



## Would you want to pay **more** for less?

Water withdrawals in Massachusetts are regulated by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). On Cape Cod, DEP is proposing to incorporate strict conservation conditions during the renewal process for Water Management Permits. These conditions will regulate the amount of water that you can use on a daily basis and will lead to higher increases in your water bill. DEP is mandating water use restrictions which will be required from May-September each year regardless of pond levels or rainfall. If these conditions are incorporated into the Water Management Permits, **you will only be allowed to water outdoors two days a week**--this includes watering your landscaping, watering your lawn, washing your cars, washing windows, hosing down your porch and the list goes on and on.

There is no scientific data justifying the implementation of this program. The DEP hired the United States Geological Survey (USGS) to develop a groundwater model which showed that public water purveyors cape-wide withdraw approximately 5% of the water stored underground. The USGS science proves there is no need for such strict measures on Cape Cod. Public water suppliers have fixed costs that are met through water revenues. If water usage decreases, which is the goal of this proposed plan, water rates will have to increase to meet those fixed costs. If you don't want to pay more for less, act now and say **NO** to DEP's one-size-fits-all approach for water permitting. Don't allow them to arbitrarily restrict your water use, but rather to manage our aquifers based on sound science. For more information on this subject please go to the web page of the Barnstable County Water Utilities Association at [www.bcwua.org](http://www.bcwua.org) or call Mark White, President of Barnstable County Water Utilities Association at (617) 657-0251.

Contact your local legislators and tell them to say **NO** to DEP's approach on telling you how much water you may use in any one day.

Paid for by the Barnstable County Water Utilities Association • PO Box 283, Harwich, MA 02645 • (617) 657-0251

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