



# Town of Simsbury

933 HOPMEADOW STREET ~ SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT 06070

*Maria E. Capriola - Town Manager*

## Voluntary Water Conservation Measures

The Town of Simsbury is asking residents connected to our public water systems to please engage in voluntary water conservation measures at this time. Due to below average precipitation, unseasonably warm weather, and increases in water demand two of our three water utilities have sent messages to their customers seeking voluntary water conservation measures.

Here are five ways you can help to conserve **OUTDOOR** water use:

- ✓ Adjust your mower to a higher setting. A taller lawn provides shade to the roots and helps retain soil moisture, so your lawn requires less water.
- ✓ Reduce your sprinkler setting to 2 days per week. The grass roots will grow deeper and make your grass more drought tolerant.
- ✓ Adjust your sprinklers so that they're watering your lawn and garden, and not the street or sidewalk.
- ✓ Turn off your irrigation system and use hand watering or drip irrigation for shrubs and flowers.
- ✓ Inspect your overall irrigation system for leaks, broken lines or blockage in the lines. A well-maintained system will save you money, water, and time.

Here are five ways you can help to conserve **INDOOR** water use:

- ✓ Turn off the water while lathering up, shaving, or brushing your teeth.
- ✓ Minimize baths and the amount of water you use for each. Trim one minute off the length of your showers.
- ✓ Wash only full loads in your dishwasher and washing machine.
- ✓ Hand wash dishes in a pan or the sink, not under continuous running water.
- ✓ Reuse dehumidifier water or use a bucket to capture shower and bath water while you wait for it to warm up; then use the water to water your plants.

For additional tips to reduce your water use please visit [www.aquarionwater.com/consERVE](http://www.aquarionwater.com/consERVE).

In order to better understand the increased demand, we are sharing some recent data provided to the Town by Aquarion. This data applies to water consumption of customers on Aquarion's water system only. Aquarion has reported that in the month of June Simsbury's historic average demand is 2.2 Million gallons per day. Our demand in Simsbury for the last week has been over 4 Million gallons per day and has approached 4.5 Million gallons per day. Our winter demand in Simsbury is approximately 1.5 Million gallons per day. A high summer peaking factor in the water industry is 2 times winter demand. Simsbury is approaching a summer peaking factor of 3 times winter demand. Our peaking factor is currently the highest for any town in the state served by Aquarion.

During this period of dry conditions, the Town has taken measures to reduce its water consumption. We have reduced our irrigation at parks and athletic fields, reducing our water consumption due to irrigation by an estimated 20%.

Additionally, the Simsbury Farms Golf Course is not connected to a public water supply. The Golf Course utilizes a retention pond and well for irrigation purposes. When dry conditions arise, the Golf Course carefully monitors weather and turf conditions and reduces the frequency of their irrigation as well.