

Drought Response & Mandatory Water Conservation FAQ's (UPDATED)

What days of the week should I water?

Refer to your street address using the last digit of your house number. Odd numbers will water on Wednesday, Friday, and Sunday. Even numbers will water on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. For example, the street address for 7506 West Baxter Street would water on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday whereas 3503 South 7200 West would water on Wednesday, Friday and Sunday.

When does the Level 2 Mandatory Water Conservation take effect?

Enforcement of conservation measures will begin in July after a two-week noticing period (July 19th)

How often can I water and what is the duration I can water per cycle?

Level 2 Mandatory Water Conservation allows for watering on three days per week based on your street address as indicated above. This conservation level does not include restrictions on duration of watering per cycle, however, we recommend setting pop up spray heads sprinklers to no more than 20 minutes and rotating or impact rotor sprinklers to no more than 40 minutes for grass areas. In most cases hand watering should be used for any localized brown spots instead of increasing duration of cycle. Drip irrigation often requires longer cycles to complete since the rate of application is significantly less than traditional sprinkler systems.

Do the mandatory conservation measures include secondary water systems?

Yes, all outdoor landscape watering is included in the mandatory water conservation. This includes secondary water systems and culinary water systems.

I would like to file a complaint about excessive water usage, how can I do that?

Utah Division of Water Resources has a reporting tool called The Hall of Fame or Shame which is a convenient, easy to use and quick way to report violations: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/fameorshame>

The Division compiles and forwards a spreadsheet of these complaints to Magna Water District. Magna Water District will then review and investigate these reports on a case-by-case basis.

Can Magna Water District send out a comparison of usage based on my neighborhood?

Not currently, however, every month on the bill there is a comparison with usage last year at the same time. Using that data, you should be able to see how your watering habits compare to last year. In addition, we can offer some comparison to District wide water usage as a whole: Average annual usage is 527 gallons per day per residential equivalent connection (3.15 people) or approximately 16,000 gallons per month. Summer months are typically higher than the average on account of outdoor watering and winter months are lower than the average when no outdoor watering is happening.

I have a newly constructed home; can I plan on planting seed or laying sod?

Magna Water District recommends delaying new lawn installation until Fall when temperatures are cooler however we do not want to have anyone lose their new landscaping due to under watering and will allow exceptions for new landscape installations on a case-by-case basis.

Are parks, schools, and churches included in the mandatory water conservation?

Yes, they are included however it can be difficult for them to complete irrigation of large turf areas with multiple irrigation zones without watering during the day or on successive days. We will work with each of these customers



on a case-by-case basis to ensure conservation is maximized but also allow enough watering for proper minimum maintenance of functional or actively used turf areas.

I have a smart irrigation controller or other drip system set up at my home that is designed to conserve water, but I may water on a different day than assigned occasionally. Do I have to modify my system or routine to fit with the Level 2 Mandatory Water Conservation guidelines?

We encourage our customers to make all practical attempts to water on assigned days but recognize there may be exceptions since the guidelines are designed to target water abusers. The goal is to have everyone do their part to conserve. We will follow up with complaints on a case-by-case basis and investigate each complaint to determine if a notice of violation is warranted.

Are there additional conservation levels beyond Level 2 Mandatory Water Conservation?

Yes, in response to the extreme drought experienced back in the earlier 2000's, Magna Water District developed standard procedures/protocols with increasing levels of water conservation measures, restrictions, and enforcement procedures including Level 1 Water Conservation (default) which encourages voluntary conservation through tiered rate structure pricing, conservation information, public outreach, free water audits, & time of day watering recommendations (no watering between 10 am & 6 pm). Level 2 Mandatory Water Conservation (current) which limits how/when irrigation water may be used with time of day &/or days of week limitations with enforcement actions. If drought conditions were to progress even further & threaten water supplies, the next two levels include further restrictions & enforcement actions. Level 3 Mandatory Water Restrictions include temporary increases to water rate tier schedules & temporary bans on new lawn installations. Level 4 Emergency Water Restrictions include both how/when & how much watering will be allowed.

For more detailed information please refer to Section 9.1.3 Water Conservation and Restrictions from the District's AR&R's. You can download a copy of this section on the Water Conservation & Drought Info page on the website at <https://www.magnawater.com/conservation-and-drought-info>

Is the notice available in other languages?

No, unfortunately the notice is not available in other languages.

Won't this make me use more water if I am only watering twice a week currently?

No, the intent is to encourage conservation by limiting watering to no more than three days per week. Watering twice per week is even better and we encourage our customers to conserve as much water as they can without sacrificing their landscaping.

My neighbor is flood irrigating during the day. Is this allowed?

Yes, although it is less common, flood irrigation is still used in Magna by some of our customers who own private water shares in the Utah & Salt Lake Canal. This water is not provided by Magna Water District and we have no right to enforce mandatory conservation on these users.

Can I use my hose to fill my dog's watering bowl during the middle of the day?

Yes absolutely. The intent is to limit outdoor watering of landscaping during the hottest period of the day when watering is less efficient due to evaporation, not to prevent functional uses such as drinking water for pets, filling a kiddie pool for kids to play in, etc.

