

Appendix A

Social Media Up-dates

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Zimbra

sbw@foxeng.com

Grimes Times: Weekly updates

From : Kelley Brown <kelbrown@ci.grimes.ia.us>

Thu, Jun 20, 2013 09:28 AM

Subject : Grimes Times: Weekly updates**To :** sbw@foxeng.com**Reply To :** Kelley Brown <kelbrown@ci.grimes.ia.us>

Good Morning and Happy Thursday.

Here are some general updates for you that have been posted on our city's FB page as well. If you are on FB, please like us. There are pictures and other less-formal items posted on FB that are not sent out on our list serve. I usually try to keep emails restricted to more business type items. <https://www.facebook.com/CityofGrimes>

Thanks again for your support!

1. Feral cats! There are a few very generous women who have been able to capture some of the litters of kitten running wild around Grimes, having them spayed or neutered and then working with area animals shelters to get them adopted. Grimes does not have a Feral Cat catch, neuter/spay and release program. With the long list of needs and the tax... cuts, it is unlikely that there will be one funded by the city in the near future.... so... if you would like to assist these amazing women who are taking it up on their own to develop their own program or can help financially please contact Deb G at littledebbie472@hotmail.com or call her at 5153603249

Thanks again!

2. FYI - The City is cleaning out the drainage way between SE 6th and Shawver Park - removing the cat tails and the obnoxious scrub trees. So if you see us working through there, that is what it is.
3. Do you have a cool deck?
You can call her directly or comment to this post and I will let her know.

Hi, all,

I'm working on a piece called All Decked Out, and we're hoping to talk to anyone who has a cool, unique, interesting deck in town. If you or any of the building people might know of anyone, could you let me know?? Brian, if you know of any realtors, contractors, remodelers, etc. who might have done a project like this, I'd love to chat with them!! Thank you!

Ashley Rullestad
Grimes Living
554-6882

4. We are going to stay on top of this major mosquito harvest. Wilson Brothers will be spraying every Wednesday night until they get under control or the rain stops!
5. I have been asked from time to time whether or not a concern should be called into Polk County Sheriff's Dept or not... this is the response from Chief Schneider, "Remind them we would rather stop 10 no big deals instead of miss one big one." So please, go ahead and call. If you'd rather call it in and not call 911, their dispatch number is 286-3333. Thanks again!
6. Signals at SE 37th and S James Street – there were some concerns noted especially about the left turn signal during peak

periods. That is being disabled for peak times. As well, the intersection is being monitored and worked very well this morning.

7. Construction continues on the new well at the water plant site. I would be interested in knowing if the sound from their drilling is creating a hardship for anyone. To date, I have not heard any concerns.
8. N Main Street water main project – has gone much slower than expected. The contractor has really stepped up his crew members in hopes of maximizing his construction time in between the storms.
9. SE Main Street reconstruction – an update will be sent out tomorrow.
10. Did you know that the location of DM Imports on Hwy 141 and SE 37th Street will be the new site for Toyota of Des Moines? The existing Toyota of DM was one of the top 12 dealers in the United States for Toyota for 2012.

As always – thank you again for helping us keep you informed.

Happy Thursday to you!

Kelley

Kelley L Brown
City Administrator
City of Grimes
101 NE Harvey Street
Grimes, IA 50111
515-986-3036
fax 515-986-3846

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"We systematically overestimate the value of access to information and underestimate the value of access to each other."
– [Clay Shirky](#) (via [Joshua Blankenship](#))

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Zimbra

sbw@foxeng.com

Grimes Times: Water Mitigatin - Phase 1

From : Kelley Brown <kelbrown@ci.grimes.ia.us>

Fri, Jul 12, 2013 10:53 AM

Subject : Grimes Times: Water Mitigatin - Phase 1 1 attachment**To :** sbw@foxeng.com**Reply To :** Kelley Brown <kelbrown@ci.grimes.ia.us>

Good Morning Fellow Homeowner and Business Owner -

I know it may be a bit confusing because of the earlier flooding this spring all across the State of Iowa, but the drought last year had some very severe and on-going effects to the City of Grimes' water system. As you know from the correspondence over the winter, PeopleService and the Grimes City Council put procedures in place to protect the future of the Grimes Water Supply. This included drafting and passing a water drought mitigation procedure, rehabbing the old water plant and getting it ready to go, drilling a new Jordan Well at the current water plant site and preparing to bid an emergency water connection with Xenia Water. The plan is in place, the old water plant is ready to go and the drilling of the well is in process. Before we start the old water plant and start mixing the Jordan water with the current surface wells, which could decrease the quality of the water, we would like you to reduce your use of water.

At this time, the City of Grimes is asking you to implement Stage 1 of the water mitigation plan. To highlight the part we need you to be most aware of, all homes and businesses are asked to reduce the irrigation of their homes or watering their lawns, etc. to every other day. Even number addresses should water on even number days and odd number addresses on odd number of days. Obviously if you are willing to let your lawn grow dormant, that is even better. Attached is the complete plan for your reference. Please note if we have to go to Stages 2 or 3, the use of water becomes very restricted.

