TIPS FOR LAWN WATERING DURING A DROUGHT

June 29, 2012

Dear Resident:

Undoubtedly you are aware of the extremely dry ground conditions created by the high heat of the summer coupled with a lack of rain. In order to both conserve water and keep the lawns in our community looking well-kept, the Town of Munster has developed tips for effective lawn-watering during a drought.

- It is not necessary to water every day – consider watering every other day at the most frequent. Most lawns can withstand 3-4 days without watering if it the watering is done effectively.
- In order to reduce water loss from evaporation, the most effective watering times are between 6 p.m. and 9 a.m., when it is cooler and there is less wind.
- For automatic in-ground sprinklers, change time settings if necessary to make watering more effective and check for leaky valves and heads that may be wasting water.
- Rather than using standard sprinklers that rotate and water streets and sidewalks, consider watering by hand to effectively reach dry spots. At the very least, ensure that standard sprinklers are properly placed to avoid water runoff.
- Don't mow off more than 1/3 of the grass at a time – change your mower to a higher setting, which causes less stress to the grass and forces it to develop deeper roots.
- If you have not already, consider aerating your lawn in the spring or fall, allowing water to be soaked up more deeply into the roots of the lawn during dry periods.

For more detailed watering tips, contact a local landscaping service or consult the Internet. The Town appreciates your cooperation in our efforts to conserve water while preserving the appearance of lawns in Munster.