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Lack of Rainfall and Increased Irrigation Water Demand Causes Aquarion Water Company to Request Customers Shut Down Irrigation Systems and Sprinklers

For Darien, Greenwich, New Canaan and Stamford Customers

BRIDGEPORT, CONN. – October 18, 2017 – With the Greenwich reservoir system at 48 percent capacity and well below the 67 percent seasonal average, Aquarion Water Company is requesting customers to shut down irrigation systems and sprinklers for the season. Aquarion’s Stamford reservoir system, at 61 percent capacity, is also below its 71 percent seasonal average.

Although reservoir levels are higher now compared to last year at this time, the lack of precipitation and increased irrigation water demand, due to unseasonably warm weather, are reducing reservoir levels. At Aquarion’s Greenwich reservoirs, there has been 23 percent less rainfall in the past 90 days, compared to the ten year average for this time period.

“Based on our new drought trigger advisory system, the Greenwich reservoir system has already hit our first drought trigger level,” said Charles V. Firlotte, Aquarion President and CEO. “It is important for our customers to support these voluntary conservation measures, and continue to use our water resources wisely.”

Aquarion has also launched a substantial infrastructure investment program to increase the supply of water to the communities in Southwest Fairfield County. Some of the projects will be completed by year end, and the remaining work will be finished over the next five years. These projects will greatly improve the resiliency of the water system against droughts.

In addition to shutting down irrigation systems for the season, Aquarion is asking customers to reduce indoor consumption by 10 percent.

To reduce indoor water use, Aquarion recommends that customers:

- Repair leaks in plumbing and fixtures
- Switch to water-efficient toilets, washing machines and dishwashers
- Only run full loads in the washing machine and dishwashers
- Turn off the tap while washing hands, shaving or brushing teeth
- Take shorter showers
- Hand-wash dishes in a basin, not under running water

Additional conservation tips and an interactive water calculator can be found at www.aquarionwater.com/conserve.

About Aquarion Water Company:

Aquarion Water Company is the public water supply company for more than 625,000 people in 51 cities and towns throughout Connecticut, as well as serving customers in Massachusetts and New Hampshire. It is the largest investor-owned water utility in New England and among the seven largest in the U.S. Based in Bridgeport, Conn., it has been in the public water supply business since 1857. Across its operations, Aquarion strives to act as a responsible steward of the environment and to assist the communities it serves in promoting sustainable practices. For more information on Aquarion Water Company and its subsidiaries, please visit www.aquarionwater.com or www.facebook.com/aquarionwater.

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