You are a great community and I know we can all work together to get us through this. All we need is everyone to do their part and reduce their usage wherever they can and proceed according to the plan.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

In addition - we are hand delivering these notices to all new homeowners and businesses who within the last few months may not have had the opportunity to read through our past correspondence about the drought and the effects on our community. Going forward, would you please either LIKE us on our Facebook page or subscribe to our email list serve so I can get information out to you in a timely manner. Our list serve address is <http://grimes.iniowa.org> and our website address is: <http://www.grimesiowa.gov/> PLEASE PASS THIS ON TO ALL YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS!!

Thank you in advance for helping us, help you.
Take good care!

Kelley Brown
City Administrator
City of Grimes

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**Grimes Water Supply H2O Conservation Plan newsletter.docx**

25 KB

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Grimes Water Supply Water Conservation Plan

As we are continuing to work through the mitigation plan in the event that the drought is as bad as predicted. This plan has been drafted to outline the measures that will be taken to conserve our water supply.

Note – Each household will be given three warnings within one month before their water is disconnected and a \$50 reconnect fee is charged while in Stages I and II. In Stage III only one warning will be given.

Stage “0”-Water Conservation measures that the City will always encourage

Conscientious use of water will be encouraged as described below:

- Water lawns early in the morning, prior to 6:00 a.m., to take advantage of the coolest times when the evaporation rate is less. Irrigating in the evening may result in potential fungus development on the lawn.
- Check the interior plumbing for faucet or toilet leaks, and make the necessary repairs. To detect potential leaks, listen for trickles of water or frequent water valve operations. ***The Grimes Water Department is always available to do a leak survey/water audit by scheduling an appointment with City Hall.***
- Clean outside surfaces such as patios, driveways, and sidewalks using a broom rather than a hose.
- Wash vehicles with a bucket and hose that has a shut-off nozzle, rather than continuously running a hose.
- Fill sinks with water for tasks such as washing dishes, preparing food, brushing teeth, and shaving rather than leaving water running.
- Suggest installing water-saving devices in showers.
- Use automatic dishwashers and washing machines with only full loads whenever possible.
- Store a container of drinking water in the refrigerator rather than running water from the faucet to cool it.
- Encourage wise use of water during outdoor play, e.g., playing in the sprinkler, water toys, and swimming pools.
- Encourage shorter shower times, or bathe in partially full bathtubs.
- Refrain from using the toilet as a wastebasket or ashtray.

STAGE I “Water Watch” Minor Conservation/Rationing

There is an indication that without wise usage of water, a shortage could occur.

These measures will be used to reduce consumption as follows:

1. Restate voluntary measures of STAGE 0.
2. Request water utility customers to water on alternate days, e.g., even numbered addresses may water on even days of the month, and odd-numbered addresses may water on odd-numbered days of the month. Suggest watering between 8:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m.
3. Advise utility customers to not cause or permit any use of potable processed water in such a manner or quantity that results in water ponding or running into ditches, gutters, storm sewer inlets and surface water drains.
4. Contact public agencies (City, County, State) to request assistance in implementing measures to conserve usage associated with their operations (to serve as an example for citizens) such as:
 - Consider closing recreational facilities with known water wastes, e.g., leaking pools and running drinking fountains until they are repaired.
5. Ask commercial businesses to voluntarily stop outside irrigation activities.
6. Survey areas of highly corrosive soils (indicated by failure history) or other areas of town with a history of water main breaks with leak detection crews
7. Recommend to City officials that the water shortage rate structure go into effect in Stage II.
8. Suspend Grimes Water Supply’s hydrant flushing program.
9. Request City officials to minimize water usage activities such as street flushing and watering golf courses/sports facilities. Be sure that all other activities are suspended before an emphasis is placed on golf courses/sports facilities.
10. After 30 days or less, if the maximum day water consumption has not been reduced by 10%, and there is still an indication that a water shortage could occur, proceed to Stage II. After 30 days or less, if the water demand is below the 75% pumping capacity threshold for a week or more then the utility will back off out of Stage I.

STAGE II “Water Warning” Moderate Rationing

1. Mandatory measures will be implemented as follows:
2. Discontinue outdoor water usage (including filling pools, watering lawns, flower beds, landscapes, annual plantings and hose-washing of paved surfaces, etc.), except as noted below and except for commercial greenhouses. This is to include public agency watering activities.
3. Prohibit use of potable processed water to wash vehicles except at establishments that do so as a commercial activity. This prohibition includes fundraising activities.
4. Outdoor vegetable gardens shall only be watered on alternate days, e.g., even numbered addresses may water on even days of the month, and odd-numbered addresses may water on odd-numbered days of the month. Allowable watering times are between 8:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m.

