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Town of Greenwich
101 Field Point Road
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Office of the First Selectman Town of Greenwich

Press Release



Water Irrigation Focus of New Water Restriction Order

The Town of Greenwich Board of Selectmen, at their March 9, 2017 meeting, adopted new water restrictions that focus on restricting water use for outdoor irrigation and are in keeping with the Emergency Water Supply Order recently issued by the CT Department of Public Health. The new restrictions recognize that reservoir levels are improving but are still below average. Precipitation over the past 90 days has resulted in the Greenwich reservoir system reaching 73% full as of February 22, 2017. Average is normally around 88% at this time of year.

The new restrictions ban the use of automatic irrigation and sprinkler irrigation systems. Drip irrigation, soaker hoses, and hand held hoses are exempt from the ban. Additionally, golf courses are banned from watering fairways but are allowed to water tees and greens. Previously banned outdoor uses such as car washing and power washing is now allowed, however residents should still be reducing overall water use, both indoor and out, by 20%. Water restrictions are effective immediately and apply town-wide including residents and businesses that are served by private wells.

"Residents are reminded that we are still in a water supply emergency and we will need at least average rainfall this spring to fully recover from the drought" said First Selectman Peter Tesei. "Greenwich residents were able to reduce average demand on our water resources over the winter and I applaud their efforts. It has made a real difference during this emergency. All residents need to continue to practice good water conservation and reduce water usage by 20% to ensure that reservoirs and wells to recover for the spring."

“During this water supply emergency, we are still restricting the drilling of new wells for irrigation and the withdrawal of water by truck from surface supplies.” stated Caroline Baisley, Director Health. “We need residents to understand that there is a connection between surface and groundwater. Our restrictions are set up to protect the overall health and resiliency of our water supply.”

“The Town is actively monitoring drought conditions looking at rainfall data, stream flow and ground water conditions, and reservoir levels, and all indicate that our water resources are still stressed,” said Conservation Director Denise Savageau. “We have a deficit of over 14” of rainfall for the past 365 days and are entering the third year of a drought. We really need several months of above average precipitation to get us out drought conditions, refill our reservoirs and recharge the groundwater.”

Savageau heads up the Greenwich Water Supply Team that includes Fire Chief Peter Siecienski, Director of Health Caroline Baisley, Emergency Management Director Dan Warzoha, and the First Selectman. The team monitors water supplies throughout the year not only for drinking water but also looking at fire safety and stream flow.

To get a 20% reduction in indoor and non-irrigation outdoor water use, residents are reminded to practice water conservation in their homes and businesses by following these simple tips:

- Check and fix for water leaks, especially in the bathroom.
- Flush toilets only when necessary.
- Don't use the toilet as a wastebasket.
- Take shorter showers, don't use bathtubs unless necessary and then fill bathtubs only half-way.
- Don't let the water run while brushing teeth, shaving, washing your hands, or doing dishes.
- Keep a bottle or pitcher of drinking water in the refrigerator.
- Wash only full loads in the washing machine or dishwasher.
- Replace older plumbing with low flow toilets and showerheads.
- Sweep the drive way, do not flush with hose
- Use bucket when washing car, don't keep hose running
- Do not overwater outdoor plants

Information on the Water Supply Emergency can be found on the following websites:

For Town of Greenwich restrictions:

<http://www.greenwichct.org/>

Click button on water restrictions.

For information on variances email:

Denise.savageau@greenwichct.org or

Aleksandra.Moch@greenwichct.org

For Update on Aquarion:

<http://www.aquarionwater.com/CT/emergency-update>

For Update on CT Water Status:

<http://www.ct.gov/waterstatus/site/default.asp>

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Town of Greenwich Water Supply Team Contacts:

Denise Savageau, Conservation Director – 622-6461 – lead contact

Peter Tesei, First Selectman – 622-7710

Caroline Baisley, Director of Health – 622-7836

Daniel Warzoha, Emergency Management Director – 622-2222

Peter Siecienski, Fire Chief – 622-3951

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PROOF OF PUBLICATION REQUIRED WITH BILLING STATEMENT

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
TOWN OF GREENWICH
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Notice of Mandatory Water Restrictions

In order to protect the drinking water supplies and provide for adequate fire protection, the following drought response measures were by adopted the Board of Selectmen at a special meeting held on March 9, 2017 and apply to all public and private water supplies including private wells, effective immediately. This is in accordance with Town Ordinances: Article 5 – Water Shortages.

1. Water Supply Emergency - effective immediately

1.1. Outdoor Water Irrigation Restrictions

- 1.1.1. Mandatory water ban on all outdoor irrigation by automatic irrigation systems and sprinkler type equipment.
- 1.1.2. Mandatory water ban on watering of fairways at golf courses. Courses must limit irrigation to tee areas and greens and be in compliance with their Drought Management Plans. All courses are required to maintain adequate levels in ponds registered with the fire department as fire ponds with the fire department. Voluntary maintenance of pond and other surface water levels are requested to ensure proper fire safety.

1.2. Exceptions to Outdoor Irrigation Restrictions

- 1.2.1. Use of drip irrigation, soaker hoses and watering by hand held hose is allowed.
- 1.2.2. Irrigation of nursery crops at commercial operations is allowed. Commercial operations should have a Water Conservation/Drought Management Plan.
- 1.2.3. Repairing or testing of new or existing automatic irrigation systems is allowed.
- 1.2.4. Trucking in water from outside is allowed provided that the water is obtained from an acceptable source that is not under drought advisory or restrictions and is independent of private wells and/or the public water supply system. A bill of sale showing origin of water is required.

- 1.3. No new water diversions or hookups are to be allowed to provide for outdoor or non-essential use. This includes the drilling of new irrigation wells, or diversions from ponds, streams or other surface waters. All residents are asked to maintain surface water levels for fire protection purposes.
- 1.4. In addition to mandatory requirements, all residents and businesses should practice water conservation and reduce water usage by 20%. This includes making sure that all plumbing and air conditioning systems that use water are in good repair with no leakage.
- 1.5. No drawing of water for transport by truck from any surface water supply except for emergency purposes as determined by the Director of Health and the Fire Chief.
- 1.6. The Fire Department will continue monitoring of public land for fire hazards and possible park closures.
- 1.7. Additional restrictions may be adopted as recommended by the Director of Health, Conservation Director, and the Fire Chief at any time.
- 1.8. Variances may be issued by the Conservation Director in consultation with the Director Health on a limited basis to protect the environment and ensure community resiliency.

Denise Savageau, Conservation Director
March 9, 2017

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Friday, April 28, 2017

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Thursday, April 27, 2017

PROOF OF PUBLICATION REQUIRED WITH BILLING STATEMENT

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
TOWN OF GREENWICH
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Notice of Mandatory Water Restrictions

In order to protect the drinking water supplies and provide for adequate fire protection, the following drought response measures are adopted by the Board of Selectmen at a meeting held on April 27, 2017 meeting and apply to all public and private water supplies including private wells, effective May 1, 2017. These restrictions replace those adopted on March 9, 2017 and recognizes both the improvement in water supply conditions and the need to move to water conservation measures aimed at avoiding another water supply emergency. This is in accordance with Town Ordinances: Article 5 – Water Shortages.

1. Water Supply Emergency – Phasing down

1.1. Outdoor Water Irrigation Restrictions

- 1.1.1. Mandatory water 2-day per week water restrictions on all outdoor irrigation by automatic irrigation systems and sprinkler type equipment unless otherwise noted below. No watering will be allowed when it is raining and automatic sprinklers must be set accordingly. The 2-day per week program will follow the same days as the Aquarion program.

If the last digit of your address number is 0, 2, 4, 6, 8 (even numbers) then you may only water on Sunday and Wednesday before 10 a.m. and after 6 p.m.

If the last digit of your address number is 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 (odd numbers) then you may only water on Saturday and Tuesday before 10 a.m. and after 6 p.m.

If there is no street address assigned to the property, then you may only water on Sunday and Wednesday before 10 a.m. and after 6 p.m.

1.2. Exceptions to Outdoor Irrigation Restrictions

- 1.2.1. Use of drip irrigation, soaker hoses and watering by hand held hose is allowed.
- 1.2.2. Irrigation of nursery crops at commercial operations is allowed. Commercial operations must develop Water Conservation/Drought Management Plan and have on file with the Town by July 1, 2017.
- 1.2.3. Repairing or testing of new or existing automatic irrigation systems is allowed.

1.3. Special conditions and Variances

- 1.3.1. Irrigation at golf courses and other recreational clubs will be handled as special conditions.

- 1.3.2. Irrigation of school athletic fields, used for active recreation purposes, will be handled as special conditions.
- 1.3.3. Variances may be issued by the Conservation Director in consultation with the Director Health on a limited basis to protect the environment and ensure community resiliency. The Town will recognize variances issued by Aquarion and coordinate all variances with them.
- 1.4. In addition to mandatory requirements, all residents and businesses should practice water conservation every day. This includes making sure that all plumbing and air conditioning systems that use water are in good repair with no leakage.
- 1.5. The Fire Department will continue monitoring of public land for fire hazards and possible park closures.
- 1.6. Additional restrictions may be adopted by the BOS as recommended by the Director of Health, Conservation Director, and the Fire Chief at any time.

Denise Savageau, Conservation Director
April 27, 2017

The Water Shortage Ordinance allows a fine to be imposed, with each water restriction violation deemed a separate violation.

For a list of water conservation changes implemented by the Town of Greenwich, visit the Town's website at www.greenwichct.org.

WATER CONSERVATION MEASURES

Bathroom

- Don't let the water run while shaving, brushing teeth, or washing hands.
- Take short showers instead of tub baths. Turn off water while soaping or shampooing.
- If tub must be used, close drain before turning on the water and fill only half full. Bathe small children together.

