



Water Resources Management Advisory Committee Meeting

**June 17, 2024
1- 3 pm
via
Zoom**

Agenda

- 1: Welcome and Introductions**
- 2: Review minutes from 12/11/2023 & 10/25/2022**
- 3: WMA Program Updates (WMA Grants & Data Sharing)**
- 4: WMA Permitting and Permit Renewal Schedule**
- 5: Nonessential Use Restrictions on Registrations and Permits**
- 6: Next Steps- Permit Guidance Document & future meeting topics**

WMA Grants Funding Background

- State capital fund provides money for WMA and M36 Grant
 - WMA Grant began FY2013
 - M36 Grant began FY2016
 - Approximately \$2 million/year for WMA and M36
- Ipswich Grant new FY2024
- State FY24 budget provided \$2.3 million for Ipswich Grant

2023-2024 Grant Summary

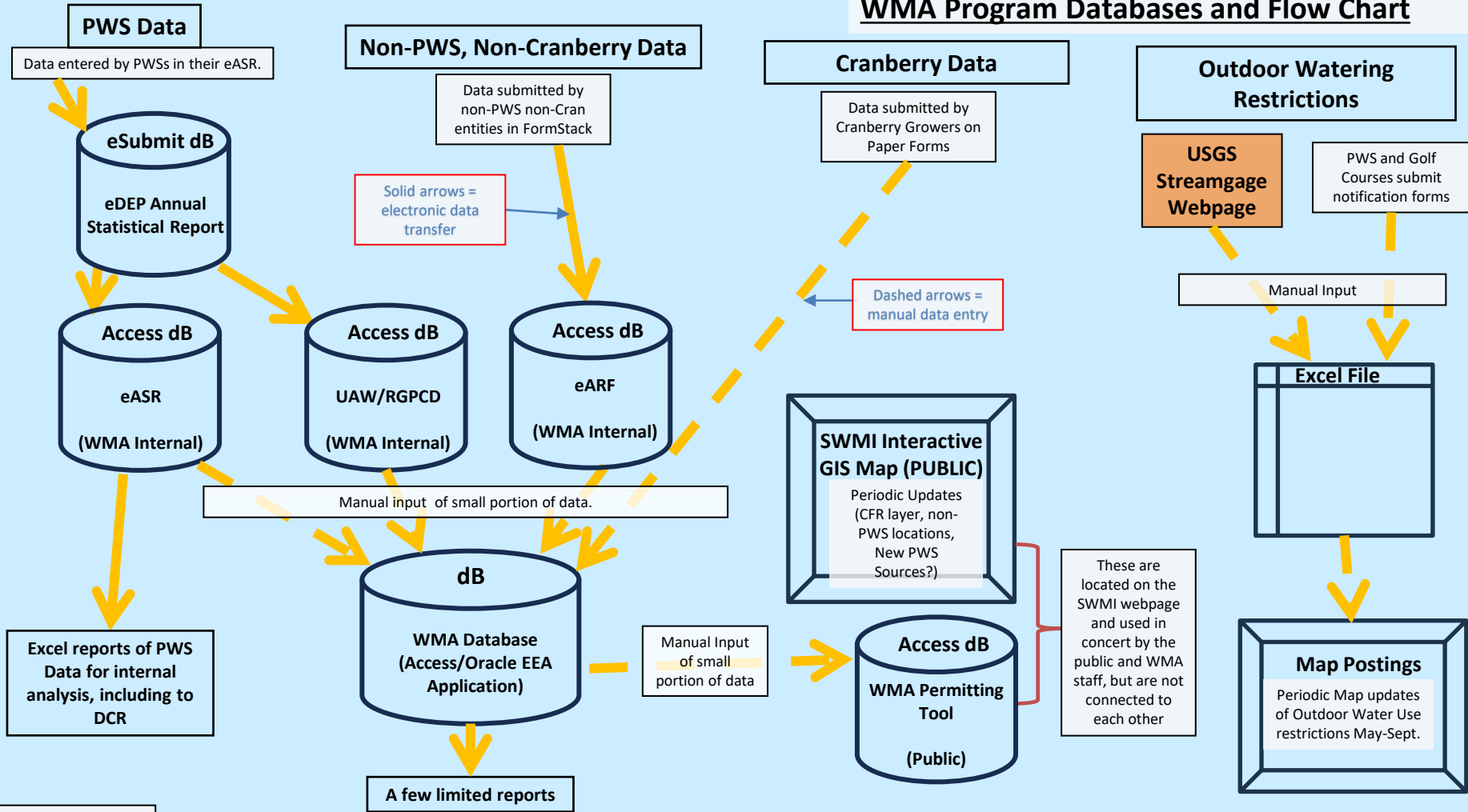
- WMA Grant - \$335,000 for 5 PWSs
 - Rate studies (2)
 - Stormwater projects
 - Drought plan
 - Rebate program
 - Reservoir modeling
- M36 Audit Grant - \$129,000 for 10 PWSs
- Ipswich Grant - \$2 million allocated to 4 PWSs
 - PFAS treatment (new pipelines, additions to water treatment plants)
 - MWRA connections and connections to other suppliers (vault design and construction, MWRA applications)

