

Water Conservation Tips

Outdoor

- ◆ Spot watering. Drier areas require more water than areas where water settles. If necessary, water dry areas by hand.
- ◆ Water the lawn only when needed. Step on the grass; if it springs back up when you move your foot, it does not need water.
- ◆ Don't water the pavement. Position sprinklers so that water lands on the lawn or garden, and not in areas where it is not needed.
- ◆ Keep lawn free of weeds. Weeds are water thieves and will rob your plants of water and nutrients.
- ◆ Accept a less than lush lawn. Grass will naturally go dormant during periods of drought, but will readily regenerate when water becomes available.
- ◆ Mow higher than normal. Longer leaf surfaces promote deeper rooting and shade the root zone.
- ◆ Use a broom or blower to clean the driveway and sidewalk. Sweeping the driveway and sidewalk will get them clean enough without wasting gallons of water cleaning them with the water hose.
- ◆ Use shut-off nozzles on hoses. Shut-off nozzles completely turn off the water when you are not using it. This will also help while washing the car.

Indoor

- ◆ Repair dripping faucets and leaky toilets. Dripping faucets can waste about 2,000 gallons of water each year. Leaky toilets can waste as much as 200 gallons each day.
- ◆ When washing dishes by hand, use two basins - one for washing and one for rinsing - rather than let the water run.
- ◆ Wait until you have a full load of laundry before running the machine to save both water and energy. If you can't wait for a full load, use the correct water level to match the size of the load.
- ◆ Install water saving shower heads. Low-flow showerheads deliver 2.5 gallons of water per minute or less, and they are relatively inexpensive. Older showerheads use 5 to 7 gallons per minute.
- ◆ Don't use the toilet as a wastebasket. Using a wastebasket instead of the toilet for tissues and other bits of trash will save gallons of water that are otherwise wasted.
- ◆ Turn off the water while shaving, brushing teeth, etc. Don't let the water run when you brush your teeth, wash your face or hands, or shave. This can save 3 to 7 gallons per minute.
- ◆ Fill your dishwasher. Your dishwasher uses the same amount of water whether it is full or just partially full of dishes.



**Macon Water
Authority**

Consumer's Guide to Watering Restrictions

*What you need to know to
navigate the state of
Georgia's Watering Restrictions.*

Watering Restrictions: Compliance at MWA

The State of Georgia - through the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Divisions (EPD) - has developed statewide restrictions regarding water use. These restrictions will be enforced by the Macon Water Authority as part of our overall effort to promote water conservation and drought management in the area. The restrictions apply to non-drought periods as follows:

1. Odd-numbered addresses may water only on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays (no hourly limits).
2. Even-numbered or unnumbered addresses may water only on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays (no hourly limits).
3. No watering is to take place on Fridays.

When the the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) or MWA declares a drought level, the restrictions will be modified as follows:



- ◆ Level One – Outdoor use may occur on the scheduled days within the hours of midnight and 10:00 a.m. and from 4:00 p.m. to midnight.
 - ✿ Scheduled days for odd-numbered addresses are Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays.
 - ✿ Scheduled days for even-numbered addresses are Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays.
 - ✿ Use of hydrants for any purpose other than firefighting, public health, safety or flushing is prohibited.

- ◆ Level Two – Outdoor water use may occur on scheduled days within the hours of 12:00 midnight to 10:00 a.m.
 - ✿ Scheduled days for odd-numbered addresses are Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays.
 - ✿ Scheduled days for even-numbered addresses and golf course fairways are Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays.
 - ✿ The following uses are prohibited:
 1. Using hydrants for any purpose other than firefighting, public health, safety or flushing.
 2. Washing hard surfaces, such as streets, gutters, sidewalks and driveways, except when necessary for public health and safety.

- ◆ Level Three – Outdoor water use may occur on the scheduled day within the hours of 12:00 midnight to 10:00 a.m.
 - ✿ The scheduled day for odd-numbered addresses is Sunday.
 - ✿ The scheduled day for even-numbered addresses and golf course fairways is Saturday.
 - ✿ The following uses are prohibited:
 1. Using hydrants for any purpose other than firefighting, public health, safety or flushing.



Outdoor watering restrictions and additional water conservation methods help to protect both water quantity and water quality in Georgia rivers such as the Ocmulgee (above), where the MWA receives its raw water for drinking water production.

2. Washing hard surfaces, such as streets, gutters, sidewalks and driveways, except when necessary for public health and safety.
3. Filling installed swimming pools, except when necessary for health care or structural integrity.
4. Washing vehicles, such as cars, boats, trailers, motorbikes, airplanes, golf carts, etc.
5. Washing buildings or structures, except for immediate fire protection.
6. Non-commercial fund-raisers, such as car washes.
7. Using water for ornamental purposes, such as fountains, reflecting pools and waterfalls, except when necessary to support aquatic life.

- ◆ Level Four – No outdoor water use is allowed, other than for activities specified by the Macon Water Authority or by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD).