



City of Burnsville

100 Civic Center Parkway, Burnsville, MN 55337

Phone: 952-895-4400

Fax: 952-895-4404

www.burnsville.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 21, 2010

Contact:

Linda Mullen

City of Burnsville

952-895-4550

WATER CONSERVATION ORDINANCE NOW IN EFFECT

Odd-Even restrictions and all outdoor watering banned during midday hours

The City of Burnsville's water use restrictions emphasize conservation. The restrictions are in place to maintain Burnsville's stewardship of natural resources and assist the City in meeting the additional demands for water consumption by satisfying standards established by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. These restrictions more evenly space the demand for water; this greatly reduces the cost of providing water over the long-term. Reducing the demand on the City's water system also ensures adequate water resources for fire protection.

Water conservation measures are in effect from April thru September each year. **Any type of watering is prohibited between the hours of 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. daily.** Odd-Even restrictions allow residential and business addresses that end in an odd number (1,3,5,7,9) to water only on days that end in an odd number. Those addresses that end in an even number (0,2,4,6,8) may water only on days that end in an even number. If there are 31 days in a month both odd and even numbered addresses may water on that day.

Please note multi-family residences or businesses with multiple addresses, or where a structure does not have an apparent address, the site should water on odd-numbered days. Properties with irrigation systems that cannot water their entire site on a single day, should set the system to water one-half of the site each day, but not water more than once every other day. Properties with this situation must notify the City to receive approval on a yearly basis prior to implementing this watering program.

There are several exceptions to odd-even watering restrictions. These include lawns with new seed or new sod, new landscaping, plant materials that require daily watering such as golf greens and tees, certain athletic fields with special soil conditions, flower pots, flower baskets, and vegetable gardens. You must call the Utilities Department to request an exception. The exception for new seed or sod and new landscaping is valid for 30 days.

Outdoor Watering Tips

- Water only when your lawn needs it. A good rule of thumb to follow is to step on the lawn. If it springs back it does not need water. If the grass lays flat it is time to water.
- Experts agree that watering a maximum of every other day is sufficient for a strong, healthy lawn.
- When using a lawn sprinkler or irrigation system, water lawns between the hours of 9 p.m. and 7 a.m. The least amount of evaporation occurs when the sun is down and wind levels have dropped.
- Position sprinklers so water lands on the lawn or garden and not on paved areas.

The goal of this program is to promote education and compliance in water conservation. However, if there is non-compliance, measures are in place to implement a fee/fine system. The following fees will be assessed and included along with the utility bill:

- First Offense: A written warning will be given for the first offense
- Second Offense: \$25
- Third Offense: \$50
- Fourth Offense: \$100
- Fifth and Beyond: \$250

For more information about the Water Conservation Program, please call the City of Burnsville Utilities Department at 952-895-4550 or visit the website at www.burnsville.org/water.