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Department of Public Works



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## **Outdoor Water Use Information**

The Georgia Water Stewardship Act went into effect statewide on June 2, 2010. It allows daily outdoor watering for purposes of planting, growing, managing, or maintaining ground cover, trees, shrubs, or other plants only between the hours of 4 P.M. and 10 A.M. by anyone whose water is supplied by a water system permitted by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division.

The National Weather Service is predicting above average temperatures and below average rainfall for Georgia for the months of July, August and September. The City of Perry's water supply is comprised of deep water wells and does not have any large water storage reservoirs. The City is 100% dependent on local water supplies which are directly impacted by the cumulative lack of rainfall.

The City has developed a Drought Contingency Plan which will be used to determine drought severity based on water levels in the main production well, Highway 341 North Well, which is monitored on a daily basis. In order to insure that there is a sufficient amount of water available for essential uses and to minimize the adverse impacts of potential water supply shortages and other water supply emergency conditions, the City is asking that our customers continue to follow the State mandated outdoor watering schedule.

The following outdoor water uses are also allowed daily at any time of the day by anyone:

- Commercial agricultural operations as defined in Code Section 1-3-3;
- Capture and reuse of cooling system condensate or storm water in compliance with applicable local ordinances and state guidelines;
- Reuse of gray water in compliance with Code Section 31-3-5.2 and applicable local board of health regulations adopted pursuant thereto;
- Use of reclaimed waste water by a designated user from a system permitted by the Environmental Protection Division of the department to provide reclaimed waste water;
- Irrigation of personal food gardens;
- Irrigation of new and replanted plant, seed, or turf in landscapes, golf courses, or sports turf fields during installation and for a period of 30 days immediately following the date of installation;
- Drip irrigation or irrigation using soaker hoses;
- Handwatering with a hose with automatic cutoff or handheld container;
- Use of water withdrawn from private water wells or surface water by an owner or operator of property if such well or surface water is on said property;
- Irrigation of horticultural crops held for sale, resale, or installation;
- Irrigation of athletic fields, golf courses, or public turf grass recreational areas;
- Installation, maintenance, or calibration of irrigation systems; or
- Hydroseeding.

Should you need additional information, please do not hesitate to call (478) 988-2777.

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