

STATE OF GEORGIA  
EFFINGHAM COUNTY

AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 75  
OF THE CODE OF EFFINGHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 75 OF THE CODE OF EFFINGHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA, AND TO REPEAL ALL OTHER ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Effingham County Board of Commissioners in regular meeting assembled and pursuant to lawful authority thereof.

The text of Article III of Chapter 75 of the Code of Effingham County, Georgia, is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced as follows:

**ARTICLE III. OUTDOOR WATER USE**

**Sec. 75-100. Definitions.**

When used in this section:

Address - means the "house number" (a numeric or alphanumeric designation) that, together with the street name, describes a physical location of a specific property. "Even numbered address" means a house number ending with the number 0, 2, 4, 6, 8 or no house number. "Odd numbered address" means a house number ending with the number 1, 3, 5, 7, or 9.

Declared drought response level - means one of four levels of drought that can be declared based on the severity of drought conditions, with one being the least severe and four being the most severe.

**Sec. 75-101. Applicability of rule.**

These rules apply to any county owned and operated water systems and customers of such, permitted by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) for water withdrawal or for operation of a drinking water system in Effingham County.

**Sec. 75-102. Outdoor water use schedule during non-drought periods.**

(a)(1) Persons may irrigate outdoors daily for purposes of planting, growing, managing, or maintaining ground cover, trees, shrubs, or other plants only between the hours of 4 P.M. and 10:00 A.M (12:00 midnight to 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 12:00 midnight).

(2) Paragraph (1) of this section shall not create any limitation upon the following outdoor water uses:

(A) Commercial agricultural operations as defined in OCGA Section 1-3-3;

(B) Capture and reuse of cooling system condensate or storm water in compliance with applicable local ordinances and state guidelines;

(C) Reuse of gray water in compliance with OCGA Section 31-3-5.2 and applicable local board of health regulations adopted pursuant thereto;

- (D) Use of reclaimed waste water by a designated user from a system permitted by the EPD to provide reclaimed waste water;
  - (E) Irrigation of personal food gardens;
  - (F) Irrigation of new and replanted plant, seed, or turf in landscapes, golf courses, or sports turf fields during installation and for a period of 30 days immediately following the date of installation;
  - (G) Drip irrigation or irrigation using soaker hoses;
  - (H) Handwatering with a hose with automatic cutoff or handheld container;
  - (I) Use of water withdrawn from private water wells or surface water by an owner or operator of property if such well or surface water is on said property;
  - (J) Irrigation of horticultural crops held for sale, resale, or installation;
  - (K) Irrigation of athletic fields, golf courses, or public turf grass recreational areas;
  - (L) Installation, maintenance, or calibration of irrigation systems; or
  - (M) Hydroseeding.
- (b) Outdoor water use other than the above-listed activities or activities exempt under section 75-104 shall occur only as follows:
- (1) Odd-numbered addresses: Outdoor water use is allowed on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays.
  - (2) Even-numbered addresses: Outdoor water use is allowed on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays.

**Sec. 75-103. Outdoor water use schedule during declared drought response levels.**

- (a) The director of the EPD is authorized to make drought declarations.
- (b) During declared drought conditions, outdoor water use other than activities listed in section 75-102 or activities exempted in section 75-104 shall occur only during scheduled hours on the scheduled days.
- (c) Declared drought response level one: Outdoor water use may occur on scheduled days within the hours of 12:00 midnight to 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 12:00 midnight.
  - (1) Scheduled days for odd-numbered addresses are Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays.
  - (2) Scheduled days for even-numbered addresses are Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays.
  - (3) Use of hydrants for any purpose other than firefighting, public health, safety or flushing is prohibited.
- (d) Declared drought response level two: Outdoor water use may occur on scheduled days within the hours of 12:00 midnight to 10:00 a.m.
  - (1) Scheduled days for odd-numbered addresses are Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays.
  - (2) Scheduled days for even-numbered addresses and golf course fairways are Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays.
  - (3) The following uses are prohibited:
    - a. Using hydrants for any purpose other than firefighting, public health, safety or flushing.
    - b. Washing hard surfaces, such as streets, gutters, sidewalks and driveways except when necessary for public health and safety.

- (e) Declared drought response level three: Outdoor water use may occur on the scheduled day within the hours of 12:00 midnight to 10:00 a.m.
  - (1) The scheduled day for odd-numbered addresses is Sunday.
  - (2) The scheduled day for even-numbered addresses and golf course fairways is Saturday.
  - (3) The following uses are prohibited:
    - a. Using hydrants for any purpose other than firefighting, public health, safety or flushing.
    - b. Washing hard surfaces, such as streets, gutters, sidewalks, driveways, except when necessary for public health and safety.
    - c. Filling installed swimming pods except when necessary for health care or structural integrity.
    - d. Washing vehicles, such as cars, boats, trailers, motorbikes, airplanes, golf carts.
    - e. Washing buildings or structures except for immediate fire protection.
    - f. Non-commercial fund-raisers, such as car washes.
    - g. Using water for ornamental purposes, such as fountains, reflecting pools, and waterfalls except when necessary to support aquatic life.
- (f) Declared drought response level four: No outdoor water use is allowed, other than for activities exempted in 391-3-30-.05, or as the EPD director may order.

**Sec. 75-104. Exemptions.**

- (a) This rule shall not apply to the following outdoor water uses:
  - (1) Capture and reuse of cooling system condensate or storm water in compliance with applicable local ordinances.
  - (2) Reuse of gray water in compliance with applicable local ordinances.
- (b) The following established landscape water uses are exempt from the outdoor water use schedules of this rule.
  - (1) Use of reclaimed wastewater by a designated user from a system permitted by EPD to provide reclaimed wastewater.
  - (2) Irrigation of personal food gardens.
  - (c) Newly (in place less than 30 days) installed landscapes are subject to the following:
    - (1) Irrigation of newly installed landscapes is allowed any day of the week, but only during allowed hours for the drought response level in effect, for a period of 30 days following installation. No watering is allowed during drought response level four.
    - (2) For new landscapes installed by certified or licensed professionals, commercial exemptions apply.
- (d) The following golf course outdoor water uses are exempt from the outdoor water use schedules of this rule.
  - (1) Use of reclaimed wastewater by a designated user from a system permitted by EPD to provide reclaimed wastewater.
  - (2) Irrigation of fairways during times of non-drought and declared drought response level one.
  - (3) Irrigation of tees during times of non-drought and declared drought response levels one, two and three.
  - (4) Irrigation of greens.

(e) The following commercial outdoor water uses are exempt from the outdoor water use schedules of this rule.

(1) Professionally certified or licensed landscapers, golf course contractors, and sports turf landscapers: during installation and 30 days following installation only. Professional landscapers must be certified or licensed for commercial exemptions to apply.

(2) Irrigation contractors: during installation and as needed for proper maintenance and adjustments only.

(3) Sod producers.

(4) Ornamental growers.

(5) Fruit and vegetable growers.

(6) Retail garden centers.

(7) Hydro-seeding.

(8) Power-washing.

(9) Construction sites.

(10) Producers of food and fiber.

(11) Car washes.

(12) Other activities essential to daily business.

(13) Watering-in of pesticides and herbicides.

**Secs. 75-105--75-150. Reserved.**

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

This \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2010.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS,  
EFFINGHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
C.D. ZEIGLER, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
PATRICE CRAWLEY, CLERK

FIRST READING:

SECOND READING: