



## 2007-08 OUTDOOR WATERING RESTRICTIONS

By Governor Perdue and EPD Order, Outdoor Watering Restrictions have been relaxed - but local restrictions MAY apply where you live (EPD Order 2/12/08) \*

Updated: March 17, 2008

These two new rules apply for watering of established and new landscapes,

All other commercial exemptions from the EPD Drought Management Plan apply, unless they have been changed by local restriction (this includes watering in of herbicides and pesticides). \*

- **Established landscapes** can be hand-watered by any person:\*\*
  - For 25 minutes between 12:00 midnight and 10:00 a.m. (\*hand waterings is defined as one person with one garden house with a spray nozzle that shuts off automatically when it is released)
  - Watering is restricted to the hours of 12:00 midnight to 10:00 a.m.
  - Odd-numbered addresses: Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays
  - Even-numbered addresses: Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays
- **Newly installed landscapes** may be watered;
  - *By any person who has registered with the Outdoor Water Use Registration Program* \*\*\*
  - Watering is allowed for 30 days during a period of 10 weeks
  - Watering is restricted to the hours of 12:00 midnight to 10:00 a.m.
  - 3 days/week for 10 consecutive weeks on an odd/even schedule
    - Odd-numbered addresses: Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays
    - Even-numbered addresses: Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays
    - During installation, new landscapes may be watered in at any time of the day
  - \*\*\* Outdoor water use program is available:
    - At your county extensions service office (1-800-ASK-UGA1) - free
    - Online at [www.urbanagcouncil.com](http://www.urbanagcouncil.com) - \$ 4.95 convenience fee charge
    - Each landscape company needs to register for this program (may copy certificate for use at multiple addresses).
    - Each landscape company's clients (homeowner/property owner or manager) must also complete this program for each property they own or manage.

**The following counties and cities are following the new (2/12/08) effective immediately - unless noted otherwise.** PLEASE check provider website for additional information, there may be additional requirements at a local level.

City of Alpharetta: Effective April 1, 2008 - <http://alpharetta.ga.us>

City of Auburn: <http://www.cityofauburn-ga.org>

City of Austell: <http://www.austell.org/pw/divisions/water/conservation.htm>

Town of Braselton: [http://www.braselton.net/water.html#Frequently\\_Asked\\_Questions](http://www.braselton.net/water.html#Frequently_Asked_Questions):

City of Cartersville: Effective April 1, 2008 - [www.cityofcartersville.org](http://www.cityofcartersville.org)

City of Columbus: <http://www.cwwga.org>

City of Fayetteville: Effective April 1, 2008 - <http://fayetteville.govoffice.com>

City of Gainesville: [www.gainesville.org](http://www.gainesville.org)

City of Griffin: <http://www.griffinstorm.com>

City of Jefferson <http://www.cityofjeffersonga.com>

City of Newnan: [www.ci.newnan.ga.us](http://www.ci.newnan.ga.us)

City of Powder Springs: [www.cityofpowdersprings.org](http://www.cityofpowdersprings.org)

City of Rome: <http://www.rome.ga.us>

Town of Toccoa: [www.cityoftoccoa.com](http://www.cityoftoccoa.com)

City of Woodstock: <http://www.woodstockga.gov>

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Carroll County: Effective April 1, 2008 - <http://carrollcountyga.com/>

Cherokee County: <http://www.ccwsa.com>

Coweta County: [www.coweta.ga.us](http://www.coweta.ga.us)

Clayton County: <http://www.ccwa1.com>

Fayette County: <http://www.fayettecountyga.gov>

Floyd County: <http://www.floydcountyga.org>

Hall County: <http://www.gainesville.org>

Henry County: [http://www.hcwsa.com/water\\_restrictions.asp](http://www.hcwsa.com/water_restrictions.asp)

Jackson County: <http://jcwsa.com/>

Lumpkin County: <http://lumpkincounty.gov>

Morgan County:

<http://www.morganga.org/Departments/CooperativeExtension/WaterConservation/tabid/432/Default.aspx>

Newton County: <http://www.co.newton.ga.us>

Oconee County: <http://oconeecounty.com>

Paulding County:

<http://www.paulding.gov/files/Water//Water%20Dept.%20FAQ%203%2012%2008.pdf>

Stephens County: [www.stephenscounty-ga.gov](http://www.stephenscounty-ga.gov)

**The following counties and cities are operating under the new rules with modified restrictions:**

**Cobb County:** Effective 3/1/08 <http://www.cobbcountyga.gov/>

For detailed rules and information, Cobb County residents must visit:

