

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Medicine Lodge City Council urges water customers to reduce water use

MEDICINE LODGE, Kan. – The Medicine Lodge Mayor and City Council ask water customers to reduce water use due to the City’s water supply suffering from ongoing drought conditions. If water consumption is not voluntarily reduced, the City Council plans to declare a Water Emergency in accordance with its water conservation policy. This means all outdoor water use would be banned, waste would be prohibited, and emergency water rates would be considered. Violations in an emergency status could result in fines, additional cost, and loss of privileges.

The City Council declared May 20, 2013, a Water Warning and asked for the following conservation efforts to be observed:

- (a) Outdoor watering will be restricted to use of a hand-held hose or bucket only. (This means using only handheld lawn sprinklers).
- (b) For lawn watering, all residents with odd-numbered house addresses will water on odd days; even addresses will water on even days.
- (c) Outdoor water use, including lawn watering and car washing will be restricted to before 10:00 am and after 9:00 pm.
- (d) Refilling of swimming pools will be allowed one day a week after sunset.
- (e) “Waste of Water” is prohibited.

Since the declaration, water use has continued at its usual pace. The continued use of water for non-essential purposes may result in the City’s wells being compromised and unable to produce water at all. As such, the City Council hopes all customers understand the seriousness of the situation.

For more information, please visit the City’s web site at <http://www.medicinelodge.ks.gov> and the Kansas Water Office’s Drought Watch at http://www.kwo.org/reports_publications/Drought.htm

For ideas on how you can conserve water, visit the “Water – Use It Wisely” campaign’s web site at <http://wateruseitwisely.com>. The campaign is an ongoing effort by a group of cities, states, and other organizations around the United States that share the desire to protect the natural resource.

The City of Medicine Lodge will notify area media and place information on utility bills if an emergency is declared or if the situation changes.

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