



Dear Residents,

Everyone should be aware that our spring weather did not produce anywhere close to normal amounts of rain and this was after a much drier than normal winter. In fact, the Provo weather station recorded a scant 0.17 inches for the month of May and 1.03 inches in April. Fortunately, my weather station recorded a bit more than Provo. Nevertheless, the drought conditions for the entire Utah County area is listed as either Extreme or Exceptional. Due to the drought conditions all across Utah, Governor Cox has issued multiple executive orders asking Utahns to use water wisely and to adjust outdoor watering. I whole heartedly support our Governor's request and feel that conservation is important here in Elk Ridge.

In his executive orders, the Governor asked that we follow water-saving tips found at SlowTheFlow.org and I encourage each household to review the suggestions and act upon them. Furthermore, the Governor's executive orders calls for cities to develop and implement water restriction plans for the irrigation season.

In cooperation with the Governor's executive order, I sincerely request that each resident recognize the serious nature of the drought and to find active ways to conserve water. I suggest the following conservation measures be implemented by every household within the city;

1. Do not water lawns between the hours of 10 AM and 7 PM. It is wasteful to water during these hours due to the high evaporation rate that occurs.
2. Watering during the hours beginning at 7 PM and ending at 10 AM the following day according to the following schedule:
 - a. Odd numbered homes shall only water on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday
 - b. Even numbered homes shall only water on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday
 - c. No watering on Sunday to allow systems to recharge.
 - d. Consider skipping one of the three watering times. Lawns can survive drought conditions fairly well because they become dormant and recover when conditions improve.
3. Pay attention to the weather! Do not water if mother nature does it for you. Furthermore, don't water in windy conditions.

Because our wells are performing as expected and water levels look fairly good, I will not be issuing a proclamation that would enact mandatory restrictions. Instead, I appeal to the common sense of each resident, that taking steps to conserve water during a drought is the right thing to do. However, if the situation changes, it may become necessary to enact mandatory restrictions, but I certainly hope not.

Let's do our individual part to conserve this precious resource, and remember, we are experiencing a severe drought, so we ought to behave accordingly. The new green should include some not-so-green areas.

Thank you,

Mayor Ellis