



City of La Junta  
Water and Wastewater Department  
Thomas Seaba, Director

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To: City of La Junta Utility Customers

Dear Water Utility Customer,

To ensure adequate water supply due to record low snowpack where our water allotments come from and potential low water levels in the Arkansas River, the City of La Junta is continuing **Level One Water Restrictions effective May 15th through October 15th.**

### Level One Water Restrictions

The following restrictions shall be in effect during a Level I Water Restriction:

- From May 15th through October 15th, no outdoor watering shall be allowed between 10:00a.m. and 6:00p.m.

The City further requests that customers:

- Do not allow water to pool on hard surfaces or to flow down gutters
- Repair leaking sprinkler systems within 10 days of leak discovery
- Use a shut-off nozzle when washing anything with a hose
- Clean hard surfaces (such as driveways, sidewalks and patios) with water only if there is a public health and safety concern.

### Exemptions

Residents with newly seeded lawns or new sod and landscaping may be exempted from these restrictions. Please contact the City's Water department at 714.384.7358 to be placed on a 20-day exemption list.

Hand watering flower pots/baskets is permitted at any time.

Municipal parks, ball fields, and golf course and the cemetery are exempt from this current restriction. Parks and ballfields are meant to be active public spaces. A consistent watering schedule keeps these areas safe for use and protects large investments of public funds in landscaping. Allowing these areas to die would require costly replanting later, and in some areas, the grass acts as a necessary "cooler" to keep public areas functional in extreme heat. The cemetery is also exempt from these current restrictions.

### Outdoor Conservation Tips

- ⇒ Water the landscape only, not streets, walks, or driveways.
- ⇒ Don't let the water run while washing your car. Use a bucket and hose with automatic shut-off nozzle.
- ⇒ At a commercial car wash, use a hand-held wand and bubble brush, not the automatic drive-through.
- ⇒ Use broom or electric blower, not water, to clean drives and sidewalks.
- ⇒ Replace turf areas with natural, non-watered or low watered vegetation.
- ⇒ Manually turn off lawn sprinklers during rain or wind.

If you have any questions about these restrictions, please call the City of La Junta Water Department at 719.384.7358.

**Thomas Seaba**

Director of Water & Wastewater

## Water Statistics

- The average family can waste 180 gallons per week, or 9,400 gallons of water annually, from household leaks. That's equivalent to the amount of water needed to wash more than 300 loads of laundry.
- Household leaks can waste approximately nearly 900 billion gallons of water annually nationwide. That's equal to the annual household water use of nearly 11 million homes.
- Running the dishwasher only when it's full can eliminate one load of dishes per week and save the average family nearly 320 gallons of water annually.
- Turning off the tap while brushing your teeth can save 8 gallons of water per day and, while shaving, can save 10 gallons of water per shave. Assuming you brush your teeth twice daily and shave 5 times per week, you could save nearly 5,700 gallons per year.
- Letting your faucet run for five minutes while washing dishes can waste 10 gallons of water and uses enough energy to power a 60-watt light bulb for 18 hours.
- Outdoor water use accounts for more than 30 percent of total household water use, on average, but can be as much as 60 percent of total household water use in arid regions.
- If the average sized lawn in the United States is watered for 20 minutes every day for 7 days, it's like running the shower constantly for 4 days or taking more than 800 showers. That's equivalent to the amount of water needed for the average family to take 1 year's worth of showers.
- As much as 50 percent of the water we use outdoors is lost due to wind, evaporation, and runoff caused by inefficient irrigation methods and systems. A household with an automatic landscape irrigation system that isn't properly maintained and operated can waste up to 25,000 gallons of water annually. If the system is well managed, a household's irrigation water use can be reduced by 15 percent, or nearly 7,600 gallons of water, annually. That's the amount of water needed to take 480 showers.

*\*Data and information provided by the EPA WaterSense program.*