

**CITY OF SHAFER
CHISAGO COUNTY
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

RESOLUTION 2021-8-2

**CITY COUNCIL DECLARATION DECLARING A LOCAL EMERGENCY WITH
RESPECT TO WATER USAGE IN THE CITY**

WHEREAS, the unusually hot weather combined with the long-term weather forecast has resulted in large increase in water usage in the City of Shafer (the “City”); and

WHEREAS, excessive watering of lawns, irrigation, and the washing of vehicles reduces the capacity of the City’s water towers, placing undue stress on the City’s water system and lowering the quality levels of water for City residents and businesses; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes Section 12.29 authorizes the Mayor to declare the existence of a local emergency; and

WHEREAS, Section 402.01, Subd. 10 of the City Code states that the City Council may impose emergency regulations pertaining to City water use and that whenever the City determines that a critical water deficiency prevails, it may limit the times and hours during which water may be used from the City water system for lawn and garden sprinkling, irrigation, car washing, air conditioning, and other nonessential uses; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that there is a local emergency with respect to water usage in the City and that the emergency is sudden and could not have been anticipated; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that this situation threatens the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of City; and

NOW, THEREFORE, as the Council of the City of Shafer, Minnesota, we declare that a local emergency exists with respect to water usage in the City effective at 5:00 p.m. on August 5, 2021 in the City of Shafer, Minnesota.

1. This declaration of a local emergency will invoke an outdoor watering ban effective on August 5, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. The watering ban prohibits all outdoor watering with sprinklers between 11 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. to avoid wasting water to evaporation. Also effective is the odd-even rule meaning addresses ending in an even number may only water outdoors on even-numbered days of the calendar, and the same with odd. Again adhering to the hours of restriction. The outdoor watering ban is in effect until further notice and includes the watering of lawns, irrigation, and vehicle washing.
2. The watering of new sod and the seeding of grass is permitted during the watering ban within the restricted hours.

3. Hand held watering of flowers, gardens, and landscaping is permitted.
4. Pool filling (both wading and swimming pools) is permitted only for established pools, NO FILLING OF NEW POOLS.
5. The use of water toys/water sprinklers for children actively playing are NOT permitted.
6. The Public Works Director is delegated the authority to implement any other reasonable water conservation measures that are necessary to ensure that the City maintains safe water levels and adequate fire protection. The Public Works Director shall take input from the City Clerk, the City Engineer, and the Fire Chief before implementing any new water conservation measures.
7. Failure to comply with these restrictions may result in a surcharge for water service for each violation in amount determined by the City Council, which may be added to the water bill for the property of which such violation occurs. Each day of the violation shall be deemed a separate violation. Continued violations shall be cause for discontinuing water service. Violation of these restrictions shall also be subject to penalties pursuant to Section 402.01, Subd 10 of the City Code.
8. This Declaration shall remain in effect until rescinded by the City Council. Updates will be on the city website.

Dated: August 2, 2021.

Paula Hanson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Joan Ciesler
City Clerk