

Mild Drought Conditions Go Into Effect June 1

Based on our experience with droughts in recent years, your MUD 18 Board modified the District's Drought Contingency Plan in the summer of 2010.

The updated plan declares a MILD DROUGHT Condition to be in effect as of June 1 and will stay in effect until September 30. During this time all customers are asked to voluntarily reduce water usage.

The objective of this stage of our plan is to avoid exceeding the "safe operating condition" of our wells -- defined to be no more than sixteen (16) hours per day run time per well. This definition was established using actual operating data. Without voluntary conservation we could reach 16 hours run time of our wells per day by early summer.

If our water supply facilities reach or exceed 90% of the safe operating conditions, mandatory water usage restrictions will be necessary. With everyone's attention to conservation, we hope to avoid mandatory restrictions.



Your Mud Board is recommending that homeowners voluntarily use the following practices that would become mandatory if we reach Stage 2 of the District's Drought Contingency Plan:

- a. Even-numbered addresses run irrigation systems only on Sundays and Thursdays
- b. Odd-numbered addresses run irrigation systems only on Wednesdays and Saturdays
- c. Refrain from any outdoor use between the hours of 6AM and 10AM and between the hours of 6PM and midnight.
- d. Outdoor use of water by a hand held hose or bucket may be done on any day of the week.

Other important reminders:

1. If you will be out of town for an extended period, you are encouraged to leave your contact information with neighbors so they can notify you if water leaks are observed on your property or if your irrigation system needs attention. Or you may choose to contract with a service to deal with these issues while you are away.
2. Report any suspicious excess water run-off to the effected property owner. It may be a leak that needs attention. You will save your neighbor dollars in their bill and help the community save water.
3. Adjust your sprinkler cycle times to fit the absorption rate of the soil in your yard. If you notice that your system is creating run-off, your lawn has reached its absorption capacity. Adjust the run times accordingly.
4. Individually adjust your sprinkler heads so there is no overlap or overspray onto concrete.
5. Be careful not to over water your grass and plants. Most plants need 1" or less of water a week to thrive.
6. A **working** rain sensor can cut 45% of water usage in one month. If you have a rain sensor, check to see if it is working.
7. Mulching is essential to the survival of your landscape during a drought. Mulch will reduce the amount of water that evaporates from your soil, greatly reducing your need to water your plants.

MUD 18 newsletters and pamphlets enclosed with your monthly bills offer additional helpful tips for conserving water usage. Our website www.mcmud18.com offers advice and links to sites that focus on residential water conservation. A copy of the updated Drought Contingency Plan is on our website.

Recycle Tips:

Because the recycle bins are picked up mechanically by an automated truck, the following tips are critical to the recycle service:

1. Place the bin with the front facing the street so that the automated truck forklift can grasp the container under the metal bar in the front and lift it above the truck upside down so the contents can drop out. Look for the embossed reminder "Place Street Side" on the front edge of the lid.
2. All recycle material must be placed in the container. Customers are encouraged to recycle cardboard; but keep in mind that the cardboard must fit within the container. Stacks of cardboard laying next to the container cannot be picked up by the automated truck.



Sign-up for E-Blasts: If you are not receiving our E-Blasts you are missing out on timely information, go to our website www.mcmud18.com and give us your email address. Your address will not be shared with anyone and you can unsubscribe at any time.



Need to report a Problem? Don't assume the problem has already been identified or reported. If you observe a water leak, sewer odor, discolored water, open manholes, alarms are sounding, or other problems, please help us by calling:

Hays Utility Service @ 936-588-1166.

Hays has someone in Bentwater every day, seven days a week. They can and will respond 24 hours a day. Their general office hours are from 8:00AM to 4:30PM Monday through Friday.

Meetings Open to the Public:

Our regularly scheduled monthly meetings are the **2nd Tuesdays at 2:30PM** in the Country Club Board Room. Meetings are open to the public. The agenda is posted on our web site and the message board in the breezeway entrance to the Country Club Grill near the Golf Pro-shop.

Sincerely,

Your MUD Board:

Lou Tichacek	President	597-7010
Linda Pierce	Vice President	597-5463
Roy Champagne	Treasurer	597-8786
Joe Constantino	Secretary	597-8029
Chris Uzelmeier	Assistant Secretary	449-5198