



2023 MANDATORY SUMMER WATER RESTRICTIONS

EFFECTIVE MAY 1, 2023 to SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

April 26, 2023

Dear Neighbor,

Every year the Forest Hills Metropolitan District institutes water restrictions for the summer and the same is true this year. The reason for these restrictions is simple, all of our water comes from 10 wells located around the District but demand in the summer increases significantly because of increased outdoor water use. Without water restrictions, there may not be enough water to meet demand.

To avoid potential problems, the District will again monitor consumption and water production closely to ensure we have enough water for critical uses. The District's Board in accordance with its Rules and Regulations prioritizes in-home domestic water use and firefighting. Outside watering is a lower priority and must be limited as needed to protect our core water needs.

The District has very senior water rights to support normal domestic (in-home) use but its water rights for outside use (landscaping, car washing, etc.) are lower. In a drought, more senior downstream water rights holders may demand their water at which point the District may in compliance with State regulations be forced to reduce or completely stop outside water usage. The District may also be ordered to release the water stored in our three ponds to downstream users.

WATER RESTRICTION POLICY:

Water restrictions as listed below are **mandatory** from May 1, 2023 to September 30, 2023

1. Outside Watering is Only Allowed on Two Days Per Week as follows:
 - a. EVEN numbered houses – Sunday and Thursday
 - b. ODD numbered houses – Wednesday and Saturday
2. No Outside Watering During the Day. Watering is only allowed during the following times:
 - a. AFTER 6:00 PM and BEFORE 9:00 AM

Daytime plant watering is wasteful as water evaporates rather than feeding your plants. The time restriction also applies to other residential outside water uses such as car washing, window washing, etc.

Water use by contractors to perform work is allowed during the day. Activities include power washing, moisture addition for soil compaction and dust control, etc.

3. Rates: The More You Use – The More You Pay

The District's water rates have long been progressive which means that the average cost per gallon of water use increases dramatically as your monthly usage increases. The District's current rate structure was emailed to you in December 2022 but can also be located on our website and is listed in the table below. The District, if necessary, may raise rates further to lower consumption but we hope that will not be necessary.



Current Water Rates [plus additional Sewer Base Fee of \$140.88 per month]

Volume – gallons	Base Rate	Charge per 1000 gallons	Charge at Step Maximum
0 – 5,000	\$106.95	\$ 3.17	\$ 122.80 @ 5,000 gallons
6,000 – 10,000	\$106.95	\$ 6.33	\$ 154.45 @ 10,000 gallons
11,000 – 15,000	\$106.95	\$18.98	\$ 249.35 @ 15,000 gallons
16,000 – 20,000	\$106.95	\$31.63	\$ 407.50 @ 20,000 gallons
21,000 – 25,000	\$106.95	\$44.28	\$ 628.90 @ 25,000 gallons
26,000 and up	\$106.95	\$56.93 and SHUT OFF	\$ 913.55 @ 30,000 gallons \$1,482.85 @ 40,000 gallons

Please Note: Higher Emergency Water Conservation Rates will be promptly implemented if for any reason the District’s wells are unable to keep the water tank full.

4. Fines: In the event of a violation of the District’s 2023 Watering Restrictions, the District will – as in previous years – impose the following fines. Fines will be added to your monthly water bill.

OFFENSE	FINE
1 st Offense	\$50
2 nd Offense	\$100
3 rd Offense	\$500
4 th Offense	\$1,000
5 th Offense	SHUT OFF

WATER CONSERVATION:

The Board encourages all residents to consult the many available information sources for good water conservation landscaping in our arid environment. Colorado State University, for example, provides online a large collection of brochures on foothills appropriate landscaping, pine-beetle defense, wildfire mitigation, living near wild animals and other topics that are relevant to mountain living. The two biggest reasons for unintentional very high-water usage are faulty irrigation systems and leaky toilet valves. Below are some measures you can take to conserve water consumption.

- Check your water meter every day or so to monitor usage.
- Look for signs of leakage from your sprinkler system.
- Check your toilet for any sign of a leak.
- Shut off the water into your house when you are on vacation.
- Turn off your sprinklers for a few days after a rain.
- Irrigate grass for just 5 minutes per zone.
- Use a drip system for trees, shrubs and flowers.

We hope that everyone will join in to protect our water resources by complying with these water restrictions and managing your water use.

Sincerely,

Your Board of Directors

Craig Weinberg, Michael Oakley, Victor Robert, David Blue, Nikki Patrick