

Outdoor Watering Ban Update July 6, 2021

The City of Minnetrista would like to thank Minnetrista residents for their cooperation with the outdoor watering ban! With your help, we have been able to stabilize the water tower levels and keep an adequate amount in the towers to maintain water levels for fire protection and avoid a drinking water advisory.

As of July 6, 2021, **the outdoor watering ban is still in place**. The Public Works department is monitoring the water tower levels and precipitation over the next week.



Did you know?

- Water distribution systems and water treatment plants must be built 3-4 times larger in capacity due to the increased demand of summer lawn irrigation.
- Minnetrista water towers are full when the water levels are at 38 feet.
- A minimum of 20-22 feet is considered adequate water levels for fire protection for the city.
- To avoid a drinking water advisory, Minnesota Department of Health requires that the water level is at least 10 feet in the water tower. When the towers get below this threshold, the pressure decreases, and City water supply could be at risk of bacterial contamination.
- Typically, during this time of year, we see the minimal water levels hover around 22-23 feet during peak times. Peak times are generally before 9:00AM and after 5:00PM

How does an outdoor watering ban help?

- An outdoor watering ban significantly decreases the water demand, mostly from automatic irrigation systems. The outdoor watering ban allows the city to stabilize its water tower levels and water pressure to the home to avoid a drinking water advisory.
- Prior to the emergency outdoor watering ban, the City was seeing water tower levels drop to 11 feet due to drought-like weather conditions and increase in outdoor watering.
- As of July 6, 2021, with the current water ban, we are seeing the levels stabilize around 30 feet.
- Keep in mind, water is not an infinite resource, for tips on watering wisely, visit <https://extension.umn.edu/how/water-wisely-start-your-own-backyard>

To receive updates about the outdoor watering ban, please sign up for the “Public Works” email alert newsletter here: www.cityofminnetrista.com/newsletters.