



To: All News Editors

Saturday, February 6, 2010

WATER RATIONING FOR CORPORATE AREA COMMUNITIES

As part of ongoing water management measures to combat the prevailing drought conditions affecting a number of water supply systems mainly in the southern parishes of the island, customers of the National Water Commission (NWC) served by the Mona and Hope water treatment plants will soon begin to have their daily water supply further rationed.

Beginning on **Monday February 8, 2010**, a new schedule will be implemented for selected communities.

Communities	Days To Be Served	Time of Day to be Served
Karachi, Long Mountain, Mountain View and surrounding areas Liguanea Area, Mona Heights, August Town, Old Hope Road, Cross Roads, Hope Road, Police Officer's Club, Kings House and surrounding areas	Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays	4:00 am – 8:00 am & 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Communities	Days To Be Served	Time of Day to Be Served
Hope Pastures	Tuesdays & Saturdays	4:00am – 12 noon
Beverly Hills	Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays	6:00am – 10:00am 4:00pm – 8:00pm
Gordon Town and Tavern	Thursdays	4:00 am – 12 noon
Kintyre and Hope Flats		12 pm - 8:00pm
Elleston Flats and surrounding areas	Wednesdays & Saturdays	4:00am- 8:00am

The Mona and Hope Treatment Plants will also continue to be shut down each night from 8:00 pm to 4:00 am. In addition, the Constant Spring Treatment plant will continue to be shut down every day from 5:00 pm to 4:00 am.

Customers in the areas of Lower Jacks Hill, Cherry Gardens, Barbican and sections of Millsborough who are served by the Constant Spring system will receive water daily between the hours of 4:00am and 2:00pm.

Other restrictions for Havendale and Portmore will remain in effect as follows:

- **Sections of Portmore – no water or low water pressure from 9:00 am to 3:30 pm on weekdays (Mondays – Fridays).**
- **Sections of Havendale – no water or low water pressure from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm on weekdays (Mondays – Fridays).**

Like several other water supply systems in mainly southern parishes, the water supply systems serving the Corporate Area have been severely impacted by a prolonged period of below-normal rainfall caused by El Nino and other abnormal weather phenomena since last year.

According to NWC Vice President, Mr. Michael Dunn, the problem is that the dwindling inflows are not sufficient to meet the daily needs of all the customers to be served or to operate the

systems at their normal levels. Because the NWC can only provide the water that it has, this will result in severe shortages in some areas, regardless of the distribution regime that the NWC puts in place.

Regrettably, the NWC further explains that depending on their location, elevation, distribution and the customer demand in a particular area, some customers will experience no water conditions or low water pressure even during the hours that the water facilities are putting out all the water they have available. This is primarily because of the nature of water supply distribution and the fact that the systems will not be able to operate at optimum while receiving only a fraction of the required volumes of water to distribute as well as the time it takes to charge the water supply mains in various areas.

The National Water Commission appeals for the continued cooperation and understanding of all its customers as these necessary measures are implemented to manage our dwindling water supplies. Customers are again urged to expect disruptions, store water and practice careful conservation of the available supplies as trucking will only now be carried out on a prioritized basis for hospitals, health centres, schools, public institutions and for communities still severely impacted by no water conditions for prolonged periods.

The NWC is also reminding customers who purchase water from private providers to ensure that the water purchased is from a reputable and sterilized source. Customers are also being encouraged to make sure that their methods of water collection, storage and usage are safe and hygienic.

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**CONTACTS: Corporate Public Relations Department
929-1128
Community Relations Department (Eastern)
511-5636-7**