



AQUARION
Water Company

For Immediate Release

CONTACT:

Adam H. Brill

(w) 203.336.7662

(c) 914.714.5332

abrill@aquarionwater.com

AQUARION REQUESTS IMMEDIATE CONSERVATION IN MYSTIC
Water Company Outlines Steps to Take to Curb Mandatory Action

BRIDGEPORT, CT: October 23, 2007 – Below average rainfall has so strained Aquarion Water Company’s Mystic reservoirs that company officials are now asking customers to decrease water usage by at least 10 percent to avoid mandatory conservation requirements.

If Aquarion Water Company’s customers in Groton and Stonington fail to decrease outdoor water usage immediately, mandatory conservation requirements could be pursued within days unless the area receives significant rainfall, water utility officials said today. Daily demand in Aquarion’s Mystic system presently is approximately 1.5 million gallons a day.

Aquarion’s Mystic reservoirs are currently 44 percent full, compared to a normal level of 95 percent for this time of year. “While we have received some rainfall in the Mystic area in the past few days, it unfortunately was not enough to restore our reservoir supplies to normal levels,” said Howard J. Dunn, Aquarion’s vice president of operations and technology. “We need our customers’ cooperation to avoid mandatory conservation requirements and a 10% reduction in water use would help.”

“On October 5, Governor M. Jodi Rell issued a drought advisory throughout the state and remarked, ‘Water conservation is simple and just requires common sense,’ ” added Dunn. “We encourage our customers to follow the same tips issued by the governor’s office,” as noted:

- All residents and businesses should set a voluntary water use reduction goal of 10% (whether served by public water systems or private wells).
- All residents and businesses should cut back on unnecessary water use, such as watering lawns and washing cars.
- Residents and businesses should cooperate with their local water utilities as conditions

-more-

may be different in various parts of the state and because utilities may have different drought management plans.

Gov. Rell's drought advisory also provided the following water efficiency tips:

Bathrooms:

- Take short showers instead of tub baths.
- Do not let the water run while shaving or brushing teeth.

Kitchen and Laundry:

- Use the appropriate water level or load size selection on the washing machine.
- Keep drinking water in the refrigerator instead of letting the water run until it is cool.
- Operate the dishwasher only when completely full.

Outside:

- Sweep driveways, sidewalks and steps rather than hosing off with water.
- Wash cars with water from a bucket, or consider using a commercial car wash that recycles water.
- When using a hose, control the flow with an automatic shut-off nozzle.

Equipment:

- Repair all leaks. A leaky toilet can waste 200 gallons of water per day. To detect leaks in the toilet, add food coloring to the tank water. If the colored water appears in the bowl, the toilet is leaking. Toilet repair advice is available at <http://www.toiletology.com/index.shtml>.

Watering:

- Detect and repair all leaks in irrigation systems.

For more information on the governor's drought advisory, please visit

<http://www.ct.gov/dph/cwp/view.asp?Q=396930&A=3116>.

Aquarion Company's principal business is public water supply. Through its Aquarion Water Company subsidiaries, it is one of the 10 largest investor-owned water utilities in the U.S., serving some 207,000 homes and businesses, or approximately 700,000 people, in 44 Connecticut, Massachusetts and New Hampshire communities. Aquarion Water Company of Connecticut provides high-quality water to 179,000 customers, or some 600,000 people, in 36 cities and towns. The Mystic System serves approximately 10,000 people in Groton and Stonington from a network of reservoirs and a well. Please visit www.aquarionwater.com for more information.

###

Celebrating 150 Years of Water Service Excellence