



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Immediate irrigation ban effective due to extended lack of rainfall

Ban to help ensure water capacity, fire suppression preparedness

SPRING HILL, Tenn. – Effective immediately, the City of Spring Hill has issued an irrigation ban to ensure the City Water Department can provide sufficient potable water and fire suppression to our residents.

Maintaining water capacity at the Spring Hill Water Treatment Plant is always challenging this time of year, but it is becoming increasingly difficult with the extreme dry conditions experienced throughout Middle Tennessee.

Irrigation within City limits was already limited to certain days, per the Spring Hill Water Conservation Policy that's annually effective May - September. However, due to lack of rain in the previous 58 days, the City has experienced a draw down of the water storage tanks. Additionally, no rain is currently forecasted for the next seven or more days. Tank levels have been below 50% for the last 10 days. Water use due to irrigation is putting a significant amount of stress on the water system and is negatively affecting the plant's ability to replenish the tanks sufficiently, said Water Treatment Plant Superintendent Jeremy Vanderford.

As stated in the Water Conservation Policy, "during the summer months, Spring Hill water customers use 2.5 times the average daily winter use. This additional water goes to outdoor watering and irrigation."

BURN BAN: Spring Hill Fire Chief Terry Hood on Monday, Sept. 16, issued a mandatory ban on burning within City limits until further notice. The ban is the result of dry vegetation due to lack of rainfall.

"Until we receive a substantial amount of rain, we will not lift the burn ban," Chief Hood said. "Conditions right now are not conducive to safe burning. We appreciate the cooperation of the public and will announce the lifting of the ban as soon as conditions become favorable again."

The ban includes fire pits, but allows for grilling.

Effective immediately, the temporary irrigation ban is effective for the next 10 days in order for the tanks to completely refill. Should the tanks recover fully in a shorter amount of time, City staff will notify the Board of Mayor and Aldermen and the temporary ban could then be lifted.

The ban includes both residential and commercial properties that use City water for irrigation. The City will be actively enforcing the ban. Multiple violations could result in warnings, fines, or a discontinuation of water service.