FRUIT HEIGHTS CITY IRRIGATION WATER

SAVING WATER: EASY STEPS WE ALL CAN TAKE

The idea of conserving water isn't anything new, but it is something we all must work on together. Utah is experiencing an extreme drought, prompting Governor Cox to issue a state of emergency. Suppliers of irrigation water have been tasked with helping us all conserve water.

Seventy percent of the water we consume is used on landscaping. As we start watering lawns again, it is important to understand a few things about our supply of irrigation water. The 2020 water season started with a low snowpack, followed by a hot and dry summer. This caused water storage levels to be low. Then, our most recent winter did not produce the snow we need.

This wasn't the first dry year. Utah has been in an extended drought for years. The Utah Division of Water Resources suggests the cheapest and least invasive way to address concerns is through water conservation efforts.

Secondary water providers are asking all users to do the following:

- Voluntarily reduce water usage by 20 percent
- Do not water in the heat of the day (10 a.m. 6 p.m.)
- Adjust watering based on weather and need

"Typical Utah households use twice as much water outside as necessary," states the Utah Division of Water Resources.

Utah has developed the Weekly Watering Guide as an online tool. It recommends how many days per week to water based on research and weather conditions in your county. See weekly guide at https://conservewater.utah.gov/guide.html.

910 S. Mountain Road Fruit Heights, UT Phone: 801-546-0861 www.fruitheightscity.com SPECIAL EDITION MAY 2021

Important Note: Caucus Meeting Please join us at Fruit Heights City Hall for a Caucus Meeting Thursday, May 20 at 7 p.m. Candidates will be chosen for Mayor and City Council.

WEEKLY WATERING GUIDE



Weekly Guide for May 6, 2021 Source: Conservewater.utah.gov/guide.html

MANAGING LAWNS DURING DROUGHT

Many people work hard to beautify their yard and gardens. No one wants to see that hard work wasted. But, by being aware, we can all use less water and work together to be drought prepared.

Use 20% less: Check your sprinkler timer, and adjust time/days to reduce consumption by 20%.

One less day: By watering one less day, you can save 3,000 gallons of water.

Adjust your mower height: Taller grass blades shade the root system and hold in moisture.

Water infrequently: Stretching watering days further apart encourages grass to grow deep roots.

Dormant is OK: When adequate moisture isn't available, healthy grass will go dormant. Watering infrequently keeps the crowns hydrated and increases long-term survival during dry spells.

Install a Smart Sprinkler Timer: These timers connect with local weather stations, auto-adjusting to weather and soil conditions, decreasing water use. Fruit Heights City has smart timers available for \$20 (retail \$178). **Visit www.fruitheightscity.com to purchase.**

WHO SUPPLIES MY SECONDARY WATER?

Residents often ask if Fruit Heights City supplies secondary water (irrigation water) to their home. Fruit Heights provides residents with culinary water (drinking water), but for the most part, secondary water is supplied by Benchland Water District or Haights Creek Irrigation. **SEE MAP BELOW**

Fruit Heights does own and maintain a small secondary water district that serves a very small portion of homes on the east bench of the City. Weber Basin Water Conservancy District also provides secondary water to a limited number of homes in our city.

Secondary water providers are asking everyone to voluntarily reduce use by 20%, and to avoid watering between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Benchland Water is imposing an immediate restriction of no secondary water use on weekends.

In further conservation efforts, the secondary water season is going to be shorter this year. All

providers have announced the water turn off date will be October 1, 2021, instead of mid October.

Reminder: Secondary water is an untreated water supply for use on landscapes only. This water source should not be used for outdoor recreation such as pools or playing in sprinklers. Water from this source should never be consumed.

If you have questions, concerns or needs regarding secondary water and its use, you may contact the following providers:

Benchland Water District www.benchlandwater.com 801-451-2105

Haight's Creek Irrigation www.haightscreek.org 801-546-4242

Weber Basin Water District www.weberbasin.com 801-771-1677

Fruit Heights City www.fruitheightscity.com 801-546-0861

