

CONNECTED



May 2008

Please Remember to Abide by Water Use Restrictions and Conserve Water This Spring

Water usage increases in the spring, as people get the overwhelming urge to irrigate landscaping, pressure wash houses, wash cars, break out soaker slides and other water toys, and engage in all sorts of outdoor activities involving water. Please remember, all of Marietta Water's service area remains under water use restrictions this spring due to continuing drought conditions in our area.

Marietta Water encourages you to use water only within the guidelines of current restrictions. Each customer's monthly water consumption target is printed in the history section of your monthly water statement.

Remember, Marietta Water encourages you to take measures to limit your water use this spring. You can conserve substantial amounts of water if you:

Plant Strategically – Avoid planting grass in hard-to-water areas such as steep slopes and isolated strips bordering sidewalks and driveways.

Escape Evaporation – Minimize evaporation by watering during the early morning hours, when cooler temperatures and lighter breezes keep water from evaporating as quickly. This should be easy, since current watering restrictions only allow hand watering (defined as one person with one hose with a shut off nozzle) of existing landscaping for 25 minutes a day, on the odd/even watering schedule.

Cool It – Keep a pitcher of water in your refrigerator instead of running your tap every time you want a cool drink. In addition, try to use only one cup or glass per day to cut down on the number of dishes you have to wash.

Mulch More – Placing a layer of organic mulch around your plants will reduce evaporation, help control weeds, and enable your soil to retain more water.

Produce Savings – When washing that

fresh spring produce, do so in a partly filled pan. When you finish, pour the water on your houseplants or dry outdoor areas.

Make Tall Grass Less Short – Adjust your lawn mower to a higher setting. Longer grass shades root systems better and helps soil hold onto more moisture than a closely clipped lawn.

Change Directions – Redirect downspouts and other runoff toward shrubs or trees. Or capture rainwater in buckets or rain barrels and use it on your plants.

Reduce Greenery – Cut down on the amount of grass in your yard by creating rock gardens or by planting shrubs and surrounding them with generous quantities of mulch.

Whack Weeds – Weeds compete with other plants for water, as well as light and nutrients. So weed your lawn and garden regularly.

For more tips on conserving water, please visit www.mariettawater.com. ⚡



Watering Schedule

Even and unnumbered addresses may water Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays, and odd addresses may water on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays between the hours of 12 midnight and 10 a.m. Remember, limit watering to 25 minutes a day on your scheduled day. ⚡



Cut Your Power Costs This Summer With Simple-But-Effective Techniques

Experts predict another hot summer for our area and, of course, high temperatures mean higher electricity bills as we have to run air conditioners around the clock in order to live comfortably. As a result, many Marietta Power customers have already begun looking for ways to keep their cooling costs from getting out of hand this summer.

To assist in this effort, Marietta Power suggests you consider the following ways to stay cooler and reduce the amount of energy you use this summer:

Cook Out More – Using an oven during the summer makes it harder for your air conditioning system to keep up. So cook on a grill or use your microwave oven more often to keep from adding heat to your home.

Adjust Water Heaters – The thermostats on most water heaters can be set as high as 140 degrees. Try turning yours down to 115 – 120 degrees.

Put a Lid on It – When cooking on the stove, put lids on pans to hold as much heat inside as possible.

Air Dry – Turn off the drying function on your dishwasher. Dry clothing on clotheslines or hangars whenever possible.

Unplug Electronics – Disconnect home electronics, computers, copiers, printers, and other electric appliances when not in use. Even when switched off, many of these items continue to use electricity and emit heat. Plugging multiple items into a surge protector with an on/off switch makes this easier to accomplish.

Fan Out – Ceiling fans create enough air movement in a room to make it feel cooler by 4 degrees or more. A ceiling fan

uses about the same amount of energy as a 100-watt light bulb. Since you will feel cooler, make sure that you turn up your thermostat to 78 degrees or higher to reduce your energy costs.

Become a Shady Person – Keep your shades and windows closed during the daytime to keep heat from entering your home. For even better results, install patio covers, awnings and solar screens to shade your windows. Such exterior additions can reduce cooling costs as much as 30 percent.

Improve Your Timing – Limit hot and wet work to nighttime or early morning hours when temperatures are lower. This goes for ironing, washing clothes or dishes, mopping floors, and the like.

Tune Up – An improperly charged air conditioner uses more energy than one that is properly charged. So have a licensed heating and air conditioner contractor service your system.

Keep It Clean – Take care of your air conditioning unit. Change filters once a month, because dirty filters restrict airflow and can cause the coil in your air conditioner to freeze up and significantly increase your energy use. Likewise, keep the area around your outside air conditioner unit clear of weeds and debris. Air must be able to circulate freely around your air conditioner's outside unit. Never build or put anything near the unit that would interfere with the air circulation.

For more tips on saving energy this summer, please visit www.mariettagov.com. ⚡

Calendar of Events

Friday, June 27

Glover Park Concert Series

8 to 10 p.m.

The Glover Park Concert Series is “the” place to be in Marietta the last Friday evening of each month April through August.

For more information call (770) 794-5601

Now through June 8

THE POETRY OF PIZZA by DEBORAH BREVOORT

Theatre in the Square's Mainstage

Tuesday through Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2:30 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Admission is \$22 to \$33

Call (770) 422-8369 for more information or visit www.theatreinthesquare.com

Friday, July 4

Fourth in the Park

Glover Park - Marietta Square

10 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Celebrate July 4th with the City of Marietta! Festivities kick off with the Marietta Freedom Parade at 10 a.m. followed by Fourth in the Park in the Marietta Square. Games, food, entertainment, arts and crafts will fill the Square.

For more information call (770) 794-5601

Marietta Power and Water will be closed on Friday, July 4 in observance of Independence Day.

For a complete list of City of Marietta events, please visit www.mariettagov.com and click on Calendar of Events.

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