



Leisure News

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Leisure Landscapes, Inc.
PO Box 98899
Raleigh, NC 27624

Ph:(919) 847-1733
Fx:(919) 847-1743
leisure@leisurelandscapes.com

Paul Martin
President: and CEO

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GOV. EASLEY CALLS ON CITY OFFICIALS TO LEAD IN HELPING CITIZENS STOP NON-ESSENTIAL WATER USE

Governor Tells League Of Municipalities Some Systems Could Run Dry In 90 Days Without Rain

October 15, 2007

Raleigh - Gov. Mike Easley today called on the state's municipal leaders to take the lead in directing citizens to stop using water for any purpose that is not essential to public health and safety so communities can save their dwindling water supplies and avoid more stringent restrictions. The drought across much of the state is the worst in recorded history. With a winter forecast of drier than normal conditions, the governor said every citizen must save water in every way possible to avoid a water crisis that could

lead to rationing.

"Several communities have as little as three month's water supply remaining. If we do not get significant rain, some areas face the once unthinkable possibility of water rationing and potentially running out of water entirely," Easley said. "A bit of mud on the car or patches of brown on the lawn must be a badge of honor. It means you are doing the right thing for your community and our state."

(cont. page 2)



Holiday Home Makeover

Make Your Home the envy of the Neighborhood!

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Reserve your date now! 847-1733



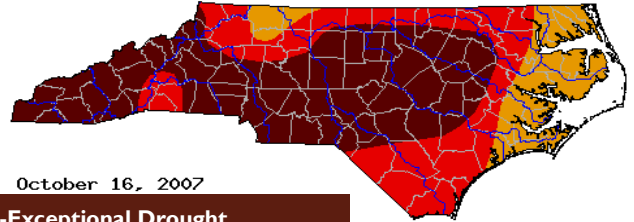
Water Restrictions

(Continued from page 1) Easley spoke to the about 1,000 mayors, council members and city managers attending the N.C. League of Municipalities Annual Conference in Fayetteville. He asked the top officials of the state's cities and towns to lead their communities in taking the following actions:

- ◆ Stop watering lawns and shrubbery at homes and businesses.
- ◆ Do not wash down houses, driveways or sidewalks
- ◆ Do not wash your car.
- ◆ Restaurants should ONLY serve water when patrons ask.

Easley spoke to the about 1,000 mayors, council members and city managers attending the N.C. League

of Municipalities Annual Conference in Fayetteville. "State law gives me emergency powers to take action, even ordering rationing, if there is a threat to life and property," Easley told the local leaders. "Now, I do not want to have to use these powers. As leaders of your communities, you know what works best at the local level. I am asking for your help. Your communities, businesses and neighbors need you to help make the tough choices today to avoid a crisis in the weeks or months to come."



The Triangle Area's Response to the Drought Challenge

Table of Triangle Municipalities Drought Measures

CITY	Irrigation	Fountains/Pools	Hand Watering	Vehicle Washing	New Landscape Exempt	Effective Date	First Violation	Second Violation	Third Violation	LEVEL
Apex	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO	10/19/07	Warning	\$1000		Stage 1.5
Cary, Morrisville	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO	11/01/07	Warning	\$500	\$1000	Stage 1.5
Chapel Hill	NO	?	YES	NO	—	10/18/07	—	—	—	Stage II
Creedmore	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	8/16/07	—	—	—	Stage III
Durham	NO	?	Sat only	LIMITED	NO	10/16/07	Warning	—	Cut-off	Stage III
Holly Springs	NO	?	2/wk	NO	NO	11/01/07	—	—	—	Stage II
Fuquay-Varina	odd/even 1/wk	NO	odd/even 1/wk	Week-end	—	08/30/07	—	—	—	Mandatory Request
Raleigh, Garner, Wake Forest, Rolesville	NO	?	odd/even 2/wk	NO	NO	10/23/07	\$200	\$1000	Cut-off	Stage 1.5

The Triangle area finds itself in exceptional drought conditions. Although we have had some recent rains, they are a mere drop in the bucket, October is typically one of our driest months, and the long-range forecast is for it to remain so until the January and February rains. The table to the right shows the latest information we have on water restrictions in the landscape. It is presented solely as a guide. For the latest information, please check with your local jurisdiction.

North Carolina Drought Advisory Released: October 18, 2007

The North Carolina Drought Advisory issued by the Drought Management Advisory Council has been updated to reflect drought conditions on October 16, 2007 indicated on the weekly U.S. Drought Monitor of North Carolina. Until further notice, the NCDMAC strongly urges the implementation of drought response actions, for all water users located in or dependent on water resources from the areas of the state experiencing the following drought conditions:

- (D4) Exceptional drought conditions.
- (D3) Extreme drought conditions.
- (D2) Severe drought conditions.
- Implement Water Shortage Response Plans
- Stay informed on drought conditions and advisories (www.ncdrought.org).
- Participate in regional and local coordination for the management of water resources.
- Eliminate nonessential uses of water.

Fall Trees

Now is the time to plant those trees and shrubs...