Kitchen and Laundry

- Keep drinking water in the refrigerator instead of letting faucet run until water is cool. Heat water on the stove instead of running from the faucet until hot.
- Wash fruits and vegetables in a basin.
- Do not use water to thaw frozen foods; thaw in the refrigerator overnight.
- Scrape, rather than rinse, dishes before loading dishwasher.
- Wash only full loads of laundry & dishes; use the short cycle.

Equipment—homes with high-efficiency plumbing fixtures and appliances save about 30% of indoor water use and yield substantial savings on water, sewer, and energy bills:

- Install low-flow faucet aerators and showerheads.
- Repair all leaks. A leaky toilet can waste 200 gallons of water a day.

- Consider purchasing a high efficiency washing machine which can save over 50% in water and energy use.

Outdoors

- Use mulch around shrubs and garden plants to reduce water evaporation.
- Raise your lawn mower height—longer grass blades help shade each other and reduce water evaporation.
- Minimize or eliminate fertilizing, which promotes new growth needing additional watering.

CONTACTS

Conservation Director: Denise Savageau
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Greenwich Police Dept. (non-emergency):
(203) 622-8006

*Remember:
Conserving water is
EVERYONE'S responsibility.*



Town of Greenwich
Departments of Health, Conservation, Fire,
and the Office of the First Selectman
101 Field Point Road
Greenwich, CT 06830

Town of Greenwich

PHASE 2 DROUGHT WATER USE RESTRICTIONS

October 2016



Town of Greenwich
Departments of Health, Conservation, Fire,
and the Office of the First Selectman

WATER SUPPLY EMERGENCY

The Town of Greenwich is experiencing a water supply emergency.

On October 6, 2016, the Greenwich Board of Selectmen unanimously approved the enactment of Phase 2 of the Town's Water Supply Emergency Ordinance. The following water restrictions are **MANDATORY** and apply to all residents served by Aquarion Water Company and private wells. Industrial and commercial businesses are also required to comply.

The complete list of restrictions can be found on the Town of Greenwich website at www.greenwichct.org.

WATER CONSERVATION PLANS

- All residents as well as all industrial and commercial businesses must immediately formulate and implement a water conservation plan that reduces water consumption by 20%. Plans for industry and businesses must be in writing and kept on the premises for possible inspection by town authorities.

OUTDOOR WATERING

- Mandatory ban of all outdoor watering unless necessary to sustain food crops or crops for harvest by commercial farms. Watering of new plantings is allowed by bucket or watering can.
- Water use for irrigation of existing lawns is prohibited. Variances for newly seeded lawns and plantings issued during Phase 1 restrictions are null and void.
- Variances may be granted by the Conservation Director for seeding (no sod) of bare soil to limit erosion.
- New planting and lawn seeding/sodding should be postponed.

- Watering of plants by plant nurseries and commercial growers is allowed to maintain inventory. However, a water conservation plan must demonstrate a 20% reduction in water use.

OTHER OUTDOOR WATER USE

- Water usage for private and/or public ornamental or decorative purposes such as fountains, waterfalls, reflecting pools, ponds, etc. is prohibited.
- Water usage to wash or clean motor vehicles or vessels is prohibited UNLESS done as a means of livelihood at a commercial facility with a recycling system in place. In the absence of a recycling system, the Conservation Director must be contacted.
- Boats being removed from the water for the winter season may use hand held hose or bucket to clean bottom.
- Water usage to flush driveways, sidewalks, decks or other outdoor surfaces is prohibited.
- Water usage to clean outsides of buildings (power washing) may be allowed if the activity is a commercial business. A variance must be filed with the Conservation Director.
- Water usage to clean windows can only be done by exclusively from a bucket or container of 3 gallons capacity or less.
- New water diversions or hookups are not allowed for outdoor or non-essential use. Irrigation well applications will not be entertained by the Department of Health. Diversions from ponds, streams, and other surface waters will not be allowed except for fire protection purposes.

- Filling swimming pools and hot tubs is prohibited UNLESS water is obtained from an acceptable out of town source not under drought advisory or restrictions. If pool use is necessary for medical or health reason, approval must be given by the Director of Health.
- Commercial and public swimming pools already in operation may maintain water levels but cannot be refilled if drained.

OTHER WATER RESTRICTIONS

- All food service establishments are prohibited from serving water UNLESS requested by patron.
- Use of fire hydrants for any purpose other than for health, fire protection, or other emergencies deemed by the Town is prohibited.
- Water use on golf courses is prohibited EXCEPT for irrigating tees and greens. Facilities must have a drought management plan and maintain ponds on the premises for fire department use.
- Drawing water for transport by truck for commercial use from any Greenwich surface water supply is prohibited EXCEPT for emergency purposes as determined by the Director of Health and the Fire Chief.

Additional restrictions may be adopted at any time as recommended by the Director of Health, the Conservation Director, and the Fire Chief.

