



TOWN OF LINCOLN
MIDDLESEX COUNTY MASSACHUSETTS

TOWN OF LINCOLN
WATER DEPARTMENT
16 Lincoln Road
Lincoln, MA 01773
Phone: 781-259-2669

Mandatory Outdoor Water Restriction **August 13, 2020**

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, through its Water Management Act permitting process, has imposed limits on the amount of water towns are allowed to withdraw from their respective watersheds. Lincoln's permit includes a limit on the overall water we use and also requires that the Town reduce individual water consumption to the 65 gallons per person per day performance standard.

On August 13, 2020 The Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs upgraded the Drought Status for most of Middlesex (including Lincoln) and Essex Counties for the northeast region of the State to a "**Significant Drought**". As a result of these low precipitation levels, the Department has experienced elevated demand due to lawn watering activities.

Effective August 13, 2020, the Lincoln Water Department has increased the water use restrictions from Stage 2 to Stage 3. The by-law establishes enforceable limitations on the use of municipal water during periods of water shortages or drought conditions. The purpose of the by-law is to protect, preserve and maintain public health, safety and welfare when water supply conservation is mandated or water supply emergency has been declared. The demand reduction goal in this Stage is 25%-40% water use. **Conservation measures in Stage 1 and Stage 2 plus the following Mandatory Restrictions:**

Even numbers = Saturday
Odd numbers = Sunday

1. Customers will be allowed to water established lawns and landscaping **one day per week** using in-ground irrigation systems or hose-mounted sprinkler between the hours of 7:00 PM and 7:00 AM.
2. Customers will be allowed to hand water using a hose with a nozzle any day of the week between the hours of 6:00 PM and 9:00 AM.
3. No watering between 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM
4. Exceptions from the watering restrictions for new lawns are allowed only during June and September and will be limited to watering during the first 20 days after installation.
5. Swimming pools may be filled no more than three inches per month.
6. Car washes, including fundraisers, are prohibited.

Water Department staff will be monitoring all sprinkler use in Town and will stop to remind residents of the new restriction policy. A first offence will result in a \$100 fine, and subsequent violations will result in a \$200 fine. If any residents have questions, please contact MaryBeth Wisser, Water Superintendent, by phone at 781-259-2669 or by email wiserm@lincolntown.org Monday through Friday, 7:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

For further information on water conservation and what residents and communities can do, visit the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs' [drought page](#).