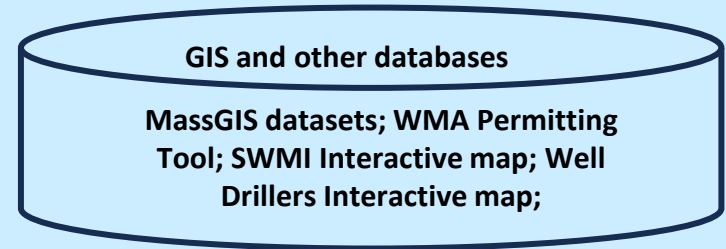
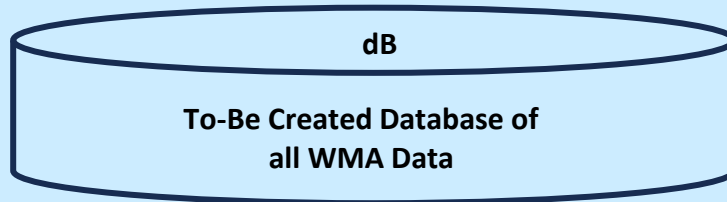
Next Year...

- RFRs are being prepared and approved now
 - Will publish when funding sources are final
 - Expect to see RFRs in late summer
- WMA Grant and M36 Audit funding may be reduced
- Ipswich Grant funding amount is unknown

WMA Data Sharing

WMA Program Databases and Flow Chart





Some common output data:

- Major Basin
- Month, Year
- Authorization (Registrant/Permitee)
- Use Type (PWS, Golf, Industrial, cranberry etc.)
- Town, DEP Region
- Source Type (Groundwater, Surface Water, Purchased
- Source volumes by month, year
- Performance Standards UAW & RGPCD
- Raw vs. Finished Volumes
- Volumes by PWS Customer Type (residential, commercial, etc.)
- Cranberry Acres by year
- Outdoor water use restrictions
- USGS streamflow or groundwater trigger gage
- Drought Status
- SWMI Subbasin data (BC, GWC, NGD) (now in WMA Permitting Tool and SWMI Interactive Map)

Display Output With:

- Tables
- Excel Workbooks
- Power BI
- Graphs
- Charts
- Online GIS Interactive Maps

Possible non-WMA Data

- PWS Service Areas
- Private Well Estimates
- Sewer Collection Areas
- Non-WMA PWS source data
- Water Quality Data??
- Any data on MassGIS