<http://www.cobbcountyga.gov/drought-information.htm>

- In compliance with The State's amended Drought Response Level 4 :
  - Effective 3/1/08 -
    - Citizens may **hand water established landscapes** for 25 minutes on the odd/even schedule from **4 AM - 9 AM**. Hand watering is defined as one person, with one hose with an automatic shutoff nozzle.
      - Even and unnumbered addresses may water Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays
      - Odd addresses may water Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays
  - Effective 4/1/08:
    - Citizens who complete the State of Georgia's online water conservation class at [www.urbanagcouncil.com](http://www.urbanagcouncil.com) will be able to water **newly installed landscape** for 10 weeks on the odd/even schedule from **4 AM - 9 AM**.
      - Even and unnumbered addresses may water Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays
      - Odd addresses may water Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays
    - Citizens must register for this exemption (see website info below for Cobb County)

**City of Acworth;** following Cobb County rules

**City of Kennesaw;** following Cobb County rules

**City of Smyrna :** Effective 4/1/08 <http://smyrnacity.com>

- Watering by hand held hose (with automatic shut-off nozzle) of existing landscaping is permitted, limited to 25 minutes per day between 12:00 midnight and 10:00 a.m. on an odd-even rotation.
  - Odd numbered addresses can water within this guideline on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays.
  - Even numbered addresses can water within this guideline on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays.
- Newly installed landscaping (in place less than 30 days) may be watered three days per week between 12:00 midnight and 10:00 a.m. for ten consecutive weeks and during plant installation.
  - Odd numbered addresses can water within this guideline on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays.
  - Even numbered addresses can water within this guideline on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays.

- Any person watering newly installed landscaping must register with the Outdoor Water Use Registration Program at <http://www.urbanagcouncil.com> beginning March 15, 2008.
- Forms obtained from this course must be provided to the Smyrna Water Utility Department at 2800 King Street, Smyrna, GA 30080. Otherwise, your account is subject to existing penalties.

**Gwinnett County:** Effective 3/1/2008 - Further Restrictions are in effect:  
[http://www.gwinnettcountry.com/departments/DWR/pdf/faq\\_drought\\_level4.pdf](http://www.gwinnettcountry.com/departments/DWR/pdf/faq_drought_level4.pdf)

**\* For initial landscape installation by professionally-certified or licensed landscapers, golf course contractors and sports turf landscapers:**

o Irrigation is exempt for the 30 days following initial installation, except that irrigation may occur on only a maximum of 10 of those 30 days, on even-numbered and odd-numbered addresses as stated below

o Professional landscapers must be certified or licensed for this exemption to apply

o A waterproof sign visible from the street right-of-way must be posted stating the date of installation, the commercial firm's name, the property owner's phone number, and the surface area to which the exemption applies

**\* For replanting, conditioning, reseeding, aerating or other activities installed by a professionally-certified landscaper to restore or improve existing turf, lawn or landscaping:**

\* Irrigation is exempt for the 30 days following initial installation, except that irrigation may occur on only a maximum of 10 of those 30 days on even-numbered and odd-numbered addresses as stated below

o This exemption applies to both the commercial firm and the property owner or occupant

o Professional landscapers must be certified or licensed for this exemption to apply

o A waterproof sign visible from the street right-of-way must be posted stating the date of installation, the commercial firm's name, the property owner's phone number, and the surface area to which the exemption applies

\* The state's recently announced changes now include watering restrictions based upon an even/odd system, and additionally permit watering only between midnight and 10:00am. In addition to the above restrictions, landscapers and homeowners may water new or reconditioned installations, if one or both of the above conditions are met in accordance with these new rules:

o Odd-numbered addresses on Tuesday Thursday and Sunday

o Even-numbered addresses on Monday Wednesday and Saturday

o The commercial firm or the property owner or occupant must be registered at [www.urbanagcouncil.com](http://www.urbanagcouncil.com) beginning March 15, 2008

**City of Norcross:** Following Gwinnett County rules. <http://www.norcrossga.net>

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**\*\* Previous Drought Level 4 Restrictions -  
 Effective September 28, 2007**

**No Outdoor Water Use Allowed\* other than activities exempted by EPD Drought Management Plan or as the EPD Director may order:**

#### 4. Commercial uses

- a. 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.
- b. Irrigation contractors: during installation and as needed for proper maintenance and adjustments only.
- c. Sod producers
- d. Ornamental growers
- e. Fruit and vegetable growers
- f. Retail garden centers
- g. Hydro-seeding
- h. Power-washing
- i. Construction sites (to establish vegetative cover after earth moving)
- j. Producers of food and fiber
- k. Car washes
- l. Water needed to sustain daily business
- m. Watering-in of pesticides and herbicides on turf.

