



# FACT SHEET

GUIDE NO. 1

WATER YOUR LAWN BETWEEN MIDNIGHT AND 6 AM

## Keep Your Water Rates in Check



*Water your lawn between  
Midnight and 6:00 AM*

As spring sets in, many residents are beginning to think about preparing their outdoor lawn areas for the upcoming warm weather. Watering your lawn, garden and other vegetation is an important part of enhancing the attractiveness of your outdoor spaces and paying attention to the value of your property during these difficult economic times.

What you may not be aware of is that what time of the day you water may have an impact on what the Detroit Water and Sewer Department (DWSD) charges for the water it provides to the Township.

Water demand in the Detroit system varies during the day. Just like the flow of traffic, there are certain hours when the demand for water is higher. The water used during these “rush hours” is called the “peak demand”.

The amount of money the Township has to pay for water from DWSD is partially based on how much water is used by the Township during these peak demand hours. By watering your lawn smartly, you may be able to impact your water rates.

### What Can I Do?

Set your irrigation systems to operate between **12 Midnight** (start time) and **6:00 AM** (stop time).

### Why?

The Township approved a water contract with DWSD approximately two years ago. The contract provides the Township with an opportunity and incentive. DWSD indicates that the period from **12 Midnight to 6:00 AM** will be considered a non-peak time period. It is therefore important to the Township and you to take advantage of this exempt period by watering from **12 Midnight to 6:00 AM**. Some irrigation companies will say this is not a good time to water since it will encourage diseases. We have done our homework and the Michigan State University Extension Service has indicated to us that watering during this period will not cause problems.

If you have questions, please call the Plymouth Township Department of Public Works.