



## Fulton County Level 2 Drought Response Declaration Frequently Asked Questions

### **1. I heard the drought level changed. Can I still water everyday?**

- No. On November 17, 2016, The Director of Georgia Environmental Protection Division issued a Level 2 Drought Declaration for 52 counties, including Fulton County. Outdoor irrigation of lawns, gardens, and trees is permitted twice a week on the odd/even schedule. Even and unnumbered addresses may water on Wednesday and Saturday before 10AM and after 4PM and ODD addresses may water on Thursday and Sunday before 10AM and after 4PM.

### **2. Can I still wash my car or pressure wash my house any day too?**

- No. During Drought Level 2 car washing, pressure washing, and washing of hard surfaces is banned. There are exemptions for professionals.

### **3. If I don't have an automated sprinkler do I have to water with a hose before 10 AM or after 4 PM?**

- No. The new rules allow hand watering with a shut off nozzle any time of the day any day of the week. Contact The Department of Public Works to receive a shut off nozzle.

### **4. What if I have a little league game scheduled and we need to water the field to cool it down at 2 PM?**

- Sports fields and parks are exempt from the hourly restrictions. These areas may be watered any time any day of the week. We encourage watering between the hours of 4PM -10AM.

### **5. What if I put in new landscape? Can I water everyday?**

- Yes. Newly installed landscape is also exempt from the odd/even and hourly restrictions for the first 30 days following installation.
- You may receive a 30-day exemption for newly installed landscape or overseeding. Please complete the landscape exemption form found here: <http://www.fultoncountyga.gov/images/stories/WR/WC/Drought/ExemptionForm16.pdf>

### **6. What about drip irrigation?**

- Drip irrigation is completely exempt from the outdoor rules it may be used any day or any time.

### **7. What if a professional pressure washes my house? Does it have to be on the odd / even schedule?**

- No. Commercial businesses are exempt from day of the week restrictions.

### **8. Can I have a charity car wash during Level 2 Drought Response?**

- No. All charity and fundraising carwashes are prohibited at Level 2.



## Fulton County Level 2 Drought Response Declaration Frequently Asked Questions (Cont'd)

### **9. Can I run the fountains at my property during a Level 2 Drought Response?**

- No. Ornamental fountains, waterfalls, and reflecting pools are prohibited during drought level 2.

### **10. What exemptions exist to the Level 2 restrictions?**

- Commercial Agriculture.
- Alternative sources of water (grey water, rain water, condensate, etc.)
- Irrigation of food gardens.
- Irrigation of newly installed or reseeded turf for the first 30 days.
- Drip irrigation or soaker hoses.
- Hand watering with a shut off nozzle.
- Water from a private well.
- Irrigation of plants for sale.
- Irrigation of athletic fields, golf courses or public recreational turf.
- Installation and maintenance of irrigation systems.
- Hydroseeding.

### **11. Use the step test to evaluate if your lawn needs to be watered:**

- Place your foot firmly on your turf area.
- Watch how quickly the turf springs up to cover your footprint.
- If the turf springs up immediately (a few seconds) your turf is probably not in need of watering. flyer
- If the foot print remains or the turf slowly rises to eventually cover it your turf is in need of a deep watering.

### **12. Visually Inspect plants to see if they require water before irrigating on your day.**

- Check plants in the early morning or late evening. Plants checked in the heat of the day will always appear to need water.
- If the plant is wilting; yellow or grayish in appearance; has dried edges or browning; or loss of flowering the plant is probably in need of water.
- More plants die during a drought due to overwatering.

For more information on proper plant and landscape maintenance please visit

[http://northgeorgiawater.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/MDC\\_WaterWise\\_Landscape\\_Final-7MB.pdf](http://northgeorgiawater.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/MDC_WaterWise_Landscape_Final-7MB.pdf)

or call The Public Works Department Water Resources at 404-612-7400.