

# BERGEN COUNTY ANNOUNCES ODD-EVEN LAWN WATERING RESTRICTIONS

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Watering Permitted Only Between 7 am - 10 am and Between 7 pm - 10 pm  
Harrington Park, NJ, Aug 13, 2010, 4:50PM

United Water New Jersey customers in Bergen County are subject to mandatory lawn watering restrictions following an order issued today by Bergen County Executive Dennis McNerney. The County implemented mandatory odd-even lawn watering restrictions at the request of United Water officials.

According to the County Executive, United Water customers in Bergen County may only water their lawns based on an odd-even system.

- Customers with an address ending in an odd digit (1,3,5,7,9) may water their lawns only on odd days of the month and only between the hours of 7 a.m. and 10 a.m. and between 7 p.m. and 10 p.m.

- Customers with an address ending in an even digit (2,4,6,8,0) may water their lawns only on even days of the month and only between the hours of 7 a.m. and 10 a.m. and between 7 p.m. and 10 p.m.

McNerney explained that the decision was due to a lack of precipitation, extreme temperatures and low reservoir storage levels. "Lawn watering can account for a 50 percent increase in water use," he said. "Conservation efforts now may delay the need for tougher restrictions in the future."

"We fully support the County Executive's decision to call for lawn watering restrictions," said Dennis Ciemniecki, president of United Water's regulated segment. "Similar restrictions are being implemented for United Water customers in six North Hudson communities. Restricting lawn watering helps the company to meet high demand, especially during its busiest hours. It is also an important reminder that conservation is essential because our water storage levels are declining and hot, dry weather patterns are expected to continue."

Ciemniecki explained that United Water New Jersey's reservoirs are currently 48 percent full. The average for this time of year is 75 percent. Customers have been using 147 million gallons of water a day or 13 million gallons more than average for July and August.

Ciemniecki also advised customers not to open fire hydrants. "We understand that the kids just want to cool off," he said, "but one open fire hydrant wastes about 42,000 gallons of water each hour. This creates a dangerous situation and firefighters may not have enough water or water pressure to combat a blaze." He asked residents to report open fire hydrants to the local police department. They can also call United Water's 24 hour emergency department at 201- 487-0011.

The odd-even lawn watering restrictions will remain in effect until they are superceded by any further restrictions declared by Bergen County or until superceded by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

For conservation tips visit [UnitedWater.com](http://UnitedWater.com) or call customer service at 1-800-422-5987.