

Atlanta adopts new water restrictions

by UPI

ATLANTA - The Atlanta Department of Watershed Management imposed restrictions Thursday that include a ban on watering lawns and washing cars except on weekends.

Janet Ward, a spokeswoman for the department, said the limits on water use will continue until the area gets "some significant rain," The Atlanta Journal Constitution reported.

Even on weekends, lawn watering will be limited to the hours between midnight and 10 a.m. Even-numbered property owners get Saturdays while the odd numbers can water on Sundays.

David Stooksbury, the state climatologist, said Fulton County -- which includes Atlanta -- and 73 other counties are in "extreme drought," while 79 counties are in "severe drought." In southern Georgia, the state has been hit with the largest wildfire in its history near the historic Okefenokee Swamp.

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