

# WATER USE PLAN STAGES

## STAGE 0

### WATER CONSERVATION



Conserve water year-round.



No mandatory restrictions.



Conservation starts with everyday choices.

## STAGE I

### WATER WATCH



**25% VOLUNTARY REDUCTION** in lawn watering



Delay watering when possible.



Be mindful of outdoor water use.

## STAGE II

### WATER ALERT



**50% VOLUNTARY REDUCTION** in lawn watering



Prioritize essential outdoor use only.



Use water wisely indoors and outdoors.

## STAGE III MANDATORY

### WATER WARNING



**LAWN WATERING BANNED FOR RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL, AND GOVERNMENT USES**



Sod and seed permitted using irrigation guidelines from Iowa State University.



Splash pads operated at the discretion of the cities.



Sports turf and golf courses may continue irrigating to support plant health and ensure safe playing conditions.

## STAGE IV MANDATORY

### WATER EMERGENCY

**WATER RATIONING IN EFFECT**

**CIWW**  
CENTRAL IOWA WATER WORKS

STRONGER TOGETHER

Area	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Stage 3 Water Warning Lawn Watering Ban</b></p>
Established lawns	Lawn watering is banned.
Newly seeded or sodded lawns	<p>Seed and sod installation may continue during a Stage III Water Warning. Overseeding is not considered a newly seeded lawn for the purpose of Stage III.</p> <p>Newly <b>sodded</b> lawns can be watered the minimum amount possible to maintain plant health. The following guidance is provided by Iowa State University Extension and Outreach. once or twice a day for the first 7 to 10 days. Apply enough water to moisten the sod and upper 1 inch of soil. The sod should root to the soil in about 10 days. At this point, gradually reduce the frequency of watering, but water more deeply. After the sod has been mowed 3 or 4 times, a deep watering once a week should be adequate.</p> <p>Lawns <b>seeded</b> within the past 12 months, as well as lawns newly seeded during Stage III, may be watered but only to the minimum extent necessary to maintain plant health. The following guidance is provided by Iowa State University Extension and Outreach. After seeding, keep the upper 1 inch of soil moist by watering once or twice a day. With adequate moisture and warm soil temperatures (55 degrees Fahrenheit or above), the seeds of most turfgrasses should germinate in 2 to 3 weeks. Grass seedlings are very susceptible to desiccation injury. Continue to water the seedlings once or twice a day. When the grass seedlings reach a height of 1 to 2 inches, gradually reduce the frequency of watering, but water more deeply. A thorough watering once a week should be adequate for new grass that has been mowed 2 or 3 times.</p> <p><a href="https://yardandgarden.extension.iastate.edu/faq/how-should-i-water-newly-seeded-lawn">https://yardandgarden.extension.iastate.edu/faq/how-should-i-water-newly-seeded-lawn</a></p>
Golf courses	Sports turf and fields, including golf courses, may continue irrigation in this stage provided such irrigation is limited to the minimum amount necessary to maintain plant health and ensure safe playing conditions.
Sports fields	Sports turf and fields, including golf courses, may continue irrigation in this stage provided such irrigation is limited to the minimum amount necessary to maintain plant health and ensure safe playing conditions.

