

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Monday, October 04, 2010

Town of Bernalillo, Office of Mayor Jack Torres

Contact: Maria G. Rinaldi, Director of Planning and Capital Programs

(505)771-7133 Office/(505)379-5098 Mobile Phone

Town of Bernalillo Enacts Stage 1 Emergency Conservation Measures

Due to recurring maintenance on the primary municipal water well, Mayor Jack Torres announces implementation of Stage 1 Emergency Conservation Measures immediately in effect through October 31, 2010. These restrictions apply to all residential and commercial users within the town of Bernalillo as follows:

- 1) Landscape can only be watered on designated days during designated times.
 - Even numbered addresses may water on even numbered days and only between the hours of 6:00pm to 10:00am the following day.
 - Odd numbered addresses may water on odd numbered days and only between the hours of 6:00pm to 10:00am the following day.
- 2) Use of water from fire hydrants shall be limited to fire fighting, related activities or other activities necessary to maintain the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens served by the municipal water system. Metered use of hydrants may be allowed at the discretion of the water superintendent. The Fire Chief shall restrict floor washing at fire stations to when absolutely necessary.

In 2005 the Town adopted the Water Conservation, Emergency Response and Drought Management Ordinance. This Ordinance prohibits the following water waste at all times:

- 1) Using treated water for any purpose or in such a way that it flows, sprays, or is otherwise discharged upon any street, alley, or other public right-of-way, ditch or drain, or the watering of landscaping in a manner which allows water to run off the area being watered.
- 2) Over-watering of lawns or landscapes.
- 3) The use of an open hose to wash any vehicle. Vehicles may only be washed from a hand-held bucket or a hand-held hose equipped with a positive shutoff nozzle for quick rinses. This does not apply to commercial car washes.
- 4) The washing of sidewalks, walkways, driveways, parking lots and other hard-surfaced areas by direct hosing, except where public health is an issue.
- 5) Failing to repair or correct waterline breaks within the customer's plumbing or distribution system, within a maximum of 5 working days from the time which the break or leak is discovered. If more than two working days is required to repair or correct a leak, every effort must be made to minimize water loss through closing supplies to leaking area or using other temporary measures.

Mayor Torres urges all users to exercise voluntary water conservation practices at all times during the year, regardless of water shortages or emergency conditions. Should additional emergency measures be deemed necessary, further public notices will be issued accordingly.