For complete Rules, Regulations and Exemptions please go to the website, [www.gaepd.org](http://www.gaepd.org), click on "Outdoor Water Use Schedule" and then click on "Rules for Outdoor Water Use".

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#### Counties/Cities that are operating under September 28, 2007 Level 4 restrictions that have been modified by local ordinance:

**City of Alpharetta: Currently operating under these restrictions:** - *Restriction has been amended.*

- Watering of other new landscape materials installed by professionally certified or licensed landscapers is permitted during installation and thirty (30) days following the installation, provided that such watering shall only occur on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday, and only between the hours of midnight and 10:00 a.m.
- Watering for aeration and overseeding is prohibited.

**Effective April 1, Alpharetta will comply with new restrictions (2/12/08)**

**Athens-Clarke County** (<http://www.athensclarkecounty.com>)

#### Existing Landscapes:

- \* Hand-watering of existing landscapes, defined as one person with one garden hose with a spray nozzle attached, will be allowed 25 minutes per day, during designated hours on an odd/even watering schedule.
- \* The hose must be hand-held during watering and equipped with a standard spray nozzle that automatically turns off when released.
- \* Watering is allowed only between 12:00 midnight and 10:00 a.m.
- \* Odd-numbered addresses may water on Sundays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays.
- \* Even-numbered addresses may water on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays.
- \* No outdoor watering is allowed on Fridays

#### Food Gardens:

- \* Watering of personal food gardens is allowed only within the restrictions set forth above.

## Section II. Allowed Outdoor Water Use - Special Use Permit required

The uses below will be allowed under the outdoor water use modifications with permits required. Permits for these uses will be issued until a water demand threshold of 100,000 gallons per day is met; once permits totaling 100,000 gallons per day have been issued, no more permits will be allowed for that specific day.

The uses listed below will require a Special Use Permit from the Athens-Clarke County Public Utilities Department. The permit application will require a description of the gallons-per-day demand necessary before the permit will be issued.

Special Use Permits are available from the Athens-Clarke County Public Utilities Department located at 1865 W. Broad Street, Suite C (706-613-3470).

### Newly installed landscaping:

\* Landscaping newly installed by a professionally certified or licensed landscaper only, may be watered by any method for a period of 10 weeks following installation. Proof of landscaper's certification or business licensing is required.

\* Watering will be allowed only between 12:00 midnight and 10:00 a.m. based on the odd/even watering schedule below:

1. Odd-numbered addresses may water on Sundays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays.
2. Even-numbered addresses may water on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays.
3. No outdoor watering is allowed on Fridays

\* Only professionally installed landscaping is eligible for this 10-week exemption.

### Other Allowed Outdoor Water Uses

\* Watering in of pesticides/herbicides/fertilizers by a licensed professional only is allowed.

**City of Atlanta:** *Effective 2/20/2087 - Restriction has been amended, will not comply with Governor/EPD order. Hand watering is not allowed.*

<http://www.atlantawatershed.org/WaterRestrictions.htm>

The following activities are exempted from the City of Atlanta's new watering restrictions:

1. Personal food gardens
2. **New landscaping installed by a certified or licensed landscaper.** These newly installed landscapes may be watered any day of the week between the hours of 12:01 a.m. and 10 a.m. for a period of 30 days following installation. You have one exemption per year / per property. There is no longer a 30-day exemption for lawn aeration & overseeding, or for planting sod in existing/established landscapes. A 30-day watering exemption for sod pertains only to new construction. Must be registered by completing program at [www.urbanagcouncil.com](http://www.urbanagcouncil.com).
3. Swimming pools may be filled through an irrigation meter, domestic meter, well water or other alternate source. The City does not provide pool filling services during the drought. Pool filling is subject to change due to drought conditions.
  - All other commercial exemptions apply.

**City of Buford:** Operating under Sept. 28, 2007 Level 4 restrictions

<http://www.cityofbuford.com/Water.aspx?CNID=53>

**City of Canton:** Operating under Sept. 28, 2007 Level 4 restrictions

[www.canton-georgia.com](http://www.canton-georgia.com)

**City of College Park:** Operating under Sept. 28, 2007 Level 4 restrictions  
<http://collegeparkga.com/>

**City of Dahlonega:** *Landscape installation exemption has been removed and no installation of turf is allowed on new building sites. April 1, new restrictions will apply* <http://www.cityofdahlonega.com/>

**City of East Point:** Operating under Sept. 28, 2007 Level 4 restrictions  
[www.eastpointcity.org](http://www.eastpointcity.org)

