

City of Attleboro Drought Update September 19, 2022

In early September, the Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs downgraded the Attleboro area from a Level 3 to a Level 2 Drought, as water levels and rainfall in the area have improved since earlier this summer, and fire risk has begun to decrease. The next meeting of the Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs concerning drought will be held in early October, and we expect that the normal rainfall will continue through then.

We are seeing the effects of the recent rainfall here in Attleboro. With the recent heavy rains, total rainfall for the year has begun to approach the average for the previous 5 years. The Water Department produces drinking water from a system of 7 reservoirs. As of today, September 19, 2022, 6 of these reservoirs have recovered completely to average September levels, and the level of the 7th reservoir, Hoppin Hill, is beginning to recover as well, but still has quite a way to go.

As of Tuesday, September 20, 2022, at 5PM the City will begin allowing outdoor water use between the hours of 5PM and 9AM, 7 days per week. Because Hoppin Hill has not yet recovered from the drought, and we are required by the State to institute some form of water use restrictions through September each year, **outdoor water use will remained prohibited between the hours of 9AM and 5PM, and will remain prohibited until further notice.**



CITY OF ATTLEBORO, MASSACHUSETTS
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
GOVERNMENT CENTER
77 PARK STREET
ATTLEBORO, MASSACHUSETTS 02703
PHONE 508-223-2222 (EXT. 3221)
PAUL R. HEROUX, MAYOR

MANDATORY WATER BAN – Level 2

Effective 5:00 PM – Tuesday, September 20, 2022

The following water use restrictions are in place until further notice:

OUTDOOR WATER USE IS NOT ALLOWED BETWEEN 9AM AND 5PM, 7 DAYS PER WEEK. THIS INCLUDES:

- LAWN WATERING OF ANY KIND, EITHER BY IRRIGATION SYSTEM OR HANDHELD HOSE. THIS ALSO INCLUDES FLOWER GARDENS.
- CAR, DRIVEWAY, OR HOUSE WASHING (ALLOWED IF WATER IS PURCHASED FROM A LOCATION/VENDOR OUTSIDE OF ATTLEBORO)
- POOL FILLING (WATER MUST BE PURCHASED FROM A LOCATION/VENDOR OUTSIDE OF ATTLEBORO)
- PLAY SPRINKLERS AND SLIP AND SLIDES
- PLEASE NOTE: ALL ABOVE USES ARE ALLOWED AFTER 5PM OR BEFORE 9AM.

WATER USES STILL PERMITTED AT ANY TIME OF DAY:

- HAND WATERING OF VEGETABLE GARDENS
- WATERING OF LIVESTOCK
- WATER USE ESSENTIAL TO THE OPERATION OF A BUSINESS
- WELL WATER USE- MUST BE CLEARLY MARKED AND VISIBLE FROM THE STREET. MAILBOXES ARE A GOOD PLACEMENT FOR THIS SIGNAGE.

THESE RESTRICTIONS ARE NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN WATER STORAGE FOR DRINKING, FIRE FIGHTING, AND SANITARY USE. FINES WILL BE ASSESSED AS NOTED BELOW FOR ANY NON-ALLOWED USE UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

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.

These restrictions are in effect until further notice. This restriction is an Operational and Conservational measure. Residents are encouraged to curtail indoor water use as much as possible as well.

For questions, please call 774-203-1850, or email water1@cityofattleboro.us

For updates, please see our website at <https://www.cityofattleboro.us/295/Water-Department>

To receive updates by text or email, please register at

<https://www.cityofattleboro.us/list.aspx?Mode=Subscribe#alertCenter>