



CITY OF BLOOMINGTON UTILITIES  
Administration

August 9, 2012

City of Bloomington Utilities  
Water Customer

Dear Customer,

The City of Bloomington has declared a Water Emergency and is implementing **Mandatory Water Use Restrictions**. These restrictions apply to all customers of City of Bloomington Utilities and are necessary to maintain an adequate water supply for fire suppression, to protect the local economy and to provide for the essential water needs of all customers.

High water use related to drought conditions is causing the need for water use restrictions. Bloomington's water source, Monroe Reservoir, is plentiful; however, Bloomington's Water Treatment Plant is operating near, and at times, above capacity. The plant is currently undergoing an extensive expansion project to increase capacity that will be complete by July of 2013.

Pursuant to Bloomington Municipal Code 09.04.020, a legal notice of the water use restrictions was published in the Herald Times on August 9, 2012. That notice is attached to this letter. Water use restrictions are effective starting Monday, August 13, 2012 until October 11, 2012. These restrictions will be reviewed every fifteen (15) days at a minimum.

For more information, please visit the City's website at:

<http://bloomington.in.gov/waterwise>

For questions:

Email: [waterwise@bloomington.in.gov](mailto:waterwise@bloomington.in.gov)

or

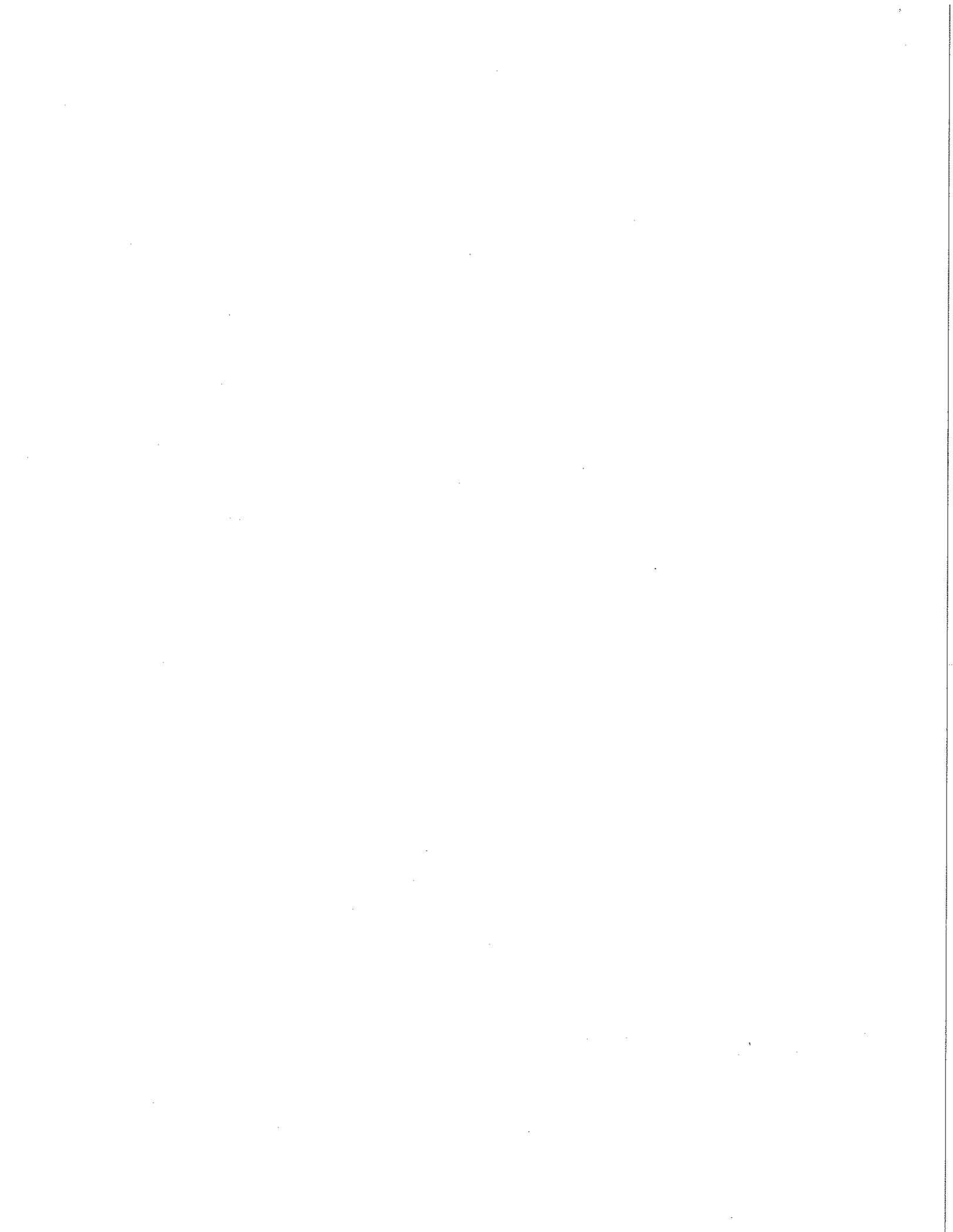
Call the Waterwise Hotline at: 812-349-4420

Your cooperation is appreciated and essential to maintaining uninterrupted water service.

