

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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DANVERS MOVES TO LEVEL 5 WATER RESTRICTIONS

The Town of Danvers has moved to Level 5 DROUGHT CONDITIONS. This means that outdoor lawn & garden watering is restricted to **hand-held hoses and cans ONLY, from 7:00 PM to 8:00 AM.** No sprinklers or irrigation systems will be allowed. In addition, the filling of swimming pools and washing of cars are NOT permitted. These restrictions result from low flow in the Ipswich River and not enough rain from March through the beginning of August.

These water restrictions were instituted when the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) mandated regulations as part of the Water Management Act, due to growing concerns of highly stressed river basins. Danvers is one of several communities in the Ipswich River basin which is a stressed water basin that prompted these new regulations. DEP regulations include a summer cap, which runs from May 1 through October 1, restricting Town use to 3.8 million gallons per day (mgd) on a yearly average. Conserving water now will reduce the need for the Town to implement more stringent restrictions later.

The Town is committed to saving water in a variety of ways. “We promote conservation all year long,” said DPW Director, David Lane. “Now we are in need of residents to really take charge and drop their water use. If everyone makes an effort to save, then we will be okay.”

These restrictions will be enforced. “The Police will be assisting us as well as our own DPW crews who are around Town all day,” says Lane. First time violators will get a warning letter and subsequent violations will result in a \$300 fine.

The Town is requesting residents to watch for changes in outdoor water restriction levels as the summer progresses. The Town will announce changes on Town building signage

throughout Danvers, local cable access television, the Town website (www.danvers.govoffice.com), the Danvers DPW Facebook & Twitter pages, and the local newspapers.

“Please do your part: turn off your sprinklers, monitor water play by children, run only full loads of laundry or dishes, shut the water off when you brush your teeth and shave, etc. These are just a few tips; I am sure you can think of other ways to help save water. The Town thanks all of you for helping,” said Lane.

We all have a responsibility to do our share to conserve water. If you have any questions on the water restrictions, please contact the DPW at 978-777-0001 x3012.
