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Contact: Caitlin Latko
caitlin@thomasboyd.com

MPWC Urges Customers to Conserve Water in Warm Summer Months

Pennsauken, NJ - As the summer kicks off and temperatures rise, Merchantville-Pennsauken Water Commission (MPWC) is urging customers in Merchantville and Pennsauken, as well as parts of Cherry Hill and Camden, to use water wisely and conserve this summer season.

“Summer months bring increased demand on water systems due to lawn irrigation, gardening, pool maintenance and other outdoor activities. Mindful water usage is especially important as New Jersey continues to face an ongoing drought warning,” said Rich Spafford, engineering director, MPWC. “Small adjustments to water use help protect this valuable natural resource and support long-term sustainability efforts, while preserving our water supply and managing water bills.”

Outdoor watering accounts for a significant portion of residential water use during the summer months, with homeowners using between 30 and 70 percent of their water outdoors. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates that 50 percent of water used outdoors is lost to evaporation, wind or runoff.

Since every drop makes a difference, the MPWC recommends the following water-saving practices:

- Water lawns and gardens during the early morning or evening hours to minimize evaporation and consider limiting watering to two times per week.
- Consider rain barrels to collect rainwater for watering outdoor plants and landscaping.
- Use a broom instead of a hose to clean driveways, sidewalks and patios.
- Cover your pool when not swimming to reduce evaporation rates and use a water saving filter.
- Repair leaking faucets, irrigation systems and outdoor spigots promptly.

- Install water-efficient fixtures and appliances whenever possible.
- Run dishwashers and washing machines only with full loads.
- Raise your lawnmower blade to at least 3 inches for grass that is more drought resistant.
- Plant and group native, drought-tolerant plants based on water needs.

In New Jersey, a drought warning has been in place since December 2025. If conditions do not improve, a Drought Emergency could be declared, which carries mandatory restrictions. Residents are encouraged to reduce their water usage and adhere to guidelines or recommendations put forth by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection or their municipalities.

For more information about MPWC and water usage, visit www.mpwc.com.

About MPWC

The Merchantville-Pennsauken Water Commission is a public water utility co-owned by the Borough of Merchantville and Pennsauken Township dedicated to providing reliable, safe drinking water. MPWC proudly serves customers in Merchantville and Pennsauken, as well as areas of Cherry Hill and the City of Camden.