Sincerely,

Patrick Murphy  
Director

City of Bloomington Utilities



## NOTICE OF EMERGENCY

### Water Shortage Warning – Mandatory Water Use Restrictions

Pursuant to its authority under State and local laws, rules, and regulations, the City of Bloomington Utilities has declared an emergency due to a shortage of treated water and is implementing mandatory water use restrictions. These restrictions apply to all customers of City of Bloomington Utilities and are necessary to maintain water pressure to ensure public safety and adequate system capacity for essential uses by all customers. Customers of other public and private water systems which purchase water from City of Bloomington Utilities are required to comply with all mandatory water use restrictions. These restrictions are subject to change as conditions require, and changes will be published as they occur.

**Beginning August 13, 2012, and until October 11, 2012, the following actions are unlawful uses of City of Bloomington distributed water:**

- 1. Outdoor Watering with City of Bloomington Utilities Water:** All outdoor watering is prohibited, regardless of method or time of day with the following exceptions:
  - a. Trees which were planted no more than five (5) years prior to these restrictions may be watered for one hour per day by hand using a container or hand-held hose with a shut-off nozzle, a drip irrigation system, or a soaker hose. Tree watering is limited to an area not to exceed the drip line of a tree, and may occur only before 10 a.m. and after 6 p.m.
  - b. Newly installed sod and landscape plants planted prior to these restrictions may be watered for 45 days from time of planting. Watering must occur before 10 a.m. and after 6 p.m.
  - c. Gardens that produce food for human consumption may be watered by hand using a container or hand-held hose with a shut-off nozzle before 10 a.m. and after 6 p.m.
  - d. Golf course tees, fairways, and greens may be watered before 10 a.m. and after 6 p.m. as needed to sustain them.
  - e. Sports fields (playing fields – not surrounding landscaping) may be watered as needed to provide for participant safety and league standards.
  - f. Installing and establishing new landscape plants and turf is prohibited. However, if the owner utilizes a water source other than that provided by City of Bloomington Utilities (or wholesale customers) the newly landscaped area shall not be subject to these restrictions. Examples of other water sources are wells, ponds, lakes, and streams.
  
- 2. Hosing / Washing:** Hosing paved areas, such as sidewalks, driveways, parking lots, tennis courts, patios, or other impervious surfaces, except to alleviate an immediate health or safety hazard is prohibited. Hosing buildings or other structures for purposes other than fire protection or surface preparation prior to painting is prohibited.
  
- 3. Runoff / Waste / Leaks:** The use of water in such a manner that allows runoff or other waste is prohibited. The failure to repair a controllable leak, including but not limited to a leaking valve, leaking or broken pipes, or a leaking faucet is prohibited.

**4. Other outdoor water uses:**

- a. Vehicle washing is prohibited except at a commercial car wash, commercial service station, or by a mobile commercial vehicle washing service. However, vehicle washing is permitted if required by applicable local, state, or federal law for public health or public safety reasons.
- b. Filling empty swimming pools or empty outdoor spa tubs is prohibited. Existing public and private swimming pools and spa tubs may add water to maintain operational levels. Private swimming pools may not be refilled with automatic fill valves.
- c. The use of water for dust control, except as required to protect public health and safety, is prohibited. Municipal Code requirements for dust control are not in effect during this water emergency. Public street sweepers may use water for dust control as necessary to protect public welfare.
- d. Operation of ornamental fountains and ponds is prohibited, except where necessary to support aquatic life.

**5. Commercial and Industrial Users:** Commercial and industrial users may be required to reduce water use by a set percentage. Commercial plant nursery stock may be watered as necessary for sustenance. Care must be taken to minimize water waste and ensure efficient use of the water.

**Violations:** Each customer is responsible for compliance with imposed restrictions with respect to the property where the customer receives water service. Violators will be subject to penalties and/or disconnection of water service. Penalties for violations are as follows:

- First violation shall be a written warning.
- Second violation shall be \$100.
- Third violation shall be \$250.
- Fourth violation shall be \$500 per day per violation.

To learn more please visit the City's website at: <http://bloomington.in.gov/waterwise>.

For questions or to report violations email at [waterwise@bloomington.in.gov](mailto:waterwise@bloomington.in.gov), or call the Water Wise Hotline at 812-349-4420.