

**Township of Lawrence
County of Mercer**

Ordinance No. 2354-19

AN ORDINANCE FOR EMERGENCY CONSERVATION OF WATER

**WHEREAS, the City of Trenton owns and operates the Trenton Water Works public water system;
and**

**WHEREAS, the water service area includes areas of Ewing, Lawrence and Hamilton Townships;
and**

WHEREAS, Trenton Water Works is regulated by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and permitted by the Delaware River Basin Commission; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and Delaware River Basin Commission have drought regulations under N.J.A.C. 7:19 Water Supply Allocation Permit rules which mandate drought response actions including development of a Water Conservation and Drought Management Plan and an ordinance to restrict water use during droughts or other related emergencies; and

**WHEREAS, the City of Trenton adopted an ordinance for Emergency Conservation of Water and has requested the other municipalities in the service area also adopt water conservation ordinances;
and**

WHEREAS, Lawrence Township voluntarily restricted water usage during previous emergencies but is amenable in future emergency situations to implement certain restrictions in a declared emergency by any public water supply authority that serves Lawrence Township residents and businesses;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Township Council of the Township of Lawrence as follows:

Section 1. – Title.

This chapter shall be known and cited as the Lawrence Township Water Conservation Ordinance.

Section 2. – Purpose.

The purpose of this chapter is to reduce the consumption of water in Lawrence Township during a declared water emergency and to assure that water resources will remain available for the public benefit with particular regard for public health, fire protection and domestic use.

Section 3. – Provisions Operative.

The provisions of this chapter shall become operative when a water emergency is declared by the Governor of the State of New Jersey or the Mayor of Lawrence Township, and shall remain operative

during the pendency of the water emergency until the declared water emergency is rescinded.

Section 4. – Prohibited Water Uses.

Water supplied to users shall not be used for any purpose declared to be nonessential, and the following uses are strictly prohibited while the ordinance is in effect:

- a. Watering of lawns, shrubs, landscaped areas, trees, garden or vegetation of any type.
- b. Water or washing of sidewalks, driveways, streets, parking areas, tennis courts or other exterior paved areas. The Department of Public Works shall utilize water from a nonportable source for street cleaning.
- c. Noncommercial washing of privately-owned motor vehicles, trailers or boats.
- d. Use of water for public or private pools.
- e. Serving water in restaurants, clubs or public eating places, unless specifically requested by the customer.
- f. Use of water by any person for the purpose of dust control or compaction.
- g. Use of water utilized in any garbage grinder.

Section 5. – Variances.

Application for a variance from the provisions of this chapter shall be made, in writing, to the Municipal Engineer. The Engineer will coordinate with the applicable water authority and may, in his/her discretion, grant a variance to permit a use of water, otherwise prohibited by this chapter, only if the Engineer determines that the variance is reasonably necessary to protect the public health and safety.

Section 6. - Severability.

If any portion of this Ordinance shall be deemed invalid, such part(s) shall be severed and the invalidity thereby shall not affect the remaining parts of this ordinance.

Section 7. - Enactment.

This Ordinance shall take effect twenty (20) days after final passage, adoption, and publication by the Township Clerk of the Township of Lawrence in the manner prescribed by law.

Adopted: December 17, 2019

RECORD OF VOTE

COUNCIL	AYE	NAY	PRESENT	ABSENT	ABSTAIN	MOVE	SECOND
Mr. Kownacki	X						
Ms. Lewis	X						
Dr. Powers	X						X
Mr. Ryan	X					X	
Mayor Bobbitt	X						