



Central Iowa Water Works issues voluntary reduction in lawn watering

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DES MOINES – Central Iowans are asked to immediately begin a 25 percent voluntarily reduction in lawn watering.

Water treatment facilities are working near capacity to produce enough water for basic lifeline essentials. Treatment is challenged because of water supply conditions caused by nitrate concentrations in the Des Moines and Raccoon Rivers.

All finished water meets state and federal regulations for drinking and all uses.

Central Iowa Water Works offers these tips to reduce lawn watering usage:

- If you normally run your sprinklers for an hour, water for 45 minutes.
- If you water for three days, only water one or two.
- Consider watering only your front lawn.
- Water in the early morning or late evening.
- Do not water on Monday.

Note: If water is running off the lawn and into the street, the ground is saturated and does not need additional watering.

Lawn watering is the greatest use of water during warm weather months. Watering an average size lawn for 20 minutes each day for a week is comparable to taking 800 showers or letting the shower run continuously for four days.

“If everyone cut their lawn watering by 25 percent it would help our water treatment plants meet the essential water needs of our community,” Tami Madsen, executive director of Central Iowa Water Works, said. “By reducing watering and waiting for expected rain Tuesday, we can keep lawns looking nice while also being good stewards of our water supply.”

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About Central Iowa Water Works

Central Iowa Water Works (CIWW) is a drinking water production authority chartered with the state of Iowa in April 2024. Together, the 12 founding members of CIWW serve more than 600,000 residents

and distribute nearly 22 billion gallons of water each year. The formation of CIWW represents cooperation and collaboration among the City of Ankeny, City of Clive, Des Moines Water Works, City of Grimes, City of Johnston, City of Norwalk, City of Polk City, Urbandale Water Utility, Warren Rural Water District, City of Waukee, West Des Moines Water Works and Xenia Rural Water.