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PRESS RELEASE

Winter Park water utility asks customers to conserve

WINTER PARK, FL, an internationally recognized, award-winning city with multiple accredited agencies (August 21, 2021) The City of Winter Park Water & Wastewater Utilities Department joins the City of Orlando and Orlando Utilities Commission by asking its customers to conserve water temporarily for at least two to three weeks. The city is urging customers to reduce water usage by not washing cars and to delay the use of pressure washers. In addition, customers that use potable water for irrigation are requested to minimize the frequency of watering their lawns. This does not apply to customers using private wells, reclaimed water, or other non-potable water sources (i.e. lake water or stormwater/retention pond) for irrigation.

The urgency is due to the shortage of liquid oxygen being experienced by the surge of COVID-19 treatments. Liquid oxygen is an essential component of the ozone gas used by the department to purify the water. If enough water is not conserved during this critical time, system-wide boil water alerts may need to be issued before water can be used for cooking or drinking. The department serves approximately 25,000 customers within 23 square miles including customers in city limits and un-incorporated Orange County.

"The ripple effects of this pandemic are real and impacting so many unexpected elements of our lives. The city encourages all of those that are eligible to become vaccinated, continue wearing face coverings when in public indoor spaces, keep a safe social distance, and now please conserve water for a short period of time," encouraged City Manager Randy Knight. "This is one more way we can individually do our part to help our entire community emerge from this pandemic."

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