

Permit holders in the former 55-county Level IV drought response area decreased water use in November 2009 by 2.3 % when compared to November 2008, and reduced water use by 2.7% when compared to November 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.

November 2009 versus November 2008 and November 2007 Water Use

November 2009 water use by 168 permittees using more than 100,000 gallons per day decreased by more than 2.3% or more than 14 million gallons per day when compared to November 2008. Each of these permittees was under Level IV outdoor watering restrictions in November 2008, while in November 2009, permittees had returned to non-drought outdoor water use schedules. **Compared to November 2007, when Level IV watering restrictions were in effect, water use in November 2009 was reduced by 2.7% or almost 17 million gallons per day.** In November 2009, 94 permittees either decreased or did not increase their water use compared to November 2008, while 71 increased water use when compared to November 2008, and three permittees (Ephesus, Hoschton and Martin) failed to report. The fact that water use in November 2009, when no water use restrictions were in place, was less than November 2007, when Level IV water restrictions were in effect, demonstrates Georgian’s continued commitment to water conservation efforts. Table 1 provides a summary of water use by river basin.

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

BASIN	NOVEMBER 2007 WATER USE (MGD)	NOVEMBER 2008 WATER USE (MGD)	NOVEMBER 2009 WATER USE (MGD)	WATER USE REDUCTIONS FROM NOVEMBER 2007 (MGD)	% REDUCTION IN USE FROM NOVEMBER 2007	WATER USE REDUCTIONS FROM NOVEMBER 2008 (MGD)	% REDUCTION IN USE FROM NOVEMBER 2008
Chattahoochee and Flint	365.60	365.07	356.62	8.98	2.5%	8.45	2.3%
Coosa, Tallapoosa and Tennessee	162.35	159.86	155.11	7.24	4.5%	4.75	3.0%
Oconee and Ocmulgee	78.82	79.02	78.79	0.03	0%	0.23	0.3%
Savannah	11.27	11.49	10.89	0.38	3.4%	0.60	5.2%
All Basins	618.04	615.44	601.41	16.63	2.7%	14.03	2.3%