

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAY, GEORGIA TO AMEND CHAPTER 70, UTILITIES, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GRAY, GEORGIA, AS AMENDED, SO AS TO ADD A NEW ARTICLE VI TO BE ENTITLED "OUTDOOR WATERING"; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the City of Gray (hereinafter "Gray") recognizes an imminent need to create a culture of water conservation and to plan for water supply enhancement during future extreme drought conditions and other water emergencies;

WHEREAS, reasonable restrictions on the outdoor watering of landscape are necessary to address this in furtherance of addressing this need;

WHEREAS, the General Assembly of the State of Georgia has required all cities in Georgia to adopt an ordinance to be in effect no later than January 1, 2011, to allow outdoor watering of landscape between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and 10:00 a.m. (with certain exceptions); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to O.C.G.A § 12-5-7, the Mayor and Council have prepared an ordinance to address outdoor watering of landscape.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAY, GEORGIA, and it is hereby so ordained by the authority of same that Chapter 70, Utilities, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Gray, Georgia is hereby amended by adding a new article to be numbered ARTICLE VI, entitled "Outdoor Watering", which Article shall read as follows:

ARTICLE VI. OUTDOOR WATERING

Sec. 70-110. Restriction on Outdoor Water of Landscape. Outdoor watering for purpose of planting, growing, managing, or maintaining ground cover, trees, shrubs, or other plants may occur only between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and 10:00 a.m.; provided, however, that this limitation shall not create any limitation upon the following outdoor water uses:

- (A) Commercial raising, harvesting, or storing of crops; feeding, breeding, or managing livestock or poultry; the commercial production or storing of feed for use in the production of livestock, including, but not limited to , cattle, calves, swine, hogs, goats, sheep, and rabbits, or for use in the production of poultry, including, but not limited to, chickens, hens, ratites, and turkeys; producing plants, trees, fowl, or animals; or the commercial production of aquacultural, horticultural, dairy, livestock, poultry, eggs, and apiarian products or as otherwise defined in O.C.G.A. § 1-3-3;
- (B) Capture and reuse of cooling system condensate or storm water in compliance with applicable City of Gray ordinances and state guidelines;
- (C) Reuse of gray water in compliance with O.C.G.A § 31-3-5.2 and applicable local board of health regulations;
- (D) Use of reclaimed waste water by a designated user from a system permitted by the Environmental Protection Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources to provide reclaimed waste water;
- (E) Watering personal food gardens;
- (F) Watering new or replanted plant, seed, or turf in landscapes, golf courses, or

sports turf fields during installation and for a period of 30 days immediately following the date of installation;

(G) Drip irrigation or irrigation using soaker hoses;

(H) Hand watering with a hose with automatic cutoff or handheld container;

(I) Use of water withdrawn from private water wells or surface water by an owner or operator of property if such well or surface water is on said property;

(J) Watering horticultural crops held for sale, resale, or installation;

(K) Watering athletic fields, golf courses, or public turf grass recreational areas;

(L) Installation, maintenance, or calibration of irrigation systems; or

(M) Hydroseeding.

Sec.70-111. Enforcement.

(a) No person shall use or allow the use of water in violation of the restrictions on outdoor water use contained in this ordinance.

(b) The City Superintendent shall be the enforcement authority for this ordinance. The City Superintendent may also authorize other departments as may be deemed necessary to support enforcement.

(c) Criminal and alternate penalties. Any violation of this section may also be enforced by a citation returnable to the municipal court or by any other legal means as set forth in this Code.

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance are repealed.

The sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses and phrases of this ordinance are severable. Should any section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance be

rendered invalid by any court of law, the remaining sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses, or phrases shall not be affected but shall continue in effect until amended or repealed by action of the governing authority of the City of Gray.

This ordinance shall become effective on January 1, 2011.

SO ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL of the City of Gray this 6th day of December, 2010.

MAYOR: 

ATTEST: Hope Harrison
City Clerk

James Gufford
Council member

Lauren Lindsey
Council member

Bryce Gray
Council member

Myra Gray
Council member

Council member

10/22/10