



Board Meeting Agenda Abstract

Tuesday, July 7, 2026

Location:

Agenda Item

Water Conservation Measures - Stage II - (Wagner) - Item 11.B

Item Explanation

The purpose of this agenda item is to provide an update on the water supply and drought status and to advise on implementing Stage II should the City of Raleigh decide to declare it.

Staff Comments

Many areas of North Carolina are currently experiencing an extreme drought. On April 21, 2026, the Town Board of Fuquay-Varina declared Stage I Water Conservation measures and authorized the Town Manager to implement subsequent water shortage response stages as necessary.

The Town has water purchase agreements with the City of Raleigh, Johnston County, and Harnett County. The water supplies for the City of Raleigh and Johnston County are primarily sourced from the Neuse River Basin, and both jurisdictions have enacted Stage I of their Water Shortage Response plans. Currently, the Falls Lake water supply pool is at 64%, while the water quality pool is at 27%. These declining levels are raising concerns and potentially leading to the implementation of Stage II measures.

The Town's water supply agreement with the City of Raleigh requires the Town to declare its water shortage stages in alignment with the City. The City of Raleigh has requested that the Town adopt its Stage II conservation measures if the City declares Stage II of its Water Shortage Response Plan, which could happen as soon as the week of July 6.

The Stage II goal is to reduce overall usage by 20%. The City of Raleigh's Stage II activity response is as follows:

OUTDOOR USES:

â€¢ Irrigation water must be applied slowly to achieve deep penetration and prevent water run-off. Direct watering of impervious surfaces such as streets, parking lots, driveways, and sidewalks is prohibited.

â€¢ Leaking water services or plumbing must be repaired within 48 hours of written notification by the Public Utilities Director.

â€¢ Watering by automatic spray or non-automatic irrigation is prohibited.

â€¢ Watering by hose-end sprinklers is prohibited.

â€¢ Watering by handheld hose watering devices is prohibited.
â€¢ Watering by low-volume drip irrigation is permitted at any time.

STAGE 2 OUTDOOR EXEMPTIONS: *The watering restrictions shall not apply to:*
â€¢ Properties using non-potable/reuse water and the non-public water supply system of the City for landscape irrigation.
â€¢ Watering of commercial containerized plants and commercial plant stock in trade maintained for resale.
â€¢ Irrigation of athletic fields.

STAGE 2 INDOOR WATER USES:
â€¢ Drinking water shall not be served in a public restaurant, except upon request.
â€¢ Hotels/motels/bed and breakfast inns will ask guests spending more than one night to use their towels and bed linens more than once between launderings.
â€¢ Commercial and industrial customers are encouraged to review their water use and implement industry-specific best management water conservation practices.
â€¢ Leaking water services or plumbing must be repaired within 48 hours of written notice by the Public Utilities Director.

Fiscal Note

No

Recommendation

No Action Required - Receive as Information

ATTACHMENTS