

July 2011

Dear Hawthorn Hills Homeowner:

Please take a few minutes to read this note about our City's outdoor watering restrictions; and resources to assist you in improving our water conservation all of which will save you money and potential fines.

I've provided the link to the Rochester Hills website and specifically to the water conservation section which will guide you to a full copy of the Outdoor watering ordinance.

OUTDOOR WATERING – In brief -- **OUTDOOR WATERING BY MEANS OF AN AUTOMATIC OR PROGRAMMABLE LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION SYSTEM MAY BE DONE ONLY BETWEEN THE HOURS OF MIDNIGHT TO 5:00 AM.**

As many of you may recall, and some of you were active in supporting, the citizens in our community successfully defeated a plan by the city to build water reservoirs. Reflective of how well the grassroots citizen campaign was in opposition to the proposed water projects, DWSD lowered Rochester Hills' 2011 rate 9% in February 2011. This has since been revised to a 6.8% decrease. However, DWSD rates are only part of the calculation of Rochester Hills residents' actual water bill. Other factors are Oakland County Water Resources rate changes, sewer rates and Rochester Hills city customer charges. WE MUST CONSERVE AND ADHERE TO OUR CITY'S WATERING TIME RESTRICTIONS IN ORDER TO KEEP OUR WATER RATES LOW AND TO MOVE THEM EVEN LOWER IN THE FUTURE.

Rochester Hills water conservation information:

<http://ww3.rochesterhills.org/webpages/WaterConservation/index.html>

Outdoor watering Ordinance: [Rochester Hills Outdoor Watering Restrictions.](#)

Keep in mind, and please understand, that Rochester Hills Water and Sewer Technical Review Committee ultimately decides the effective water rate, which this year (2011) involves a net increase of 3.7% as of July 1, 2011. The committee decided on the increase (before the water reservoir projects were defeated) in resident's effective rate to build up the Water and Sewer Fund in anticipation of future rate hikes from DWSD. Please read this short article: <http://rochester.patch.com/articles/bills-for-water-sewer-will-increase-37-percent-july-1>.

If you have questions or concerns, I suggest that you contact City Council or Mayor Barnett:

http://www.rochesterhills.org/our_government/city_council/council_members.asp and mayoroffice@rochesterhills.org.

Enjoy a wonderful and safe summer season.

Cheers,

Ben Jones
HHHA President