

# *City of Villa Rica*

571 West Bankhead Hwy.  
Villa Rica, Ga. 30180

Danny Mabry, City Manager

Reedell Saxon, City Clerk



770-459-7000 – Telephone  
770-459-7003 – Fax

TO: All Public Institutions Serving Food in the City of Villa Rica  
FROM: Danny Mabry, City Manager  
SUBJ: Actions to reduce water usage as required by the Governor's Executive Order of October 20, 2007  
DATE: November 8, 2007

As I am sure you are aware, most of North Georgia is experiencing unprecedented drought conditions. In response to these conditions and future forecasts which predict a drier than average winter, on October 20, 2007 Governor Sonny Perdue issued an Executive Order requiring all public water supply systems to reduce production by ten percent (10%) effective November 1, 2007. As defined in the Order, the reduction must be ten percent (10%) from the base period of December 2006 through March 2007 which are typically "lower use" months for most water supply systems.

The City of Villa Rica is implementing steps to meet the ten percent (10%) reduction requirements in a series of phased measures. At their November 6, 2007 meeting, the Mayor and Council approved Phase I conservation measures. A copy of the Phase I measures is attached. The purpose of this memorandum is to call to your attention specific measures applicable to your public institution.

1. Effective November 15, 2007 all public institutions providing food service are required to use only paper and plastic products for serving purposes. No service using regular dishes, flatware, etc. is permitted.
2. Public Institutions are encouraged to provide hand wipe sanitizers in all public restrooms as an option to hand washing using a sink and water.

Of course we also encourage you to utilize any other conservation measures available and we will be glad to provide you with information on a number of opportunities in this regard. Please contact us at 770-459-7000 for additional information.

We appreciate your cooperation in working with the City to meet the reduction requirements of the Governor's Executive Order. If we fail to meet the ten percent (10%) reduction, the City is subject to monetary penalties from the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (GA EPD).

If you have any questions please contact the City at 770-459-7000.

## Phase I

- Non-exempt outdoor watering – Rules regarding outside watering have been in place for some time now. There is no reason for anyone to be unfamiliar with the requirements. It is recommended that verified violations result in immediate loss of service. Restoration of service will cost \$150.00 following the first violation, \$250.00 for the second violation, and \$1,000.00 for the third violation.
  - Irrigation meters – The only permissible uses of water through irrigation meters are those specifically stipulated as exempt. Verified violations will result in immediate loss of service for both the irrigation meter and the normal service meter. Restoration fees will be applicable for both services at the same cost each as enumerated above. However, the irrigation meter will not be placed back into service until drought restrictions are lifted.
- Food service – All food service establishments are being directed and/or requested to assist in the following manner:
  - Public institutions (schools, hospitals, senior centers, etc) are being directed to use paper and plastic only, no regular dishes or silverware effective by November 15, 2007.
  - Privately-owned restaurants are being asked to serve water by request only and to offer their customers the option of being served with paper and plastic.
- Public bathrooms – All places of business with public bathrooms are being directed to provide hand wipes as an option to washing hands using a sink.
- Conservation – All citizens and businesses are being asked to review their water use to determine how much water they can save. A Household Water Audit form will be available on the City's web site and printed copies will be available at City Hall. Education materials on water conservation will be placed in public buildings and schools for use by local residents. The City has ordered conservation kits which will be distribute free of charge. Once installed, the items in the kit will significantly reduce water flow from faucets and showerheads.
- Resource development – The City is working with University of West Georgia geologists to develop new wells and with Rindt-McDuff Engineering to determine if the use of Spring Lake is a viable option. Staff is also developing emergency measures in the event current water sources are exhausted.
- Lead by example – the City has completed a review of all its facilities and has identified plumbing fixtures which need to be retrofitted and/or replaced to meet conservation standards. This program will cost approximately \$22,000 but will significantly reduce water use in City facilities.