

Charter Township of West Bloomfield

Water & Sewer Department
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Ed Haapala, Director
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2010 SPRING NEWSLETTER



The West Bloomfield Water and Sewer Department asks for cooperation in assisting to keep your annual water rate increases held to minimum by changing the times you sprinkle your lawns. The City of Detroit establishes its wholesale water rate to our community based on three criteria: Distance from water plants, elevation of our community from water plants, and peaking factors. Since we are one of the furthest communities from Detroit and our elevation is relatively high, it requires a great deal of energy and chemicals to pump clean drinking water through miles of large mains and reservoirs to ultimately reach our community.

Typically in the summer time, during the hottest months of July or August, when Detroit's water plants peak at pumping the most amount of water in a given hour, this one-hour window establishes our community's peak hour demand. This is usually somewhere between the hours of 7am and 9am. During the hours of 6am to 10am we observe a tremendous amount of lawn sprinkling occurring throughout the Township. This situation does not help us when new water rates are established for the upcoming year.

The City of Detroit has provided an exempt period for peak hour water usage between the hours of 11:00pm to 5:00am. This means that our community can consume as much water as necessary during this specific timeframe.

Your Water and Sewer Department, in an effort to reduce water usage during peak hour times, and to assist in lowering water rates paid to the City of Detroit, strongly urges you to shift your sprinkling time to the exempt period between 11:00pm and 5:00am on your automatic, programmable underground sprinkler system. Again, your sprinkling systems should strictly operate during non-peak hours between 11:00pm and 5:00am.

If there should be any questions or concerns with regards to this request, please contact me at your earliest convenience at 248.451.4785 or send me an email at e_haapala@wbtp.com.