



EMERGENCY OUTDOOR WATER BAN FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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1. When did the outdoor water ban take effect?

The outdoor water ban is effective as of June 8, 2021 until further notice.

2. What is the purpose of the outdoor watering ban?

Because of the unusually hot weather over the past week, we have seen a large increase in water demand and usage, primarily from home irrigation systems. The City is prioritizing public safety to ensure there is adequate water in our water towers for the fire department to be able to fight fires. Imposing the outdoor watering ban maintains water levels in our water towers for fire protection.

3. What activities are included in the outdoor watering ban?

This outdoor watering ban prohibits all outdoor watering by mechanical or automatic means. It also includes all non-essential water use, including but not limited to, watering lawns, washing vehicles, power washing of homes, filling pools, etc. The use of sprinklers, irrigation systems or any other device that operates automatically is prohibited. This does not include the hand watering of small gardens, flowers, and shrubbery by means of a handheld hose on the odd/even schedule.

When there isn't an outdoor watering ban, residents are not allowed to irrigate using the public water supply between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. on any day of the week from May 1st until September 30th. The City has odd/even watering regulations unless written permission to irrigate during the restricted days is obtained from the City.

4. What activities are not included in the outdoor watering ban?

Residents may water small plants, gardens, shrubbery, and bushes by means of a handheld hose. The outdoor watering ban is aimed at decreasing the amount of water usage from irrigation purposes.

5. Can I water my new seed or sod?

Properties that have new sod or seed must obtain permission from the City for irrigation during the emergency outdoor water ban period. To obtain a watering permit, please call the Police Department at 952-446-1131.

6. I have a private well, am I included in this ban?

Properties using private wells are excluded from this ban.

7. What is the penalty for violating the emergency outdoor water ban?

Per City Code Section 700.33(6), any person violating the provision of this section will be guilty of a misdemeanor and a fine may be imposed.

8. How long will the ban be in effect?

The ban is largely weather dependent, and the Public Works Department is continuously evaluating the water tower levels. The city will communicate when the levels are adequate for fire protection and the ban can be lifted.