By Kurtis Alexander, San Francisco Chronicle

A greener yard and a more leisurely shower just might be in your future.

State officials, in a policy shift that reflects California's easing drought conditions, decided Wednesday to scrap the emergency conservation mandates that have forced cities and towns to cut water use as much as 36 percent, often by hitting residents with unprecedented restrictions and fines.

Instead, the State Water Resources Control Board will allow urban water providers to set their own water-reduction targets based on their own customers' wants and needs.

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