



LAWRENCEVILLE

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Drought Response Declaration

On September 9, 2016, the Georgia Environmental Protection Division declared a state-wide Level 1 drought response. In response to this declaration, the City of Lawrenceville Water Department would like to remind residents of current restrictions, as well as other ways to conserve water. The declaration follows a wet winter, but a dry spring and summer. According to the National Weather Service, from March through August, Atlanta received 16.59 inches of rain – around 8.5 inches less than the 30 year average for the same six-month period. We do not know how long the dry weather will continue. Rainfall may return to normal, but we need to be prepared for the possibility that this is a long-term drought.

Watering Restrictions

The City of Lawrenceville follows the state's permanent year-round outdoor watering restrictions, which allows landscape and lawn irrigation any day of the week, between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and 10:00 a.m. Currently, all other outdoor water use is allowed any day, any time. Click [here](#) for Frequently Asked Questions about current guidelines for Outdoor Water Use.

City of Lawrenceville Response

The City has a robust track record of water conservation. Since its creation in 2001, the City has been a member of and has participated in an array of Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District (MNGWPD) initiatives including:

- A toilet rebate program that has replaced more than 250 high efficiency toilets in the City alone.
- A multi-tiered pricing structure that charges higher rates the more water that is used, encouraging conservation.

Steps City of Lawrenceville Residents Can Take To Conserve Water

It's important to note that dry periods are part of the normal weather cycle. We do not know how long this drought may last, so we all need to do our part to conserve.

As a reminder, here are some ways City of Lawrenceville residents can save water:

- Using a rain gauge to determine how much it has rained over the week before watering outdoor plants. Most outdoor plants need an inch of water per week.
- Water in several short sessions instead of one long session. This reduces runoff and allows water to infiltrate into soil and plant roots.
- Only water lawns when needed. If the blades of grass don't bounce back after walking across the lawn, it is time to water. Water lawns and plants in the early morning or late in the evening.
- Check and repair leaks inside and outside the home.
- Shorten showers and turn off water when shaving or brushing teeth.
- Fill dishwashers and washing machines. Make sure there is a full load every time.