All trees are best planted in the Fall, especially just after the first frost. Post-frost, the sap of the tree retreats from the limbs and settles in the root system. Since they don't have to supply nutrients for new stem and leaf growth, they have a great chance to stimulate root growth and establish themselves in the soil.

Roots can grow in soil temperatures as low as 40 degrees Fahrenheit,

so they're not harmed by a little surface frost. Below the surface, Fall soil contains more heat, encouraging root growth. Plants installed in spring get a slow start and remain less hardy.

By summer of next year, the flora you started this Fall will deal better with heat and drought while your neighbors' spring-planted foliage will lag behind.

Now is the time for serious softscape improvement. .

The autumn bottom line: if installed in the fall, your landscape will abound earlier and healthier in the Spring.

[For more on fall planting, visit www.leisurelandscapes.com.]

Ps: These are the same reasons why Fescue lawns are seeded in the Fall.

RETAIN SOIL MOISTURE with

MULCH MULCH MULCH

January is the ideal time to mulch (just after leaf fall). It's a good idea to save some of the leaves and place them in the natural areas to serve as a natural weed barrier (and they'll add desirable organic matter to the soil). On top of these, spread your choice of mulch.

Some popular varieties and their characteristics are:



TYPE	CHARACTERISTICS
Triple-Shredded Hardwood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -best for coverage -good color, texture -best for soil -best for suppressing weeds -best for moisture retention
Pine Straw	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -easy application -best for rough terrain -a <u>must</u> under pines
Pine Bark Nuggets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -longest lasting -good for suppressing weeds -not suitable for hills

A Note from the President



Paul Martin

It's in the news almost daily—drought and water restrictions. Indeed, it's filled most of this issue. What does it mean to you? Let's try and answer some questions first.

1. *Is this climate change (Global Warming)?* Maybe. We're seeing record heat along with the drought. But places like Texas had more rain this year than ever before. It seems that this is a weather anomaly, and perhaps a harbinger of more anomalies to come.
2. *Are we running out of water?* Technically, no. Water is a constant. It is not used in the sense that it is destroyed—it is circulated—used and returned to the earth. Our problem is distribution. Our suppliers of potable water are not keeping up with demand. We should increase supplies and reduce demand.
3. *Are the current restrictions debilitating to our landscape plans?* Actually, no. Let's look at the restrictions enacted by Raleigh. First was year-round restrictions: 3 days per week. Well this is consistent with normal horticultural practice. Any more would be abuse. Second was the Stage 1—one day a week watering. This was enough to sustain lawns. Now the restriction of no outdoor watering. Not a problem. We would be winterizing irrigation systems now anyway. So the reality is that the restriction have been timed to restrict nothing except abusive practices.
4. *So what should you do?* If you don't have an irrigation system, consider a warm season lawn. Reduce lawn space to 50% of your landscape. If you have irrigation, modify it for moisture sensors and consider putting in a well. Plant trees to shade your lawn and house. Mulch your beds to retain moisture. But don't give up on your landscape—it means too much to you and the environment.



WELCOME!

to our new Complete Care Plan customers for Fall 2007:

Melinda and Eric Deigan, Lochmere; **Brian Harrington**, Bedford; **Bob Hutzler**, Bond Lake; **Linda Kately**, Brierdale; **Jon Kline**, Cambridge; **Dave Medvetz**, Johnsdale; **Carryl & Ken Thomas**, Bedford



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Sign up a friend for a maintenance contract, and you'll receive one month of **FREE** maintenance from Leisure Landscapes.

Offer good through 11/31/07

With the end of the maintenance year and to conserve fuel, we are scaling back and consolidating the Blue route into the Red and Yellow routes.

Leisure Landscape's Weekly Maintenance Schedule

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Yellow Team Leader: Edgar	Special Request Jobs	North Raleigh Durant Trails, Alyson Pond, North Ridge	Raleigh Spring Valley, Country Club Hills, Blenheim, Olde Raleigh, Crosswinds, North Ridge	Durham, Chapel Hill Ethans Glen, Briardale, Mary Dell, Northwoods, Southern Village, Boothe Hill, Governor's Village, Fearington Village	Apex, Cary Dogwood Ridge, Waldon Creek, Tatton Place, Bond Lake, Preston, Riggsby Farm	Cary, Morrisville Wessex
Red Team Leader: Rigo	Special Request Jobs	Holly Springs, Cary Sunset Ridge, Wyndfall, Lochmere, Enchanted Oaks, Braeloch, Kildaire Farms	North Raleigh Olde Creedmoor, Silverton, Chandler Pointe, Sheffield Manor, Hunters Knoll, Bent Tree	Wake Forest Park at Perry Creek, Ridge at McKinley Mill, Wall Creek, Heritage, Wakefield Plantation	Raleigh Glenwood South, Hillsborough St, Downtown, Hayes Barton	Cary, Morrisville Carpenter Village, Preston Village, Preston, Weston Estates

The Leisure Landscapes Fall Calendar

SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Apply lime to turf ◆ Apply fertilizer to turf ◆ Aerate & overseed Fescue lawns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Plant Spring seasonal flowers ◆ Remove leaves from lawn ◆ Winterize irrigation systems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Prune evergreen shrubs ◆ Remove leaves from lawn ◆ Clean ponds and fountains