



What is a water warning?

Water warning means mandatory conservation measures are appropriate to maintain adequate supply for public safety and consumer consumption, as determined by Citizens Energy Group and declared by the Mayor.

Why are mandatory water restrictions in place / Why was the ban issued?

Mandatory water restrictions are now necessary to maintain proper water pressure to ensure public safety and adequate water supplies for all Central Indiana customers throughout the summer. Drought conditions and high water use are causing reservoir levels to fall quickly and are putting stress on the distribution system.

Can I water my lawn?

No. Sprinkling, watering, or irrigating of grass is prohibited.

Can I water my flowers and trees?

Yes, but watering MUST be done with a handheld hose or watering can. Unattended sprinklers/hoses cannot be placed in flowerbeds or near trees.

Can I water my vegetable garden?

Yes, but watering MUST be done with a handheld hose or watering can. Unattended sprinklers/hoses cannot be placed in gardens.

Can I water my new sod or newly seeded area of grass?

Yes, but watering MUST be done with a handheld hose. Unattended sprinklers/hoses cannot be placed in lawns.

I just purchased a pool. Can I fill it up?

No. Filling new or empty swimming pools is prohibited.

I have an existing pool that needs to be topped off with some water. Can I do that?

Yes.

I'm serviced by a well. Does this ban apply to me?

No but we are asking you to honor the ban because your well does pull from the same underground water sources used by the water company.

Can I rinse off my driveway or sidewalk?

No. Using water to clean sidewalks, driveways, paved areas, structures, buildings or other outdoor surfaces is prohibited.

Can I install new sod?

No. This is prohibited under a water warning.

Can I wash my car in my driveway or lawn?

No. Washing cars, trucks, trailers or mobile homes is prohibited except at commercial car washes.

Can I rinse or wash other vehicles or mobile equipment?

No. Washing railroad cars or any other type of mobile equipment is prohibited unless expressly required by law for health and safety reasons.

Can I hold a car wash for as a fundraiser for my organization?

No. Only commercial car wash operations are exempt during a water warning.

I am a contractor. Do the requirements to spray down dust while on a jobsite still apply?

Under the water warning, contractors will not be permitted to connect to fire hydrants to obtain water for construction site activities. Water used in connection with construction activities must be brought to the construction site via alternate means (i.e. water trucks). Watering shall be permitted when necessary to protect health and safety. It is recommended to use water in a controlled manner. In addition, we suggest the use of alternate dust suppression methods, such as dust barriers, powder or oil dust suppressants and vacuum trucks whenever feasible.

Who can use the fire hydrants? Are those that currently hold contracts to use them allowed to continue to do so?

Only the Indianapolis Fire Department, Citizens Energy Group and other municipal entities may use the hydrants during a water warning. Private entities that currently use the hydrants during their daily operations are prohibited from using them during a water warning.

Are there any exemptions?

Yes. Nurseries, automatic commercial car washes, manual commercial car washes, City-owned parks and golf courses are exempt. Citizens who receive their water from a well are also exempt.

Does this ordinance apply to the excluded Cities?

Lawrence and Speedway are exempt under the ban, as they do not receive service from Citizens. Beech Grove and Southport are asked to adhere to the restrictions.

What are the penalties for violating the water warning?

A \$100 citation will be issued for the first violation within a 12-month period; a \$250 citation will be issued for a second violation; third and subsequent violations will be forwarded to the City Prosecutor for further action and additional civil penalties up to \$2,500 per day.