

¹CHAPTER 40: WATER CONSERVATION

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40-101 **Purpose and intent**

The purpose of this Chapter is to protect the public health, safety, environment, and general welfare through adopting and enforcing water use measures that encourage water conservation and ensure adequate supplies of water for the citizens of the City of Lawrenceville.

1. It is the policy of the City to promote water conservation by regulating outdoor water use and by complying with the laws and regulations imposed by the state on outdoor water use.
2. The Mayor and Council hereby delegates to the City water department the authority and responsibility for the implementation of an effective outdoor water use regulatory program for the enforcement of the provisions of this Chapter.

40-102 **Definitions**

Address means the "house number" (a numeric or alphanumeric designation) that, together with the street name, describes a physical location of a specific property. "Even numbered address" means a house number ending with the number 0, 2, 4, 6, 8, or no house number. "Odd numbered address" means a house number ending with the number 1, 3, 5, 7, or 9.

Declared drought response level means one of four levels of drought that can be declared by the environmental protection division based on the severity of drought conditions, with one being the least severe and four being the most severe.

Director means the director of the City water department or his/her designee who is vested with the authority and responsibility for the

implementation of an effective outdoor water use program and for the enforcement of the provisions of this Chapter.

Environmental protection division means the Georgia Environmental Protection Division ("EPD"), an agency of the state which is charged with issuing permits that authorize withdrawal of water and with administering the rules.

40-103 Use schedule during non-drought periods

Outdoor water use other than exempted activities shall occur only as follows:

1. Odd-numbered addresses: Outdoor water use is allowed on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays.
2. Even-numbered addresses: Outdoor water use is allowed on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays.

40-104 Use schedule during declared drought response levels

1. When the environmental protection division makes drought declarations as authorized by state law and the rules, outdoor water use other than activities exempted in section 40-105 of this Chapter, shall occur only during scheduled hours on the scheduled days.
2. Declared drought response level one. Outdoor water use may occur on scheduled days within the hours of 12:00 midnight to 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 12:00 midnight.
 - (a) Scheduled days for odd-numbered addresses are Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays.
 - (b) Scheduled days for even-numbered addresses are Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays.
 - (c) Use of hydrants for any purpose other than firefighting, public health, safety or flushing is prohibited.
3. Declared drought response level two. Outdoor water use may occur on scheduled days within the hours of 12:00 midnight to 10:00 a.m.
 - (a) Scheduled days for odd-numbered addresses are Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays.

- (b) Scheduled days for even-numbered addresses and golf course fairways are Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays.
 - (c) The following uses are prohibited:
 - (1) Using hydrants for any purpose other than firefighting, public health, safety or flushing.
 - (2) Washing hard surfaces, such as streets, gutters, sidewalks and driveways except when necessary for public health and safety.
4. Declared drought response level three. Outdoor water use may occur on the scheduled day within the hours of 12:00 midnight to 10:00 a.m.
- (a) The scheduled day for odd-numbered addresses is Sunday.
 - (b) The scheduled day for even-numbered addresses and golf course fairways is Saturday.
 - (c) The following uses are prohibited:
 - (1) Using hydrants for any purpose other than firefighting, public health, safety or flushing.
 - (2) Washing hard surfaces, such as streets, gutters, sidewalks, driveways, except when necessary for public health and safety.
 - (3) Filling installed swimming pools except when necessary for health care or structural integrity.
 - (4) Washing vehicles, such as cars, boats, trailers, motorbikes, airplanes, golf carts.
 - (5) Washing buildings or structures except for immediate fire protection.
 - (6) Non-commercial fund-raisers, such as car washes.
 - (7) Using water for ornamental purposes, such as fountains, reflecting pools, and waterfalls except when necessary to support aquatic life.

5. Declared drought response level four. No outdoor water use is allowed, other than for activities exempted in section 40-105 of this Chapter, or as the environmental protection division may allow.

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Exemptions

This Chapter shall not apply to the following outdoor water uses:

1. Capture and re-use of cooling system condensate or storm water in compliance with applicable local ordinances.
2. Re-use of gray water in compliance with applicable local ordinances.
3. The following established landscape water uses are exempt from the outdoor water use schedules of this Chapter:
 - (a) Use of reclaimed wastewater by a designated user from a system permitted by the director to provide reclaimed wastewater.
 - (b) Irrigation of personal food gardens.
 - (c) Newly (in place less than 30 days) installed landscapes are subject to the following:
 - (1) Irrigation of newly installed landscapes is allowed any day of the week, but only during allowed hours for the drought response level in effect, for a period of 30 days following installation. No watering is allowed during drought response level four.
 - (2) For new landscapes installed by certified or licensed professionals, commercial exemptions apply.
 - (d) The following golf course outdoor water uses are exempt from the outdoor water use schedules of this rule.
 - (1) Use of reclaimed wastewater by a designated user from a system permitted by EPD to provide reclaimed wastewater.
 - (2) Irrigation of fairways during times of non-drought and declared drought response level one.

- (3) Irrigation of tees during times of non-drought and declared drought response levels one, two and three.
 - (4) Irrigation of greens.
- (e) The following commercial outdoor water uses are exempt from the outdoor water use schedules of this rule.
- (1) Professionally certified or licensed landscapers, golf course contractors, and sports turf landscapers: during installation and 30 days following installation only. Professional landscapers must be certified or licensed for commercial exemptions to apply.
 - (2) Irrigation contractors: during installation and as needed for proper maintenance and adjustments only.
 - (3) Sod producers.
 - (4) Ornamental growers.
 - (5) Fruit and vegetable growers.
 - (6) Retail garden centers.
 - (7) Hydro-seeding.
 - (8) Power-washing.
 - (9) Construction sites.
 - (10) Producers of food and fiber.
 - (11) Car washes.
 - (12) Other activities essential to daily business.
 - (13) Watering-in of pesticides and herbicides on turf.

²**40-106** **Penalties for Violation**

Any person convicted by a court of competent jurisdiction of violating any provision of this section shall be guilty of an ordinance violation and shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$1,000.00 and/or by confinement in the county jail for a total term not to exceed six (6) months; however, for any first alleged violation of this section, a written warning will be given. Subsequent violations may result in the citation of the violator.

40-107 **Termination of service**

The director shall have the authority to terminate water service to the offending party for repeated violations of the section.

40-108 **Authority to Implement**

The director is authorized to make all necessary and reasonable rules and policies with respect to the enforcement of this Chapter. All such rules and policies shall be consistent with the provisions of this Chapter and shall be effective 30 days after being filed with the department.

¹ Ordinance to Amend Chapter 40 of the 2005 City of Lawrenceville General Code of Ordinances Replace Existing Water Conservation Ordinance was adopted on September 11, 2006.

² Ordinance to Amend Penalty Provisions and to make Technical Revisions within Certain Sections of the City of Lawrenceville's 2005 Lawrenceville Code of Ordinances was adopted on September 10, 2007.