

City of Jersey Village - Drought Contingency Plan – Phase I

Frequently Asked Questions

When can I water my lawn with my sprinkler system?

You can use a sprinkler system to water your lawn and/or landscaping on two designated days each week. Customers with addresses that end in an even-number can water on Mondays and Thursdays. On these designated watering days, lawn and landscape watering is further limited to the hours of 12:00 midnight until 9:00 a.m. and between the hours of 7:00 p.m. and 12:00 midnight.

Customers with addresses that end in an odd-number can water on Tuesdays and Fridays. On these designated watering days, lawn and landscape watering is further limited to the hours of 12:00 midnight until 9:00 a.m. and between the hours of 7:00 p.m. and 12:00 midnight.

I'm worried that won't be enough for my lawn/landscaping. Is there anything else I can do?

Irrigation of landscaped areas is permitted at anytime if it is by means of a hand-held hose, a faucet filled bucket or watering can of five gallons or less, or drip irrigation system/soaker hoses.

Can we still use personal wells?

There are no restrictions on the use of water from a personal well.

Can only the part of the sprinkler system that waters the flowers be used? This portion of the sprinkler system may only be used during one of your two designated watering days.

When can I wash my vehicle?

During Phase 1, there are no restrictions on washing your vehicle; however, should the drought contingency plan be escalated to Phase 2 or greater, certain restrictions apply. These restrictions may be view by visiting the City's website at <http://www.jerseyvillage.info/>.

Can I water my foundation?

If you are using a drip-irrigation system or a hand-held hose, yes – you may water it at any time. If you are using a sprinkler system, you must wait until one of your two designated watering days.

Can I fill or top off my pool or hot tub?

During Phase 1, there are no restrictions to fill or top off your pool or hot tub; however, should the drought contingency plan be escalated to Phase 2 or greater, certain restrictions apply. These restrictions may be view by visiting the City's website at <http://www.jerseyvillage.info/>.

Can I still run the fountain/water feature in my garden?

During Phase 1, there are no restrictions to run your fountain/water feature in your garden; however, should the drought contingency plan be escalated to Phase 2 or greater, certain restrictions apply. These restrictions may be view by visiting the City's website at <http://www.jerseyvillage.info/>.

Why are we under mandatory restrictions?

As this record-breaking drought continues to impact our area, Jersey Village, along with many other cities in the region, are implementing water restrictions based upon drought contingency plans. Our City Manger has been monitoring the water supply and/or demand conditions on a daily basis and has determined that conditions warrant initiation of Phase One of our Drought Contingency Plan. The decision to initiate this phase was based upon meeting the following criteria:

1. Water production reaches 90 percent of the safe production capacity of the city.
2. Pursuant to requirements specified in the city wholesale water purchase contract with the City of Houston, notification is received requesting initiation of Phase 1 of the Drought Contingency Plan.
3. The static water level in the city well(s) is equal to or less than 50 feet above the pump level.
4. Total daily water demand equals or exceeds 90 percent of the production capacity for three consecutive days or 95 percent of the production capacity on a single day.

How long will these new water rules be in place?

Mostly, that depends on the weather conditions in the upcoming weeks and months. These conservation measures are a way for us to slow down the unnecessary use of water until steady rainfall begins to recharge our water sources in our area and across the state.

The Drought Contingency Plan specifically outlines Requirements for Termination of the various Phases of the plan. These requirements may be viewed on the City's Website at <http://www.jerseyvillage.info/>.

How will I know when the conservation measures increase or terminate?

Any changes/updates/notices pertaining to water conservation and the drought contingency plan will be placed on the front page of the City's Website at <http://www.jerseyvillage.info/>. Follow the link to learn this important information. Additionally, this information will be noted on the City's marquee signs.

Is there anything else I should do to conserve water?

Aside from the mandatory changes mentioned above, all other water conservation measures are voluntary. However, we encourage residents to take a few moments to look around their homes and workplace to see if there examples of water waste that can be corrected. Some voluntary changes could include things like:

- Fixing faucet leaks, which can waste up to 3,000 gallons of water a year
- Washing only full loads of laundry
- Turning the water off when you brush your teeth; doing so can save four gallons of water each minute, and that adds up!
- Leaving grass clippings on the lawn to help retain moisture in the soil
- Checking for – and repairing – any toilet leaks, which can waste up to 200 gallons of water a day
- Taking shorter showers
- Running the dishwasher only when there is a full load of dishes