**City of Lawrenceville:** Operating under Sept. 28, 2007 Level 4 restrictions  
<http://www.lawrencevillega.org>

**City of Loganville:** Operating under Sept. 28, 2007 Level 4 restrictions  
<http://loganville-ga.gov>

**Barrow County:** <http://www.barrowga.org>

Commercial Exemptions: Even-numbered & un-numbered - Mon/Wed  
Odd-Numbered - Tuesday & Thursday

1. Irrigation of personal food gardens - 4:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. - no expiration
2. Irrigation contractors: During installation and as needed for proper maintenance and adjustments only - 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. & 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
3. Ornamental Growers (greenhouses & nurseries) - No expiration  
Fruit & vegetable growers - 10:00 p.m. to 12:00 midnight
4. Retail garden centers - 4:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. - No expiration  
Home Depot - 10:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.
5. Hydro-seeding (erosion control) - 2 days  
Power-washing - Houses only, no parking lots  
Construction sites (safety issues)  
Watering in of pesticides & herbicides on turf - 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
6. Carwashes - EXEMPT
7. Professionally certified or licensed landscapers, golf course contractors, sports turf landscapers: 14 days from permit. Must provide copy of license or certification - 4:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m.
8. Car Dealerships - as needed basis

**Bartow County:** [http://www.bartowga.org/bcwd/watering\\_restrictions.html](http://www.bartowga.org/bcwd/watering_restrictions.html)

- Personal food gardens from 12:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. daily. Watering is not allowed after 10:00 a.m.
- Newly installed commercial landscapes installed by certified or licensed professionals during initial installation date then for a period of thirty (30) days following initial installation from 12:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.! After this 30-day period has expired, the Outdoor Watering Restriction Schedule must be followed!
- Golf course greens. Irrigation of tees and fairways are prohibited if water source is water service utility provider!
- Businesses dependent upon daily outdoor watering activities such as car washers; sod producers; ornamental growers; fruit and vegetable producers; retail garden centers; hydro-seeding; power-washing; construction sites; watering-in of pesticides

and herbicides on turf; and recapture and re-use of cooling system condensate or storm water and re-use of gray water in compliance with applicable local ordinances.

**DeKalb County:** *Effective 11/2/2007 - Restriction has been amended.*

Professionally certified or licensed landscapers, golf course contractors, and sports turf landscapers will only be allowed to water **during installation and three (3) days per week for thirty (30) days following installation, on Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday from midnight to 10 a.m.**

**Douglas County:** Operating under Sept. 28, 2007 Level 4 restrictions

**Forsyth County** - [www.forsythco.com](http://www.forsythco.com) - In effect at this time:

- Newly laid sod and landscape within the first 30 days (but only within the allowed hours - proof of installation date is required within 5 days of installation - invoices can be faxed to 770.205.4515)
  - Over seeding of Lawns - The over seeding of Fescue lawns or similar types is considered new landscape for filling in of bare spots. Over seeding of warm weather grasses such as Bermuda, Centipede, and Zoysia with annual grasses for aesthetic purposes is not considered new landscape and therefore is not entitled to the State granted exemptions.
  - Watering of annual grasses and plants- Watering of any new plant or flower that is not a perennial is not entitled to the 30 day exemption. The 30 day exemption is only for establishment of permanent type plants, shrubs and grasses, not plants for decoration and color that will die at the end of the season.
  - Watering in Pesticides and Herbicides- Watering in of pesticides and herbicides is allowed any time when performed by a professional contractor. Watering in pesticides is not a 30 day process and does not receive a 30 day exemption it is only allowed by the professional on the day it was applied. Self application must follow time and day restrictions.

**Forsyth County - Effective April 1, 2008,**

**Hand Watering** -Each household, business or other institution/property owner will be allowed to hand water existing landscaping using one garden hose for 25 minutes a day within the hours of midnight to 10 a.m. on designated days. The hose must be hand held during watering and equipped with a standard spray nozzle that automatically turns off when not hand held.

\* Odd-numbered addresses (addresses ending with the number 1, 3, 5, 7 or 9) may hand water on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays.

\* Even-numbered addresses (addresses ending with the number 0, 2, 4, 6, 8 or no number) may hand water on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays.

\* No watering is allowed on Fridays.

**Forsyth County did not adopt changes regarding the watering of newly installed landscaping. A 30-day exemption for new landscaping remains in place.** The previously adopted level 4 drought restrictions accompanied by the following enhanced restrictions approved by the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners on October 4, 2007 shall continue in full force and effect.



