SUMMARY OF DEVINE’S STAGE IV WATER USE RESTRICTIONS

We are currently under Stage IV of the City of Devine’s drought management ordinance, effective June 6, 2024. To follow are some of the particular restrictions:

1. All restrictions from Stage I, II, and III.
2. Landscape watering for new landscaping plants:
   Under Stage IV, new landscaping is prohibited.
3. Landscape watering for existing landscaping plants:
   Stage IV, landscaping irrigation with a soaker hose, hose-end sprinkler or in-ground irrigation system is allowed on the days specified for that locations every other week between the hours of 3:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Under Stage IV, restrictions remain in place, and a surcharge will be assessed on all water accounts. The surcharge will remain in effect for a minimum of one (1) complete billing cycle, and shall remain in effect for any month for which Stage IV is in effect.
4. Swimming pools, hot tubs and similar facilities:
   Under Stage IV, filling of new or existing public facilities is prohibited. Makeup for new or existing public facilities is prohibited.
5. Vegetable Gardens:
   Under Stage IV, irrigation with hand-held hose, bucket or drip system between 8:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. is permitted.
6. Golf Courses:
   Devine Golf Course has 2 privately owned Carrizo Wells.
7. Aesthetic Use:
   Under Stage IV, inside or outside use is prohibited except with reused water.
8. Other Outside Uses:
   Under Stage IV, waste is prohibited. Washing of impervious surface areas is prohibited except washing for immediate human health and safety concerns. Water use by a commercial vehicle washing facilities is prohibited.
9. Sewer Line Flushing:
   Under Stage II, Stage III, Stage IV, flushing prohibited except for emergencies only.
10. Fire Hydrant Flushing:
   Under Stage III, Stage IV, flushing is prohibited except for emergencies only.
11. Power Production use:
   Under either Stage I, Stage II, Stage III, or Stage IV water used for power production shall be voluntarily reduced.
12. Agricultural Irrigation:
   User is encouraged to reduce water usage by any means available. Under Stage I, II, or Stage III, the escape of irrigation tailwater is prohibited. Water loss through percolation in transmission canals is prohibited. Under Stage IV, additional reduction may be imposed if conditions warrant.
13. Livestock Use:
   Under Stage IV reduction is recommended. User is encouraged to reduce water usage by any means available.
14. Domestic Type:
   Under Stage IV, reduction is recommended. User is encouraged to reduce water by any means available. Compliance with the mandatory demand reduction measures is required for those uses in the Outdoor category, such as landscape watering and swimming pools, hot tubs and similar facilities.
15. Military:
   Under Stage IV, reduction is recommended. User is encouraged to reduce water usage by any means available. Compliance with the mandatory demand reduction measures is required for those uses in the Outdoor Category such as landscape watering and swimming pools, hot tubs and similar facilities and the Essential and Utility Use Category, such as Fire Fighting, Medical, Water Utility, Sewer Line Flushing, Fire Hydrant Flushing, and Power Production.
16. Industrial, Commercial, and Others:
   Stage IV, reduction is recommended. User is encouraged to reduce water usage by any means available. Compliance with the mandatory demand reduction measures is required for those uses in the Outdoor (Section 3), including landscape watering, swimming pools, hot tubs, and similar facilities, golf courses, car washes, and aesthetic uses such as fountains, regardless of whether the User is an industrial user. Industrial reductions may be imposed under Stage III of conditions warrant.

As a general rule, waste is prohibited. Reduction in all water is recommended. Private Wells are excluded from the ordinance but reduction in use is recommended – they tend to go dry quickly during a drought.

Each violation of the ordinance shall be punished by a penalty of a fine of not less than $10.00 or more than $200.00. Each day a violation occurs shall be deemed a separate offense. Copies of the ordinance are available at City Hall. If you have any questions or wish to report water wasters, call the City at 663-2804.