

>>> "Tim Durham" <[tdurham@clarkesvillega.com](mailto:tdurham@clarkesvillega.com)> 9/2/2011 10:04 AM >>>  
Mr. Farrell,

I appreciate your help and guidance in our situation. The City of Clarkesville issued a water ban that began today, Friday September 2, 2011. The Soque River is now flowing in the low 40's in cfs. During the worst part of the drought several years ago, the river ran in the high 30's. During that time, EPD issued a total watering ban for the upper third part the state.

The City of Clarkesville made the decision to take precaution and issue the watering ban in an effort to begin to make our customers aware of the seriousness of the drought. We can certainly stop the watering ban, if need be, but are requesting that we be allowed to stay on the ban for at least 10-14 days. This will allow us time to monitor the situation and hopefully get some rainfall during that time. There is some potential for rainfall at the beginning of next week.

I sincerely apologize for any misunderstanding of the procedures in requesting watering bans and we are committed to doing what we need to do. Please let me know if we need to do anything different. I am forwarding this email to the Director, the Branch Chief and other personnel that in an effort to keep everyone involved.

Thanks again for your help,

Sincerely,

Tim Durham

Director of Water & Sewer

City of Clarkesville

# Georgia Department of Natural Resources

2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, SE, East Floyd Tower, Atlanta, GA 30334

Mark Williams, Commissioner

F. Allen Barnes, Director

Environmental Protection Division

September 6, 2011

Mr. Tim Durham  
Director of Water & Sewer  
City of Clarkesville  
123 North Laurel Drive  
Clarkesville, Georgia 30523

RE: Request for variance from outdoor water use requirements

Dear Mr. Durham:

This is in response to your e-mail dated September 2, 2011, requesting a variance from the current outdoor water use requirements of the Georgia Water Stewardship Act, as found in the Official Code of Georgia Annotated § 12-5-7. Specifically, the City of Clarkesville has requested that no outdoor watering be allowed, other than for activities exempted in 391-3-30-.05, or as the EPD Director may order.

As provided in Section 12-5-7(a)(1) of the Act, the Director of EPD may grant such a variance provided there is sufficient evidence that the more stringent restrictions are needed to avoid or relieve a local water shortage. Based on the information you provided in support of your request, and in consideration of the exceptional drought conditions occurring within your area, your request is hereby approved and may remain in effect until such time as you provide notice to EPD that the above referenced restrictions are no longer necessary

If you have questions or need additional assistance, please contact Mr. Kirk Chase in the EPD Drinking Water Program at 404-656-2750.

Sincerely;



F. Allen Barnes  
Director