

Dear Citizen,

Due to drought conditions Hyde Park City is unable to provide the amount of water we are consuming. Most of the water used in the City is for outside irrigation and watering. Even though many use secondary (canal) water to irrigate their property, a very large segment of Hyde Park users consume culinary (drinking water) for irrigating their yard.

The spring flow that typically provides all of the water for the City in wintertime and a large portion during the summer is diminishing rapidly due to the drought. This shortage is expected to last for the remainder of the year.

Because the amount of water we are using for irrigation and culinary purposes exceeds the total amount we can pump and deliver, the levels of water in our tanks are falling each day. Please understand that you as users control how fast the tanks empty. At the rate we are using water this past week and on Sunday, each tank's water level can lower quickly even will empty completely with less water coming in than is going out. We project that the tanks will be empty by Saturday July 3rd at the current rate of use. **WE ARE ASKING THAT YOU REDUCE YOUR OUTSIDE WATER USE BY 50%.**

If each individual irrigating cut their watering by 50%, there would be no need to panic. The tanks would fill to full providing the water needed for drinking, washing, showering **and very importantly, fire protection**. As long as less is used than is coming in, we will be fine. The difference is reducing the amount of water going on lawns.

If you look, you will see that the City has stopped watering the park strip on Center Street and the south ½ of Lion's Park (except the tree strip along the road). We have reduced our watering in the north ½ of Lion's Park, maintaining only enough to keep the trees alive. We have reduced the watering at the Civic Center.

The new park on 600 South uses canal water for irrigation. We are using the least amount of the water to keep the grass areas (seeded last fall) growing until it is mature enough to not die with little water. We will then reduce our use there as much as possible.

Lee Park also uses canal water. We have reduced watering there by only 25% so the soccer fields can continue to be used. We plan to have fireworks there for our Hometown Days celebration on the 17th of July. After the celebration we will cut use of the canal water even more and hopefully be able to still have sports continue.

The area of the City above 400 east is the most at risk for water shortage as we can pump limited amounts of water uphill and our wells are near the post office and on 1st west in the north west part of the City. (Please see a detailed explanation in the June City Newsletter).

This is a serious situation. Please take the request to reduce watering by 50% seriously and help us to **slow the flow**. You and your neighbor's health and safety depend on it.

Mayor Charles Wheeler