

*Department of Public Works
Dean Dellaquila, CPWM
Director of Public Works*

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CITY ASSUMES PROACTIVE MEASURE TO PROTECT AND UPGRADE WATER SUPPLY Outside Water Restrictions Will Provide Immediate Benefit to Public Safety

In collaboration with the Department of Environmental Protection, City Officials will be adopting mandatory restrictions on outdoor water use to conserve lower than normal water supplies.

Based on analysis of the City's current water system, which dates back circa 1910, the utility is experiencing limitations associated with all antiquated infrastructures of this time period. Currently, the system is running at capacity and will not accommodate the burden of additional service demands.

In an effort to reduce strain on high volume pumping stations, conservation will allow water reserves to build. The decision to place restrictions, serves as direct support of our Public Safety Department and first responders. In the event of a major emergency, reserves are crucial to sustain over all service levels.

Accordingly, restrictions will begin immediately and continue until September 30th. Affected activities include watering of lawns and gardens, car washing, power washing, and similar uses. While these activities will not be completely prohibited, they will only be permitted on scheduled days and times, which will be dependent on property location. See below for guidelines.

Guidelines are as follows:

Properties South of Route 49 will be permitted usage on odd calendar days.

Properties North of Route 49 will be permitted usage on even calendar days.

Usage will be permitted strictly between the hours of 5 a.m. – 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. – 9 p.m.

These restrictions will include residential, business, recreation and municipal use.

Police and Code Enforcement Officials will enforce restrictions on a daily basis. A first Violation will result in a warning being issued with any additional violations resulting in fines and other penalties in accordance with Municipal Ordinance 07-16 Sec 360:25-26.

These restrictions are an initial step to an upgraded water system and the ability to meet the demands of growth and development, ensuring better health for the entire community.

If you would like to learn more about water conservation in Bridgeton, restrictions, or related topics, please visit our website at www.cityofbridgeton.com or call the City of Bridgeton Water Department at (856) 455-3230 Ext 237. *Municipal Ordinance 07-16 Sec 360:25-26 see on page 2*

ORDINANCE 07-16

CITY OF BRIDGETON

ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 360-25 AND 360-26 OF THE
CODE OF THE CITY OF BRIDGETON IMPOSING PENALTIES
FOR VIOLATING WATER RESTRICTIONS

WHEREAS, Section 360-25 of the Code of the City of Bridgeton provides for the City to limit or restrict the quantity of water used whenever the Director of the Department of Water and Sewer determines it is expedient or necessary to do so and Section 260-26 provides authority for the City to shut off water in certain circumstances ;

WHEREAS, the Department of Environmental Protection may impose water use restrictions, for example, in times of drought or emergency or the Director of the Department of Water and Sewer may find that water use restrictions are necessary to protect the water supply of the City and that violations of the water use restrictions may have an immediate and deleterious effect upon the water supply of the City of Bridgeton;

WHEREAS, the City of Bridgeton is desirous of amending such section in order to impose penalties for violations of such water restrictions;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Bridgeton that Section 360-25 and Section 360-26 of the Code of the City of Bridgeton shall be amended and shall read as follows:

A. Right to limit water. The City reserves the right to decrease or limit the quantity of water used in the City of Bridgeton whenever, in the judgment of the Director of the Department of Water and Sewer, it is necessary or expedient to do so. The Director of the Department of Water and Sewer shall promulgate such restrictions by announcement in a local newspaper and by posting in the Office of the City Clerk.

B. Violation of water restrictions. It shall be unlawful for anyone to fail to abide by the restrictions placed upon water use by the Director of the Department of Water and Sewer, after promulgation of such restrictions.

1. Violations of this section are punishable as follows:

First Offense - a written warning.

Second Offense - \$50.00 municipal fine.

Third Offense - \$100.00 municipal fine.

Fourth Offense and every offense thereafter - \$250.00 municipal fine.

2. The Director of the Department of Water and Sewer or his or her agent shall have the authority to issue Notice of Violation or Summons and Complaint for violations as set forth herein.

3. If, in the opinion of the Director of the Department of Water and Sewer, the immediate shut off or termination of water service is necessary to prevent further wasting of water in violation of this section, the Director may shut off the water or discontinue water service without notice. If water service is terminated, a service charge of \$100 shall be imposed for the water turn on.

C. Any municipal fines imposed under this Section may be paid without appearance in court unless the summons otherwise indicates that a court appearance is necessary before the Judge of the Municipal Court of the City of Bridgeton. If a court appearance is required, the court may impose additional penalties as set forth in Section 1-17.

D. The City shall not be responsible for damages by reason of the failure to supply water insofar as it may affect any property or use thereof.

§360-26. Authority to Shut off Water shall be amended to add a (7) to Paragraph A, which (7) shall read as follows:

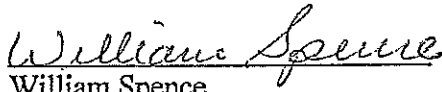
(7) For violation of water use restrictions promulgated by the Director of the Department of Water and Sewer.

This ordinance shall take effect immediately.

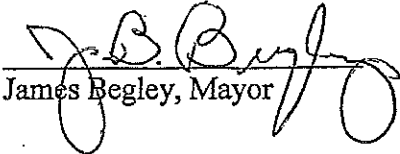
ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Bridgeton held on the 7 day of NOVEMBER, 2007, at 6:30 P.M.

ATTEST:


Darlene Richmond,
City Clerk


William Spence
Council President

APPROVED:


James Begley, Mayor