

Aquarion Urges Water Conservation

First Drought Trigger Hit in Southwest Fairfield County

With high temperatures and a lack of significant rainfall in the forecast, Aquarion is asking customers to reduce non-essential water use. Our water systems have experienced near-record water demands throughout our service area, causing us to hit our first drought trigger in Southwest Fairfield County. Meanwhile, many other portions of Connecticut are currently experiencing conditions ranging from "abnormally dry" to "moderate drought" due to an extended dry spell, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Due to these high water demands, customers may experience temporary low water pressure and/or possible water discoloration. These issues will resolve themselves as water usage returns to normal levels.

How you can help

We are asking customers that live in the six towns currently under a mandatory, twice-weekly irrigation schedule (Darien, Greenwich, New Canaan, Newtown, Stamford and Westport) to reduce water usage by 20 percent, to lessen the potential for stricter restrictions this summer. Most customers can achieve this reduction simply by following the irrigation schedule. Aquarion also encourages customers that live outside of these six towns to voluntarily follow this schedule as an easy way to conserve water.

Twice-Weekly Sprinkler Irrigation Schedule

Last Digit of Your Address Number	Please Water Only On:
0, 2, 4, 6 or 8 (even numbers)	Sunday & Wednesday 12:01 am – 10:00 am, or 6:00 pm – Midnight
1, 3, 5, 7 or 9 (odd numbers)	Saturday & Tuesday 12:01 am – 10:00 am, or 6:00 pm – Midnight
No address number	Sunday & Wednesday 12:01 am – 10:00 am, or 6:00 pm – Midnight

5 ways to conserve water outdoors

- 1. Adjust your lawn mower to a higher setting. A taller lawn provides shade to the roots and helps retain soil moisture, so your lawn requires less water.
- 2. Reduce your sprinkler setting to two days per week. The grass roots will grow deeper and make your grass more drought tolerant.
- 3. Adjust your sprinklers so that they're watering your lawn and garden, and not the street or sidewalk.
- 4. Turn off your irrigation system and use hand watering or drip irrigation for shrubs and flowers.
- 5. Inspect your overall irrigation system for leaks, broken lines or blockage in the lines. A well-maintained system will save you money, water, and time.

5 ways to conserve water indoors

- 1. Turn off the water while lathering up, shaving, or brushing your teeth.
- 2. Minimize baths and the amount of water you use for each. Trim one minute off the length of your showers.
- 3. Wash only full loads in your dishwasher and washing machine.
- 4. Hand wash dishes in a pan or the sink, not under continuous running water.
- 5. Reuse dehumidifier water or use a bucket to capture shower and bath water while you wait for it to warm up; then use the water to water your plants.

Visit <u>www.aquarionwater.com/conserve</u> for additional water conservation tips.

Join us on <u>Facebook</u> and <u>LinkedIn</u> to keep current on the latest information. If you have any questions, contact Customer Service at 1-800-732-9678. And please – do all you can to keep yourself, your family and your community safe

and healthy.