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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City of Lafayette Implements Emergency Water Conservation Ordinance

LAFAYETTE, Colo April 3, 2013 – The Lafayette City Council approved an emergency ordinance Tuesday night putting in place watering restrictions to protect the City's water resources.

These temporary measures will go into effect immediately and include;

- **No watering of outdoor vegetation before April 16**
 - Exceptions: hand watering, commercial agriculture irrigation, short grass irrigation on City-owned golf course, irrigation on athletic fields used at least once per week for sporting events.
- **After April 16, no outdoor irrigation may occur between the hours of 10:00am and 6:00pm**
 - Exceptions: commercial agriculture irrigation, hand watering.
- **The planting or installation of any lawn or turf grasses in lawns, yards, or other areas is prohibited**

Additional restricted actions include;

- **The overrun of water onto any area not covered by vegetation such as sidewalks, curbs, gutters, streets and other paved areas**
- **The washing of any paved area with a hose using water from the municipal watering system**

City staff will also be assuming additional conservation measures such as no hydrant flushing for maintenance purposes, no street cleaning of medians, and no watering of rough grass areas at the golf course. Parks will only be irrigated before April 16 if necessary.

The City will continue to monitor the drought and assess current conditions. The weeks of April 8 and May 6 are future reporting dates which will provide new measurements to take into consideration.

This ordinance applies to all City of Lafayette municipal water customers. Fines will be assessed to water customers disregarding the emergency ordinance regulations. The amounts range from a minimum of \$100.00 for first time offenders to a \$500.00 minimum for third-time offenders.

The decision not to fill Waneka Lake this season with municipal water has also been made. The City recognizes the important role Waneka Lake plays in residents' enjoyment of the park, but because the lake serves as a recreational amenity and not a reliable storage facility the City's responsibility during this drought year is to conserve available water for municipal use.

Lafayette's water regulations are part practical conservation and part public education. Delaying lawn irrigation and restricting watering hours are tactics everyone can do even in non-drought situations. Residents are encouraged to explore additional water conservation resources provided by the City;

Toilet Rebates

Garden-In-A-Box Program

Free Indoor Water Audits

Free Sprinkler Inspections

Xeriscape Workshop - April 15

Composting Workshop - April 15

Free Mulch Giveaway - April 13 and 20

Best Practices for Outdoor Water Use

Additional Conservation Tips

The full context of Emergency Ordinance No. 07, Series 2013 can be found at <http://www.cityoflafayette.com/index.aspx?NID=764>

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