WMA Permit Renewal Schedule

MassDEP Water Management Program Permitting Schedule Summary* - June 2024						
Watershed Name	Public Water Supply (PWS) & Total Permits	Orders to Complete (OTC) requires any additional information needed for review	Permit Renewals Reviews Completed Through June 2024	Anticipated Renewal Date	New and Amended Permits Issued January 2015 - June 2024	Expiration Date for Permits per 310 CMR 36.17
Hudson	3 PWS 6 total	Renewed: 2008 Periodic Review scheduled 2028	3 PWS 6 total	2008 Review 2028		Dec. 6, 2033
Blackstone	14 PWS 19 total	Renewed: 2009 Periodic Review scheduled 2028	14 PWS 19 total	2009 Review 2028	3 amendments	June 5, 2034
Charles	14 PWS 20 total	Renewed: 2009 Periodic review underway: 2024	14 PWS 20 total 5 PWS 9 reviews total	2009 Reviews 2024-2027	1 new / 1 amendment	June 5, 2034
Ipswich	4 PWS 5 total	1 OTC remains to be issued		2026-2027		Aug. 31, 2029
North Coastal	4 PWS 9 total	Renewed: 2009 Periodic review scheduled 2027	4 PWS 8 total	2009 Reviews 2027-2028	1 new	Dec. 6, 2034
Boston Harbor	9 PWS 17 total	2 OTCs remain to be issued	3 PWS 10 total	2024-2027	2 new / 2 amendments	June 5, 2031
Taunton	23 PWS 47 total	2 OTCs remain to be issued	12 PWS 29 total	2024-2027	2 new / 1 amendment	June 5, 2031
South Coastal	12 PWS 20 total	1 OTC remains to be issued	11 PWS 19 total	2024	3 new / 1 amendment	Dec. 6, 2031
Cape Cod	17 PWS 27 total	5 OTCs remain to be issued	7 PWS 15 total	2024-2027	3 new / 1 amendment	Mar. 6, 2032
Islands	4 PWS 7 total	1 OTC remains to be issued	1 PWS 1 total	2024-2025	1 new	June 4, 2032
Buzzards Bay	11 PWS 38 total	9 OTCs remain to be issued	2 PWS 6 total	2024-2027	2 new / 7 amendments	Sep. 4, 2032
Concord	12 PWS 17 total	OTCs completed	5 PWS 7 total	2024-2027	2 amendments	Dec. 6, 2032
Ten Mile	4 PWS 7 total	OTCs anticipated: 2026		2026-2027	1 amendment	Nov. 31, 2031
Deerfield	1 PWS 2 total	OTCs completed	1 PWS 2 total	2019		June 4, 2033
Housatonic	2 PWS 9 total	4 OTCs remain to be issued		2024-2025		May 31, 2032
Farmington	No permits					
Westfield	2 PWS 4 total	1 OTC remains to be issued	0 PWS 1 total	2024-2025		Nov. 31, 2032
Millers	5 PWS 6 total	OTCs anticipated: 2027		2027-2029		Feb. 28, 2033
Chicopee	8 PWS 11 total	6 OTCs remain to be issued		2024-2025		May 31, 2033
Quinebaug	1 PWS 2 total	1 OTC remains to be issued		2024-2025		Aug. 31, 2033
Connecticut	10 PWS 24 total	OTCs anticipated: 2026		2026-2027		Nov. 31, 2033
Nashua	14 PWS 17 total	OTCs anticipated: 2027		2027-2029	1 amendment	Feb. 28, 2034
French	2 PWS 2 total	OTCs anticipated: 2027		2027-2029		May 31, 2034
Shawsheen	1 PWS 1 total	OTCs anticipated: 2027		2027-2029		Aug. 31, 2034
Merrimack	17 PWS 22 total	OTCs anticipated: 2026		2026-2027	5 amendments	Nov. 31, 2034
Parker	4 PWS 5 total	OTCs anticipated: 2026		2026-2027	1 amendment	Feb. 28, 2035
Narragansett	1 PWS 2 total	OTCs anticipated: 2027		2027-2029		May 31, 2035

*** NOTES on Water Management Permit Expiration and Renewal Dates**

Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, section 13, and 310 CMR 36.18(7), if a **permit renewal application** is filed by the filing deadline, the existing permit will be administratively continued in force and effect until MassDEP issues a final decision on the renewal application.

Since 2010, for permits that were not in administrative continuance, expiration dates have been extended:

Nonessential Use Restrictions

Registrations

vs.

Permits



Registration Renewal Conditions

- During drought- condition nonessential water use
 - Restrictions aligned with Drought Management Plan using drought status as Trigger

State Drought Plan	Nonessential Outdoor Water-Use Restrictions
Level 1-Mild Drought	1 day per week watering, before 9 a.m. or after 5 p.m.
Level 2-Significant Drought	Hand-held hoses or watering cans only, before 9 a.m. or after 5 p.m.
Level 3-Critical Drought	Ban on all nonessential outdoor water use
Level 4- Emergency Drought	Ban on all nonessential outdoor water use

Nonessential Outdoor Water Use Restrictions

Permit vs. Registration

Non-Essential: Uses not required for health or safety reasons, by regulation, for production of food or fiber, for maintenance of livestock, or to meet the core function of a business

Permits

RGPCD for prior year	Calendar		STREAMFLOW		
	May 1 to Sept 30	7 day Low-Flow Trigger	Flow above ABF	Flow below ABF	7 day Low-Flow Trigger
	< 65 →	7 days*	1 day*	7 days*	1 day*
	>65 or Minim. subbasin →	2 days*	1 day*	7 days	2 days*

