

City of Attleboro Drought Update July 20, 2022

On July 12, the Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs declared a Level 2 Drought for much of the State, including Attleboro. This declaration is continued from that set in June. A Level 2 drought is declared when rainfall is below normal for 2 months or more, stream flows are nearing extreme lows in several areas of a region, and brush fire hazards are increased.



What does this mean?



What you can do!



Learn more at www.mass.gov/ma-drought-management

We are seeing the effects of the lack of rainfall here in Attleboro. Total rainfall for the year is 8.2" lower this year than it was the last 5 previous years at this time. As of mid-July, our reservoirs are already at low levels that usually aren't seen until much later in the summer.

The City of Attleboro Continues to follow water reduction recommendations put in place by the State, so that water can be conserved for drinking, fire-fighting, sanitary use, and continued operation of our local businesses. These restrictions are listed in the notice below and are updated regularly on the City website at www.cityofattleboro.us



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PAUL R. HEROUX, MAYOR

MANDATORY WATER BAN – Level 2

Effective 8:00 AM – June 28, 2022

Due to lack of rainfall and lower than normal reservoir levels, the following restriction has been in effect since Tuesday, June 28, 2022, at 8:00 AM.

- AUTOMATIC SPRINKLERS **ARE NOT ALLOWED** AT ANY TIME THROUGHOUT THE DURATION OF THESE NECESSARY RESTRICTIONS.
- AUTOMATIC SPRINKLERS INCLUDE BOTH INSTALLED UNDERGROUND SYSTEMS AND SPRINKLERS THAT CAN BE ATTACHED TO A HOSE AND LEFT UNATTENDED.

Outdoor water use of any kind is no longer permitted between the hours of 9 AM through 5 PM until further notice. This includes:

- Lawn Watering of any sort, even if handheld
- Washing cars, buildings, or driveways
- Watering of gardens
- Handheld watering
- Filling of pools, kiddie pools, or kiddie sprinklers and slip and slides
- Any other outdoor water use, other than the essential uses listed specifically below.

Water uses that are considered essential or will still be allowed between the hours listed above include:

- For health or safety reasons;
- By regulation;
- For the production of food and fiber;
- For the maintenance of livestock;
- To meet the core functions of a business (for example, irrigation by golf courses as necessary to maintain tees and greens, or irrigation by plant nurseries as necessary to maintain stock).

These restrictions are in effect until further notice. This restriction is an Operational and Conservation measure. Residents are encouraged to conserve indoor water use as much as possible as well. For more information, please contact the Water Department at water1@cityofattleboro.us or 774-203-1850.

CITY OF ATTLEBORO - MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE

16-12.24 Water Emergency

a. In the event of a shortage of potable water due to drought or other adverse conditions and/or malfunction of the pumping equipment or other major appurtenances of the water system, the Mayor may declare an emergency to protect the public health, safety and welfare. The Mayor may restrict, curtail or prohibit the use of water for lawn sprinkling, car washing, the filling of swimming pools and other uses of water deemed by the Mayor to be nonessential while the emergency is in effect.

b. Violators of the Ordinance shall be liable to a fine of Twenty-five (\$25.00) Dollars for the first offense, Fifty (\$50.00) Dollars for the second offense and Two Hundred (\$200.00) Dollars for each additional offense, said penalty to be assessed in accordance with the provisions for the non-criminal disposition of Violations in General Laws, Chapter 40, Section 21D as amended. Each day shall be considered a separate violation.