

## Information From Port Angeles City Website October 11, 2006

### City Declares Stage 2 Water Shortage

A Stage 2 Water Shortage has been declared by the City of Port Angeles due to low flows in the Elwha River. This is in response to efforts to preserve fish spawning habitat as well as concern regarding the amount of water available to the City's water system.

Declaration of a Stage 2 Water Shortage means that immediate voluntary reductions in water consumption are necessary. The City is encouraging all customers to conserve water.

#### Some recommended conservation actions include:

- (1) Reduce frequency of lawn watering, watering only in the early morning or evening.
- (2) Reduce frequency of car washing.
- (3) Take shorter showers, install low-flow shower heads and faucets, as well as other conservation devices (available free at City Hall).
- (4) Repair dripping faucets and operate automatic dishwashers and clothes washers only when full.
- (5) Think about other ways to conserve water.

When it comes to water conservation, small changes can add up to big savings. Here are a few no-cost ways to help conserve our water resource:

- For cold drinks keep a pitcher of water in the refrigerator instead of running the tap. This way, every drop goes down you and not the drain.
- Wash your fruits and vegetables in a pan of water instead of running water from the tap.
- Collect the water you use for rinsing fruits and vegetables, then reuse it to water houseplants.
- Don't use running water to thaw food. Defrost food in the refrigerator for water efficiency and food safety.
- Soak pots and pans instead of letting the water run while you scrape them clean.
- Shorten your shower by a minute or two and you'll save up to 150 gallons per month.
- Turn off the water while you wash your hair to save up to 150 gallons a month.
- When running a bath, plug the tub drain before turning the water on, then adjust the temperature as the tub fills up.

- Drop your tissue in the trash instead of flushing it and save water every time.
- Washing dark clothes in cold water saves both on water and energy while it helps your clothes to keep their colors.

The City's Public Works & Utilities and Fire Departments will also be taking steps to reduce water consumption. If you would like information on water conservation or water waste complaints, please call 360-417-4849.