

Permit holders in the former 55 County Level IV area increased water use in June 2009 by 1.8% when compared to June 2008 but reduced water use by 18.4% when compared to June 2007

Background

Although non-drought outdoor water use schedules went into effect June 10, 2009, EPD is continuing to monitor water usage of permittees who use more than 100,000 gallons per day in the former 55 county Level IV drought response area that were required to report water usage during the Level IV drought response.

June 2009 versus June 2008 and June 2007 Water Use

June 2009 water use by 168 permittees using more than 100,000 gallons per day increased by 1.8% or 13 million gallons per day when compared to June 2008. Each of these permittees was under Level IV outdoor watering restrictions in June 2008, while in June 2009, permittees were allowed to return to non-drought outdoor water use schedules. **Compared to June 2007, before Level IV watering restrictions were in effect, water use in June 2009 was reduced by 18.4% or more than 165 million gallons per day.** In June 2009, 91 permittees either decreased or did not increase their water use compared to June 2008, while 77 increased water use when compared to June 2008. However, compared to June 2007, 133 permittees either decreased or did not increase their water use in June 2009 and only 35 actually increased water use. The fact that water use increased slightly in some cases and actually decreased in others demonstrates Georgian's continued commitment to water conservation efforts. Table 1 provides a summary of water use by river basin.

Table 1
Summary of June 2009 versus June 2007 and 2008 Level IV Water Use Reductions by Basin (MGD)

BASIN	JUNE 2007 WATER USE (MGD)	JUNE 2008 WATER USE (MGD)	JUNE 2009 WATER USE (MGD)	WATER USE REDUCTIONS FROM JUNE 2007 (MGD)	% REDUCTION IN USE FROM JUNE 2007	WATER USE REDUCTIONS FROM JUNE 2008 (MGD)	% REDUCTION IN USE FROM JUNE 2008
Chattahoochee and Flint	535.76	426.59	441.15	94.61	17.7%	-14.56	-3.4%
Coosa, Tallapoosa and Tennessee	235.47	182.62	185.63	49.84	21.2%	-3.01	-1.6%
Oconee and Ocmulgee	111.97	95.38	92.00	19.97	17.8%	3.38	3.5%
Savannah	14.27	14.25	13.30	0.97	6.8%	0.95	6.7%
All Basins	897.47	718.84	732.08	165.39	18.4%	-13.24	-1.8%