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## PRESS RELEASE

### Sumner Asks Citizens to Conserve Water

Sumner, WA—During this hot, dry weather, the City of Sumner is having difficulties maintaining critically needed water supplies in the City’s reservoirs. The City is cutting back water use in parks and other City facilities and is asking citizens to also do what they can to conserve water use. The City’s goal is to maintain enough water for vital needs, especially for drinking.

Conservation measures that the City of Sumner is asking of its residents are as follows:

- Water lawns and gardens every-other day with houses at even-numbered addresses watering on even-numbered days and houses with odd-numbered addresses watering on odd-numbered days.
- Water so that plants get the most from the water:
  - Water at night--if watering in mid-day, most of the water goes into the air, not the soil.
  - Water vegetables and annuals at the first sign of wilting.
  - Water perennials if they stay droopy after it cools in the evening.
  - Use soaker hoses and drip irrigation rather than sprinklers.
- Avoid any non-critical uses of water including washing cars, washing the sidewalk (which should never be done anyway!), washing windows, etc.
- Wash dishes and clothes only when there is a full load, and use the lowest water setting necessary.
- Set pitchers of water in the refrigerator to cool rather than run the water waiting for it to cool.
- Fix any leaks immediately and call the City of Sumner at 253-299-5740 if it’s necessary to shut off water at the meter. Many residents who try to shut off their own meter often break the meter, causing a “gusher,” which would be disastrous to water supply.
- Find ways to double-use water. For example, if rinsing out a bowl or vase, dump the water on plants rather than down the drain.

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- Take the shortest shower possible. In general, a short shower uses less water than a bath.
- Practice regular water-conservation measures such as turning off the water when you brushing teeth and shaving.

The City is asking residents to observe these careful uses through the month of August to maintain enough water for drinking, bathing, fire flow and other critical uses despite record high temperatures. More water conservation tips can be found online at [www.wateruseitwisely.com](http://www.wateruseitwisely.com) and [www.awwa.org](http://www.awwa.org).

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