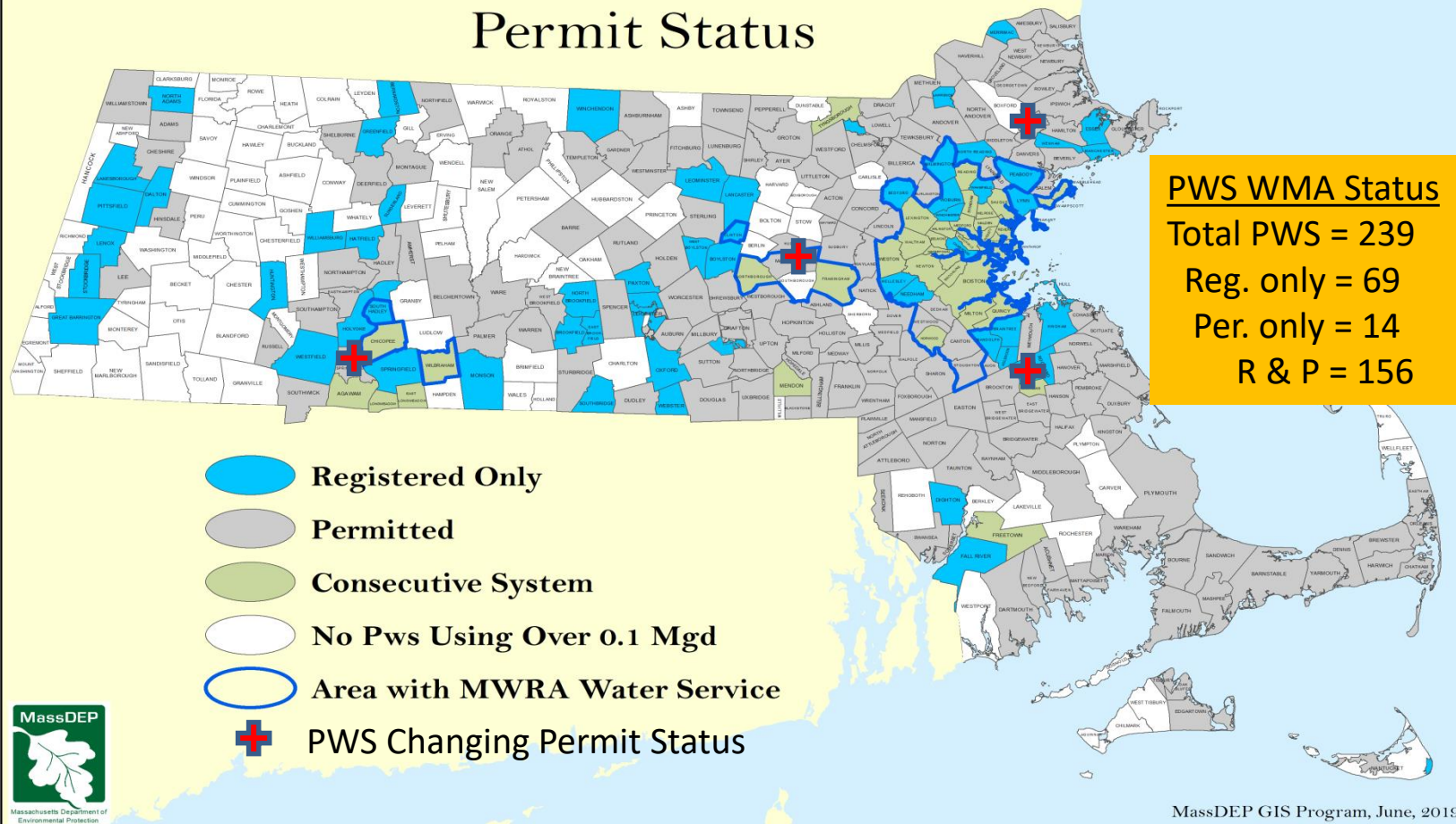
* No watering 9 am to 5 pm on any day

Note: Cape and Island requirements are based on GW and Drought Triggers

Registration Conditions

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Level 4- Emergency	Ban on all nonessential outdoor water use

WMA Registration and Permit Status



PWS WMA Status by Region (Total PWS/Registered only/Permit only/Both) as of June 1, 2024

Western Region	Central Region	Northeast Region	Southeast Region
47/24/4/19	65/20/4/41	54/19/2/33	73/6/4/63

