

### *Stage 1 Drought / Voluntary Conservation.*

Upon determination by the county and its wholesale providers that a moderate water supply shortage exists, the county will reserve the right to seek voluntary reductions from its customers in the use of water for all purposes and voluntary reductions on using water during certain peak water demand periods. Specifically, the goal during this phase is to achieve a reduction in overall water use of 3 -5%. To accomplish this, the county will take the following actions:

(1) The County Manager will issue a declaration to be released to local media, the county customers and to the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources Drought Information Center that stage 1 drought conditions are present;

(2) Provide written notification to the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources Drought Information Center and publish in a newspaper of general circulation in the service area of the water system the voluntary conservation measures that the customers are requested to follow during stage 1 drought conditions, including:

(a) Recommend voluntary reduction of residential water use to a maximum of 350 gallons per household or REU per day;

(b) For landscape design and maintenance, the use of low volume hand held water applications or drip irrigation is encouraged. Recommend the reduction in the use of sprinklers, irrigation systems or other remote landscaping devices to no more than two days per week. Established lawns need only one inch of water per week from a combination of irrigation and rain. Encourage outdoor watering to be done during off-peak hours;

(c) Reduce the washing down of sidewalks, walkways, driveways, parking lots, tennis courts and other hard surfaced areas;

(d) Reduce the washing down of buildings for purposes other than immediate fire protection;

(e) Reduce the flushing of gutters;

(f) Reduce the domestic washing of motorbikes, boats, cars, automobiles, and the like;

(g) Reduce the use of water to maintain fountains, reflection ponds and decorative water bodies for aesthetic or scenic purposes, except where necessary to support aquatic life;

(h) Reduce the amount of water obtained from fire hydrants for construction purposes, fire drills or for any purpose other than fire-fighting or flushing necessary to maintain water quality; and

(3) Intensify maintenance efforts to identify and correct water leaks in the distribution system. The utility reserves the right to cease water service to customers who have been given a ten-day notice to repair one or more leaks and have failed to do so; and

(4) Continue to encourage and educate customers to comply with voluntary water conservation.