- Newly laid sod and landscape within the first 30 days (but only within the allowed hours - proof of installation date is required within 5 days of installation - invoices can be faxed to 770.205.4515)
- Over seeding of Lawns - The over seeding of Fescue lawns or similar types is considered new landscape for filling in of bare spots.
- Over-seeding of warm weather grasses such as Bermuda, Centipede and Zoysia with annual grasses for aesthetic purposes is not considered new landscape and therefore is not entitled to the exemptions.
- Watering of any new plant or flower that is not a perennial is not entitled to the exemption, which is only for the establishment of permanent type plants, shrubs and grasses, not plants for decoration and color that will die at the end of the season.
- Watering in of pesticides and herbicides is allowed any time of day only on the day of application (by using an irrigation system or by hand watering) after application by a professional contractor.
- Watering in of pesticides and herbicides is not a 30-day process and does not receive a 30-day exemption. However, hand watering in of pesticides and herbicides can be achieved by the homeowner during the 25-minute period on designated watering days during the allowed hours.

**Food Gardens** -food gardens remain exempt from the water use restrictions.

**Commercial Exemptions**- Drought level 4 commercial exemptions remain as previously adopted.

**Fulton County:** Currently operating under Sept. 28, 2007 Level 4 restrictions

[http://ww2.co.fulton.ga.us/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=465&Itemid=26](http://ww2.co.fulton.ga.us/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=465&Itemid=26)

Effective April 1, Fulton's water use restrictions are as follows:

[http://www.fultoncountyga.gov/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=1256&Itemid=473](http://www.fultoncountyga.gov/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=1256&Itemid=473)

-- Residents can hand-water outdoors for 25 minutes per day, one day per week, on an odd-even schedule, while EPD will allow three-day-a-week hand-watering. Even-numbered addresses may water on Saturday between midnight and 10 a.m., and odd-numbered addresses may water on Sunday between midnight and 10 a.m. Hand-watering is defined as one person with one garden hose with a spray nozzle that shuts off when released.

-- Citizens can take advantage of a one-time, 30-day exemption for watering newly installed landscaping. The exemption requires customers to register online through the EPD Outdoor Water Use Registration Program hosted by the Urban Agricultural Council. The Fulton County plan contrasts with the EPD resolution, which allows residents to water newly installed landscape three days a week from midnight to 10 a.m. for 10 weeks, based on the odd/even schedule and registration with the Agricultural Council.

The restrictions apply to all users of water services located north of the Chattahoochee River within the Fulton County service area.

The downtown area of the City of Roswell and the City of Mountain Park are served by other jurisdictions and are not included in the Fulton County service area.

**City of Johns Creek:** Following Fulton County Rules. <http://www.johnscreekga.gov>

**City of Milton:** Following Fulton County rules. <http://www.cityofmiltonga.us/>

**City of Roswell:** Effective 1/1/2008 - New restrictions will be announced April 1, 2008  
For complete information [www.roswellgov.com](http://www.roswellgov.com) > Watering Restrictions  
Contact Public Works/Environmental at (770) 641-3715 for the latest updates.

The following established landscape water uses are exempt from the outdoor water use schedules of this rule.

Irrigation of personal food gardens. (During Drought Response Level 4, only personal food gardens, confined to the specific food plant, such as tomatoes, carrots, corn, etc. can be watered during the hours of midnight to 10 am)

Newly (in place less than thirty days) installed landscapes are subject to the following:

(a) Homeowner installed landscapes: No watering is allowed during Drought Response Level Four.

(b) For brand new landscapes installed by certified or licensed professionals, commercial exemptions apply (During Drought Response Level 4, this exemption does not apply to reseeding, landscape additions or retrofit work; applies only to initial landscape installation on newly developed properties and watering allowed for up to 30 days on Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday between the hours of midnight and 10 am).

Watering-in of pesticides and herbicides on turf: (During Drought Response Level 4, watering allowed within 24 hours of initial application and only 4 times/year and the watering-in time limit is 1 complete irrigation cycle (not to exceed 20 minutes per zone) with irrigation system or not to exceed 20 minutes with hose and nozzle between the hours of midnight to 10 AM.

**Oconee County** <http://www.oconeecounty.com> - new restrictions to be announced by April 1.

**Effective now:**

- All new landscaping will have a 30-day exemption provided they have a landscape exemption permit and honor the watering hours of 12 midnight to 8:00 a.m. Anyone installing new landscaping must obtain a permit - homeowners, general contractors, landscape contractors, etc. Permits must be on the premises at all times and readily available. Permits can be obtained from the Oconee County Utility Department (free of charge). Watering new landscaping without a permit may result in a \$250.00 fine.