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Dry Weather Persists in Monmouth and Ocean Counties, Use Water Wisely

New Jersey American Water asks customers to continue to conserve water

VOORHEES, NJ (August 17, 2010) – As the hot, dry summer continues, New Jersey American Water is asking its customers to be aware that the dry weather is beginning to effect water supplies in Monmouth and Ocean Counties. New Jersey American Water is requesting that its customers continue to monitor the efficiency of their indoor and outdoor water usage and to adhere to an odd/even schedule for lawn watering and car washing.

According to the National Weather Service, rainfall in Monmouth and Ocean Counties for the last 60 days is more than four inches below normal for this time of year (<http://www.erh.noaa.gov/marfc/Maps/precip.html>). As high water use continues during this dry period, available capacity in reservoir supplies are being used to meet demands. While the area is not “officially” in a drought, without significant rainfall in the next several weeks the reservoir supplies will not be replenished and New Jersey American Water customers could be asked to take additional water conservation measures.

“New Jersey American Water is requesting that customers continue to water use wisely and efficiently and adhere to an odd/even schedule for outside water use” said Steven Tambini, New Jersey American Water’s vice president of operations. “We thank our customers for their patience during this period and for their cooperation with this request which will allow New Jersey American Water to continue to provide high quality, reliable water service.”

The odd/even schedule entails:

- Watering your lawn or washing your car on odd days of the month if your street address is an odd number (i.e., 23 Oak St., 7 Maple Ave.)
- Watering your lawn or washing your car on even days of the month if your street address is an even number (i.e., 6 Oak St., 354 Maple Ave.)
- Request that lawn watering take place between 6 a.m. and 9 a.m. and from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Exceptions are:

- Watering of new sod or seed if daily watering is required (note: it is recommended that any planting of new sod or seed that has not already taken place be delayed until the fall)
- Use of private wells for irrigation
- Commercial uses of outdoor water, such as for nurseries, farm stands, power washing, plumbing and car washes

- Watering of athletic fields (see www.newjerseyamwater.com for more detail)

Early last month, New Jersey American Water asked its customers to temporarily suspend all outdoor watering as a sustained heat wave caused demand for water to reach record highs. Since those restrictions, the company asked customers to comply with an odd/even schedule of watering for the remainder of the summer.

For more information and more tips on how to conserve water, visit www.newjerseyamwater.com. Follow New Jersey American Water on Twitter at www.twitter.com/njamwater.

New Jersey American Water, a wholly owned subsidiary of American Water (NYSE: AWK), is the largest investor-owned water utility in the state, providing high-quality and reliable water and/or wastewater services to approximately 2.5 million people. Founded in 1886, American Water is the largest investor-owned U.S. water and wastewater utility company. With headquarters in Voorhees, N.J., the company employs more than 7,000 dedicated professionals who provide drinking water, wastewater and other related services to approximately 16 million people in 35 states, as well as Ontario and Manitoba, Canada. More information can be found by visiting www.amwater.com.

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