

PRESS RELEASE - IMMEDIATE

MERRIMACK VILLAGE DISTRICT 2 GREENS POND RD MERRIMACK, NH 03054

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE LEVEL 3 WATER BAN - UPDATE

Thank you to all MVD customers for adhering to the outside watering ban. While the irrigation ban will remain in effect, the Board has now approved car washing by hose with a sprayer that shuts off the water when not in use, as well as the power washing of structures. Filling of kiddie pools and the use of hand held watering for gardens **are** also still acceptable. Water use remains on the odd/even schedule.

As of today, the NH Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) has advised public water systems, in part that... "The entire state was <u>categorized as abnormally dry</u> as of June 18th. It is likely that the southwestern portion of the state will be categorized as being in a moderate drought later this week. Over the last 60 days, the state has experienced a significant deficit in precipitation when compared to average precipitation amounts for the same time period. The majority of the northern half of the state including Belknap, Grafton, Carrol, and Coos counties have received 25 to 50% less precipitation than normal. To the south, the majority of Sullivan, Merrimack, Strafford, Rockingham, Hillsborough, and Cheshire counties have received 50 to 75% less precipitation than normal. NHDES has issued a <u>press release</u> urging private well owners to conserve and those on public water systems to abide by restrictions." (To see the full notice go to <u>mvdwater.org</u>)

There is no prediction as to when this prohibition of water use for irrigation will be lifted. This ban is intended for the safety of the water supply and overall fire protection. The public's cooperation is urgent.

Violation of the ban, after receiving a warning, will result in termination of service and a subsequent reconnection fee of \$125.00 per MVD Bylaw 2J. MVD personnel will be actively observing violations and issuing warning letters. Please understand that warnings are given out to make individuals aware of the severity and that MVD employees are simply trying to protect the public water supply by delivering these notices.

Again, thank you for your assistance and compliance.