



TEMPORARY WATERING RESTRICTIONS

With water usage on the rise and continued drought-like weather, the City of Sauk Rapids would like to remind residents of the **Odd/Even Sprinkling Schedule Ordinance**. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MNDNR) has announced that the State is entering the Drought Warning Phase of the Statewide Drought Plan because more than 50% of Minnesota is now in a severe drought. Effective immediately, the City of Sauk Rapids is implementing further temporary water use restrictions by **prohibiting watering between 10:00 am and 6:00 pm every day until further notice.**

The odd/even yard sprinkling ordinance asks residents who live at an even-numbered address to only use their irrigation systems on even-numbered dates, and residents who live at an odd-numbered address to use irrigation systems on odd-numbered dates. Failure to comply with the schedule will result in a citation. This ordinance does not apply to any type of well system.

The City of Sauk Rapids thanks those that have already put forth water conservation efforts before and during the drought period. Due to current conditions, more efforts are needed, with the hopes of avoiding future restrictions.

The City is encouraging customers to limit lawn irrigation to once or twice a week to reduce demands and preserve the City's drinking water supply. If the drought conditions worsen the City will be required to implement additional water use reduction measures or system water limitations to comply with the DNR's Statewide Drought Plan.

It is important to conserve water inside and outside of your property.

Outside Water Conservation Tips:

- Water grass as needed- Most lawns only need 1" of water a week.
- Mulch your trees and plants- Mulch helps prevent water evaporation and prevents some weed growth.
- Leave grass clippings in place- grass clippings provide shade for the soil.
- Let grass grow longer to prevent premature dying- let grass stay longer than normal.
- Check for leaks- Leaks in hoses, pipes, couplings, or sprinklers wastes water.
- Invest in a rain barrel- water collected in these barrels can be used for watering gardens and, if needed, lawns.

Inside Water Conservation Tips:

- Fix running toilets.
- Turn off the tap while shaving or brushing your teeth.
- Take a shower instead of a bath. Low Flow showerheads save more water.
- Only run full loads of laundry and use correct water level settings.
- Only run the dishwasher when it's full.
- Use water-efficient appliances (look for the WaterSense label)

To learn more about conservation tips, and easy ways to save water in Sauk Rapids, please visit our website: <https://www.ci.sauk-rapids.mn.us/>