- Watering that results in water ponding or running off into ditches, gutters, storm sewer inlets and outdoor drains is prohibited.
5. The use of hydrant meters for watering new seed or sod, dust control, settling backfill, or other construction purposes is prohibited. Hydrant meters in place will be removed by the City Water Department. Exceptions to this prohibition can be made on a case by case basis by appealing to the City Administrator.
 6. New sod or newly seeded lawns (that have been installed/planted before Stage II) may be irrigated for as much as eight hours out of the first twenty-four hours after seeding or installation of sod. After that time, for the next nine consecutive days, watering of the lawn may be done between 5:00 am to 8:00 am and between 8:00 pm and 10pm with daily applications of water not to exceed one hour of use. After that time lawns may only be watered on alternate days, e.g., even numbered addresses may water on even days of the month, and odd-numbered addresses may water on odd-numbered days of the month. Suggest watering between 8:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m.
 - No sod or seeded lawns will be allowed to be installed or planted after Stage II Rationing has gone into effect.
 7. After 30 days or less, if the maximum day water consumption has not been reduced by 30% and there still is an indication that a water shortage could occur, proceed to Stage III.

STAGE III: “Water Emergency” Severe Mandatory Rationing

1. Stage I and II rationing are still in effect in addition to these Stage III measures
2. The use of potable processed water to wash any vehicle is prohibited, including vehicle washing as a commercial activity.
3. Outdoor vegetation shall not be irrigated with potable processed water except that:
 - Trees and shrubs that are less than four years old and planted before the establishment of the Stage III Severe Mandatory Rationing
 - Seeding and sodding that is less than one year old and done before the establishment of Stage III Severe Mandatory Rationing
 - The above exceptions may be watered once per week with the total weekly application not to exceed 1 hour. Any outdoor vegetation planted after the date of establishment of Stage III rationing is prohibited.
 - Vegetable gardens may be watered on alternate days, e.g., even numbered addresses may water on even days of the month, and odd-numbered addresses may water on odd-numbered days of the month. Suggest watering between 8:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. provided that drip irrigation or soaker hoses are used and the application does not exceed one hour per week.

Grimes Times: Water update

From : Kelley Brown <kelbrown@ci.grimes.ia.us>
Subject : Grimes Times: Water update
To : sbw@foxeng.com
Reply To : Kelley Brown <kelbrown@ci.grimes.ia.us>

Wed, Aug 21, 2013 12:15 PM

Good afternoon –

Water update. We are running the plant now 24 hours per day and not keeping up very well.

We are again reiterating that the Phase 1 of the Water Mitigation Plan in in effect.

Thank you for all of the emails I received last week about those who you see that may not have knowledge of the plan. We did go out and put flyers on their doors.

Today we are putting letters on everyone's door step who are obviously watering their yards and don't appear to have new sod in an attempt to try to get everyone to voluntarily let their yards go dormant. At the very least, we want to make sure they are only watering every other day.

We also may need to start pumping water from the old water plant. We did that a few times during our last major crunch and had a lot of complaints about the discolored water. Although the water is safe to drink, we understand the discoloration can make it less appealing. Although PeopleService is doing everything they can, we have called in an additional person with expertise with our old plant to try to look for solutions. It may be that we may have to just cope with the discolored water for a few days. If that is so, I will let you know.

In the meantime, we are also diligently looking for any water main breaks or other unusual higher users of water that may explain the sudden increase in water use. Because we haven't had any rain, it should be easy to find water running. If you see anything at all, please let me know.

Thank you again for all you do to help support us. As you are aware from previous emails, we do have a plan where this won't be an issue in the next few years. For right now, we just need to get through this summer and this drought.

Thanks again-
Kelley

Kelley L Brown
**City Administrator
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Grimes Times: Good News - Water Mitigation

From : Kelley Brown <kelbrown@ci.grimes.ia.us>

Fri, Sep 20, 2013 02:45 PM

Subject : Grimes Times: Good News - Water Mitigation

To : sbw@foxeng.com

Reply To : Kelley Brown <kelbrown@ci.grimes.ia.us>

Good afternoon –

First of all I apologize to all of you who don't have Face Book. Because our internet and email was down, Facebook was the only way I had to communicate with you about the storm and our debris clean-up. We are looking for other back-up options for communicating with you when those resources are down.

Storm Debris clean-up – will continue again on Monday. Please take all of your debris to the curb and we will take the next two weeks going through town and picking up your branches. Please cut them to manageable sizes and set them on your curb if you are able to do so. We will make special arrangements for unique circumstances. Thank you again for your patience. Once again it has been truly amazing seeing neighbor help neighbor throughout the last 24 hours.

Water Mitigation – well not because of the rains, but because yesterday before the storm we were able to get an emergency connection with Xenia established, we are scaling back the water mitigation back to Phase I. This means lawns can be watered but every other day with even-house numbers on even days and odd-house numbers on odd days. Please continue to water during the night and early day hours when the sun isn't hot. We realize that it is getting dark sooner so if you want to start before the sun sets, that is ok. New construction can now start installing sod again.

THANK YOU AGAIN for the way you all work together during challenging times. That truly speaks to the character of our community and is why so many people are proud to call Grimes HOME!!!! J

Have a wonderful weekend! GO MUSTANGS!!!!

Kelley

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