

SUMMER 2015 Water System Update

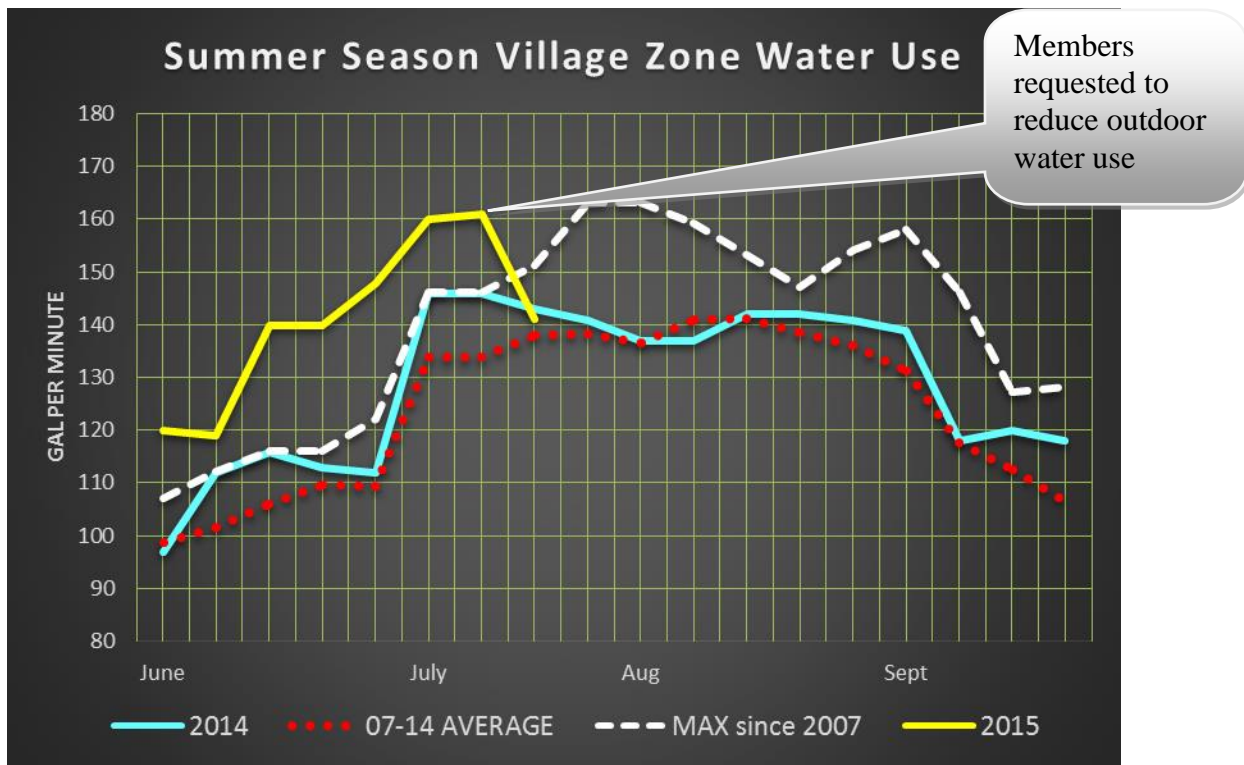
Version 3: JULY 19, 2015



Eastsound Water Users Association (EWUA) would like to thank those members who have made efforts to reduce water use after our July 11 appeal to reduce outdoor water use. There was a noticeable and helpful reduction in the demand for water last week. After early summer of concern about the sustainability of our rapidly rising water use, we have some good news to report.

UPDATE HIGHLIGHTS:

1. Demand for the week of July 11-18 was 141 GPM in the “Village Zone”. This is a significant reduction from previous weeks that were over 160 GPM. **GOOD NEWS**
2. Purdue Reservoir is at 16.6 ft. Purdue is 50% of EWUA’s overall capacity. Purdue is full at 20’, beyond 20’ the lake overflows. The current level of the drawdown of Purdue is within EWUA’s sustainable projections for this year’s drought. **GOOD NEWS**
3. EWUA had no trouble this week maintaining full water tank levels system-wide. **GOOD NEWS.**
4. This week EWUA completed an update of water levels at our well sites. Data from our groundwater monitoring network shows near normal water levels in the Eastsound Aquifer. **GOOD NEWS**



Direct questions to pkamin@rockisland.com

Eastsound Water Users Association
PO Box 115 286 Enchanted Forest Rd
Eastsound WA 98245 360 376 2127
www.eastsoundwater.org fax 888 523 2470

Purdue Lake Water Levels

End of Month Purdue Water Levels		
	2014 Lake Level at end of Month	2015 Lake Level "Sustainable Targets"
May	20.0 ft	19.1 ft
June	19.0 ft	17.3 ft
July	17.30 ft	15.6 ft
August	15.50 ft	13.2 ft
Sept.	14.80 ft	11.3 ft
Oct.	14.40 ft	10.0 ft
Nov.	16.20 ft	8.3 ft
Dec.	20.00 ft	6.0 ft

July 19 Lake Water Level was 16.6'. This level is normally reached in MID AUGUST. However it is within our 2015 "sustainable targets".

SUSTAINABLE LAKE LEVELS

These fall lake levels would be historically low

On June 30 2015 Purdue water level was 17.3'. Today (July 19) it is 16.6'. Our goal is to not draw the lake down below 15.6' by the end of July. We are on track to meet this goal. To accomplish this goal production from Purdue has been reduced. This will insure that we have water in Purdue through the remainder of 2015, even with continuing drought conditions.

What's up with the Weather?

Renown Pacific NW weather and climate authority Cliff Mass is coming to Orcas on Aug 20 to make a presentation on just this question. Orcas non-profit RESEARCH NOW has organized Cliff's visit. EWUA has agreed to sponsor the event. Thanks go to Donna and Mike Riordan for organizing this event. Watch local media outlets for details on this event. Cliff regularly writes on topics related to local weather and climate at <http://cliffmass.blogspot.com/>.

Northwest Drought Impacts

On July 11, EWUA requested members reduce their water use. On July 14, Seattle Public Utilities issue the following statement.

"Current Water Supply Conditions and Outlook July 14, 2015

After the hottest June in recorded history, higher-than-usual water consumption, record-low stream flows into storage reservoirs and the onset of El Niño conditions, we have changed our water supply outlook from good to fair. We are now making operational changes to maximize water supply and asking our customers to continue to use water wisely.....

Below are 3 links to drought-related news articles that may be of interest.

- <http://kuow.org/post/northwest-water-supplies-dropping-amid-drought-conditions>
- <http://www.accuweather.com/en/weather-news/el-nino-to-be-one-of-strongest/50081969>
- http://www.capitalpress.com/20150709/severe-drought-conditions-spreading-rapidly-in-washington?utm_source=Capital+Press+Newsletters&utm_campaign=625d28cabd-Daily_Ag_Update&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_4b7e61b049-625d28cabd-69637161

Direct questions to pkamin@rockisland.com