

STATE OF DELAWARE



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT DOVER

EXECUTIVE ORDER
NUMBER ONE HUNDRED AND TWO

TO: ALL STATE DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

RE: ELIMINATING NONESSENTIAL USES OF WATER BY STATE
DEPARTMENTS AND STATE AGENCIES UNDERTAKING
CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES

WHEREAS, the Delaware River Basin Commission at its January 15 meeting has declared a water supply emergency to exist in the Delaware River Basin, which includes parts of the State of Delaware; and

WHEREAS, the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) in Conservation Order Number 4 passed pursuant to the emergency declaration has requested signatory states to initiate programs to ban nonessential uses of water in all Basin communities impacted by the current drought; and

WHEREAS, reservoir storage, stream flow and ground water levels throughout many areas of the Delaware River Basin are below normal and indicate the progressive development of severe drought conditions; and

WHEREAS, water wells supplying municipal and industrial users in northern Delaware are partially recharged by Delaware River water, and drought conditions present a substantial risk of excessive concentration of chloride in the river and subsequent salt water intrusion in Delaware's underground water aquifers; and

WHEREAS, elimination of nonessential water uses and initiation of conservation activities can aid in relieving present and future water supply problems in Delaware; and

WHEREAS, curtailment of nonessential water uses as called for in DRBC Conservation Order Number 4 and initiation of water conservation activities is now being sought cooperatively by municipal and private water supply agencies in New Castle County communities;

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NOW, THEREFORE, I, PIERRE S. du PONT, IV, Governor of the State of Delaware, pursuant to the powers vested in me as Governor of the State of Delaware, hereby order that State Departments and State agencies take immediate steps to eliminate nonessential uses of water for state facilities and operations in New Castle County. It is further ordered that State Departments and Agencies review current operating and maintenance programs throughout the State to determine opportunities for prudent water conservation through such means as leakage control and introduction of water saving devices.

For purposes of this Executive Order, "nonessential uses" of water shall include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (a) The use of fresh water for irrigation and watering of outdoor gardens, landscaped areas, trees, shrubs and outdoor plants is discouraged with these exceptions:
 - 1. Water applied by hand-held containers or hand-held hoses with manually operated flow control nozzles for irrigation of domestic vegetable and fruit gardens;
 - 2. Water by commercial nurseries at the minimum level necessary to maintain stock;
 - 3. Water at the minimum rate necessary to implement revegetation following earth moving, where revegetation is necessary to prevent soil erosion;
 - 4. Water at the minimum necessary to allow new lawns and shrubs to survive or for application of fertilizers and herbicides to existing lawns.
- (b) The use of water for washing paved surfaces such as streets, roads, sidewalks, driveways, garages, parking areas, tennis courts and patios;
- (c) The use of water for ornamental purposes, including fountains, artificial waterfalls and reflecting pools where water used for these purposes is not recirculated;
- (d) The use of water for washing or cleaning of state automobiles, trucks, or motor vehicles and trailers where such activity is carried on without the use of either buckets or flow restraining devices such as twist or grip control hose nozzles;
- (e) The use of water from a fire hydrant for any purposes (including the use of sprinkler caps) except for firefighting, or testing for health and safety protection purposes;
- (f) The use of water for flushing sewers or hydrants except as deemed necessary in the interest of public health and safety;
- (g) The serving of water at state restaurants or eating places unless specifically requested by a customer.

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For purposes of this Executive Order "water conservation" activities shall include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (a) Identify and repair all leaky water fixtures and water using equipment;
- (b) Shutoff completely valves and solenoides, which control water flows, when the water using cycle is not engaged;
- (c) Adjust water-using equipment to use the minimum amount of water required to achieve its stated purpose;
- (d) Shorten rinse cycles on laundry machines as much as possible; and lower water levels in laundry machines should be used wherever possible;
- (e) Flow restricting, or other water saving devices should be installed on plumbing fixtures that can accomodate them;
- (f) Flush toilets less frequently, and install toilet tank displacement inserts to reduce flush volumes where compatible with plumbing fixtures;
- (g) Further encourage water conservation by placing water-saving posters and literature where employees, students, patients, customers and others will have access to them.

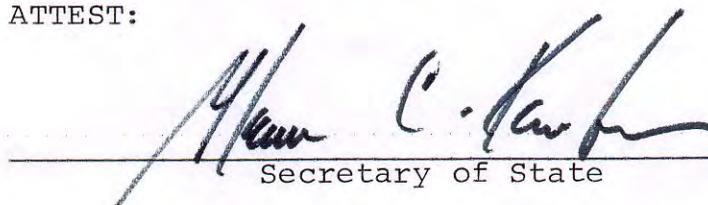
This Executive Order shall take effect immediately, and continue to be in effect for the duration of the water shortage emergency declared by the Delaware River Basin Commission.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, PIERRE S. du PONT, IV, Governor of the State of Delaware, have hereunto set my hand and caused the great Seal of said State to be hereunto affixed at Dover, this *22nd* day of *April* in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and eighty-one, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and fifth.



Governor

ATTEST:



Secretary of State