Drought Status vs 7-Day Low-Flow

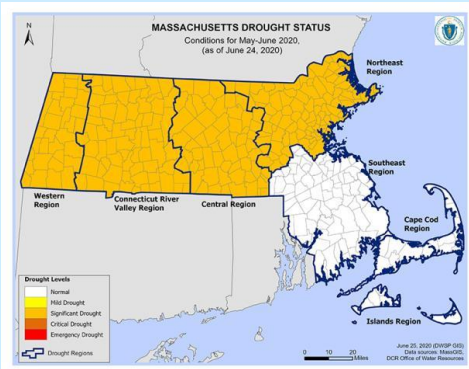
Level 1-Mild Drought

1 day per week watering

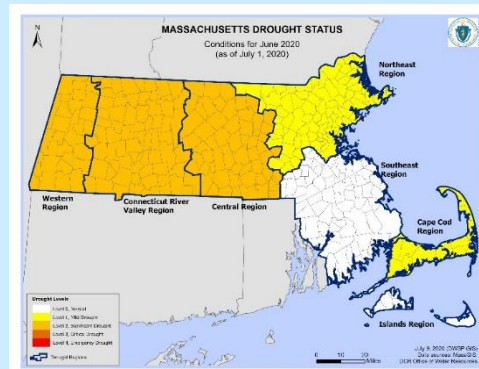
Level 2-Significant Drought

Hand-held hoses or watering cans only

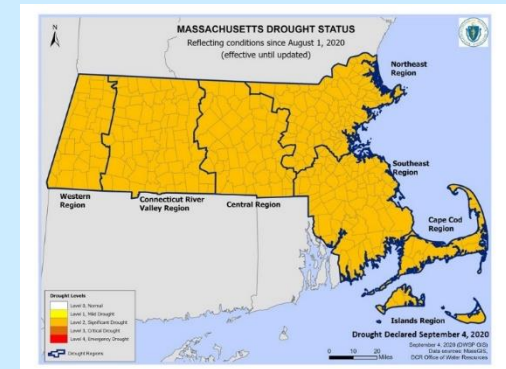
June 24, 2020



July 9, 2020



Aug. 12 & Sept. 4. 2020



7 DAY LOW FLOW VS DROUGHT TRIGGER 2018-2023 (May-Sept)

1st time 7 Day LF trigger hit for 3 cons. days each year = 1 day per week watering & (Date each State Drought **Region** Trigger was hit first time that year)

River and Drought Region	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Concord River @Lowell- NE			8/13 (L2-6/24)		7/25 (L2-6/15)	
Indian Head River@Hanover - SE	8/4		7/29 (L2-8/12)	(L1-6/10)	7/24 (L2-6/15)	
Mill River@Northampton- CT		8/29	8/14 (L2-6/24)		7/26 (L1-6/15)	

Restriction Triggers 2020 & 2022

Year	Basin	Triggers, Dates and Watering allowed				
		Permit-ABF	Permit 7-Day LF	Drought Level 1	Drought Level 2	Drought Level 3
Watering allowed		2-Days wk	1-day	1-day	Hand only	none
2020	Charles R.	5/29-7/5 off 7/15-8/9 74 8/31-9/10 →	39 8/10-8/30 ← 9/11-9/30	34 7/9	NE 6/24 8/12 63 9/4	10/10
2020	Taunton R.	6/5-6/14 off 6/18-7/5 off 7/24-8/9 42 →	51 8/10-9/30		49 SE 8/12 9/4	10/10
2022	Charles R.	5/19-7/17 → 58	7/18-9/12 56		NE 6/15, 55 7/12; 10/7	8/9 9/8 30
2022	Taunton R.	5/21-7/27 → 67	7/28 – 8/30 33	SE 5/11 10/7 35	6/15; 7/12; 9/8 76	8/9 30

USGS Gage	May-June ABF (cfs)	July – Sept. ABF (cfs)	7-Day Low Flow (cfs)
Charles River @ Dover	170	62	30
Taunton River @ Bridgewater	265	119	47



Golf Conditions

87 Registered
vs.
62 permitted

Registered Golf Courses are required to implement Seasonal Demand Management Plan with graduated reductions in nonessential irrigation based on drought levels. Permits are also triggered by the 7 Day Low Flow Value.

Irrigation can be reduced either by reducing irrigation times, or by irrigating fewer acres
Watering allowed up to designated percent

MA Drought Level	Tees & Greens	Fairways	Roughs	Landscape & Ornamentals
Normal	100% Essential Use	100%	100%	100%
Level 1 (Mild) or 7 Day Low Flow value		80%†	50%†	Courses whose core business includes a special event venue may continue to irrigate gardens, flowers and ornamental plants by means of hand-held hose or drip irrigation
Level 2 (Significant)		60%†	0%	
Level 3 (Critical)		40%†		
Level 4 (Emergency) **	TBD	40%		0%

† Irrigation use shall not occur between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., except that hand-watering of hot spots may occur at any time

** Additional actions to be determined by the Governor's Emergency Proclamation.

Questions and Comments

