



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

The Water Department Drought Management Plan provides guidance on appropriate water restrictions for outdoor water use as needed. These restrictions apply to non-essential outdoor watering by residential and commercial customers. Agricultural water use is considered essential. **Customers who are farmers as defined in the Lincoln Right to Farm Bylaw are therefore exempt from these restrictions.**

Effective May 1, 2021: Mandatory Stage 2 outdoor watering restrictions

Because Lincoln continues to draw more water from the Charles River Watershed than allowed by permit and continues to exceed the mandated residential use of 65 gallons per person per day, the Water Department is required to enforce outdoor water use restrictions from May 1 through September 30.

(Drought declarations by the state supersede the Lincoln restrictions.)

Summary of Restrictions

Allowed Activity	Time of day	Stage 1	Stage 2 (2 days per week)	Stage 3 (1 day per week)	Stage 4
Handheld watering	6PM-9AM	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed
Above-ground/ in-ground sprinklers	7PM-7AM	Every	By house number Even = Tues/Sat Odd = Wed/Sun	By house number Even = Sat Odd = Sun	Not allowed
Soaker hoses	Any time		2 days per week	1 day per week	Not allowed
Drip irrigation	Any time		2 days per week	1 day per week	1 day per week
New lawns	Install	Any time	June, Sep only+20 days of daily watering	June, Sep only 1 day per week	Not allowed
	Watering	Any time	Then 2 days per week only		
Washing vehicles	Any time	Allowed	Use commercial	Use commercial	Use commercial
Washing buildings, pavement	Any time	Allowed	Not allowed	Not allowed	Not allowed
Swimming pools, hot tubs, spas, Jacuzzis	Any time	Allowed	One fill per season for new or repair	Topping off only 3" per month	Topping off or refill Not Allowed
Car wash fundraisers	Any time	Allowed	Allowed	Not allowed	Not allowed
Games or toys with continuous water	Any time	Allowed	Allowed 30 mins/day on the assigned watering day	Allowed 30 mins/day on the assigned watering day	Not allowed

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. Because Lincoln does not meet those limits, Stage 1 water use restrictions are in force in the winter months and **Stage 2 water use restrictions are automatically implemented May 1st and continue to September 30th. Higher restrictions may be imposed in response to state drought declarations.**

During Stage 2 and above, 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 Dan Pereira, Acting Water Superintendent, by phone at 781-259-2669 Monday through Friday, 7:00 AM to 3:00 PM or by email to Dan Pereira at dpereira@lincnet.org.

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