

CITY OF PEABODY

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**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
EDWARD A. BETTENCOURT, JR.**

Continued Drought Prompts Mandatory Water Restrictions

(August 25, 2020) - The Massachusetts Department of Energy and Environmental Affairs announced that drought conditions continue in the Northeast region prompting Mayor Edward A. Bettencourt, Jr. to increase the City's water restrictions from voluntary to mandatory.

“With rainfall amounts remaining well below average and the continued warm weather, drought conditions persist in our area,” said Mayor Bettencourt. “In order to protect our water supply, I am extending Peabody’s water emergency to include mandatory water restrictions.”

The extended water emergency measure consists of a Phase 2 – Mandatory Water Restriction. Residents are asked to conserve water by only watering their lawns every other day as follows:

- Lawn watering via sprinklers (both in-ground and above-ground systems).

Odd # houses Monday – Wednesday – Friday ONLY
6:00 AM to 9:00 AM and 6:00PM to 9:00PM

Even # houses Tuesday – Thursday – Saturday ONLY
6:00 AM to 9:00 AM and 6:00PM to 9:00PM

Hand watering by pail or water can is allowed at anytime. Hoses may only be used during scheduled watering times.

“This is not a step taken lightly,” said Mayor Bettencourt. “We are very concerned however that the lack of significant rainfall this year could deplete our water supply sufficiently enough to jeopardize public safety, specifically fire suppression.”

Mayor Bettencourt reminded residents that residential water billing is based on usage. By helping to conserve water during the city’s water emergency, residents can also help lower their costs.

For more information on the water emergency and voluntary water restrictions, please visit the city’s official website, www.peabody-ma.gov or call the Department of Public Services at 978-536-7116.

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