

Rockaway Township Municipal Utility

65 Mount Hope Road Rockaway, New Jersey 07866

Mayor, Michael Dachisen
Superintendent, Robert W. Sheard

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August 18, 2015

Dear Valued Customer,

Historically, Rockaway Township water customers utilize 25 to 30 percent more water during the summer months, especially when the weather is humid and hot. This increase in water usage is mostly from outside water usage.

As with most towns in Northern New Jersey, Rockaway Township's water supply comes from ground wells that have a limited supply and pumping capability. Although, we have been able to supply water during times of high demand, it does have a significant impact and effect on our pumps and motors as well as the aquifers ability to recharge.

In an effort to help reduce our usage on high demand days and conserve water in general, thus allowing our wells and pumps to rest, we would like to offer the following water conservation tips and ideas.

Your cooperation will help the Utility reduce the possibility of implementing mandatory water conservation restrictions in the future.

- Check the root zone of your lawn or garden for moisture before watering using a spade or trowel. If it's still moist two inches under the soil surface, you still have enough water. Also you can step on grass if it bounces back, no need to water.
- Water each area of your lawn for 10 minutes early morning or late evening this allows the water to absorb into the ground with less evaporation.
- Watering of Lawns twice a week provides plenty of moisture for your grass, **there is no need to water every day** (Even # House = Monday & Wednesday's, Odd # House = Tuesday & Thursday's)
- Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered and not the house, sidewalk, or street.
- Water only when necessary. More plants die from over-watering than from under-watering.
- Be sure to use automatic nozzles do not let water run.
- Sweep or blow driveways clean, do not wash them.
- If kids are using sprinklers to stay cool, move the sprinkler around every 10 minutes to water the lawn in areas that need it the most, and do not leave the sprinkler on when the kids are done.
- Adjust your lawn mower to a higher setting. A taller lawn shades roots and holds soil moisture better than if it is closely clipped.
- Install covers on pools and spas and check for leaks around your pumps.

Customer's may contact the Utility directly regarding Water Conservation Measures or feel free to visit the town's website at www.rockawaytownship.org for more ways of saving water.

Thank you for your help in making sure we have water not only for today but for tomorrow

Sincerely,

Robert W Sheard - Superintendent, CPWM