

FIRST READING 12-17-2010
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SECOND READING &
PASSED 1-10-2011

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF DAWSONVILLE, GEORGIA TO REVISE THE STANDARDS FOR OUTDOOR WATERING OF LANDSCAPE; TO REPEAL ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT THEREWITH AND FOR OTHER RELATED PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the City of Dawsonville (hereinafter "City") recognizes a need to create a culture of water conservation and to plan for water supply enhancement during future extreme drought conditions and other water emergencies;

WHEREAS, reasonable restrictions on the outdoor watering of landscape are necessary to address this in furtherance of addressing this need;

WHEREAS, the General Assembly of the State of Georgia has required all counties/cities in Georgia to adopt an ordinance to restrict outdoor watering of landscape to between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and 10:00 a.m. (with certain exceptions); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 12-5-7, the Mayor and City Council have prepared this ordinance to address outdoor watering of landscape in accordance with the mandate from the State.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDAINED that the following is adopted as a City Ordinance to read as follows:

SECTION 1. Restriction on Outdoor Watering of Landscape.

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 4:00 p.m. and 10:00 a.m.; provided, however, that this limitation shall not create any limitation upon the following outdoor water uses:

- (a) Commercial raising, harvesting, or storing of crops; feeding, breeding, or managing livestock or poultry; the commercial production or storing of feed for use in the production of livestock, including, but not limited to, cattle, calves, swine, hogs, goats, sheep, and rabbits, or for use in the production of poultry, including, but not limited to, chickens, hens, ratites, and turkeys; producing plants, trees, fowl, or animals; or the commercial production of aquacultural, horticultural, dairy, livestock, poultry, eggs, and apiarian products or as otherwise defined in O.C.G.A. § 1-3-3;
- (b) Capture and reuse of cooling system condensate or storm water in compliance with applicable City of Dawsonville ordinances and state guidelines;
- (c) Reuse of gray water in compliance with O.C.G.A. § 31-3-5.2 and applicable local board of health regulations;
- (d) Use of reclaimed waste water by a designated user from a system permitted by the Environmental Protection Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources 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) Hand watering 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.

SECTION 2. Enforcement.

- (a) No person shall use or allow the use of water in violation of the restrictions on outdoor water use contained in ordinance.
- (b) The City of Dawsonville Water and Sewer Department shall be the enforcement authority for this ordinance. The Mayor may also authorize other departments as may be deemed necessary to support enforcement.
- (c) Criminal and alternative penalties. Any violation of this section may also be enforced by a citation returnable to the City Court or by any other legal means as set forth by City Code.

SECTION 3. Repealer.

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance are repealed.

Section 4. Effective Date. This ordinance shall go into effect upon its approval by the City Council of the City of Dawsonville, Georgia.

APPROVED this 18 day of January, 2011 by the Mayor and Council of the City of Dawsonville, Georgia.

CITY OF DAWSONVILLE

By: Joe Lane Cox
Joe Lane Cox, Mayor

Mike Sosebee
Mike Sosebee, Council Member

Mike Wilson
Mike Wilson, Council Member

ATTESTED TO BY:

Bonnie Warne
Bonnie Warne, City Clerk

W. James Grogan
James Grogan, Council Member

Calvin Byrd
Calvin Byrd, Council Member