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Jerry Obrist, *Water Utility Council*

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Ben Day, *Young Professionals*

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*For release the week of April 26*

DATE: April 22, 2004

Contact: Mari Matulka, Nebraska Section AWWA Publications Committee, 402.449.8154

SUBJECT: National Drinking Water Week, May 2-8, 2004

Nebraska Governor Mike Johanns declared May 2-8, 2004 National Drinking Water Week in Nebraska. He signed the proclamation April 21.

The proclamation is as follows:

*Whereas:* Quality drinking water is one of our state's most important resources; and

*Whereas:* Water plays an important role in the lives of Nebraskans through its contributions to public health, agriculture, recreation and economic development; and

*Whereas:* Nebraskans are committed to preserving the quality and purity of the state's drinking water supply; and

*Whereas:* Conservation of our drinking water supply is vitally important; and

*Whereas:* Drinking Water Week is observed nationally during the month of May to recognize the importance of programs that protect and preserve the purity of our drinking water supply.

*Now, therefore,* I, Mike Johanns, Governor of the State of Nebraska, do hereby proclaim the week of May 2nd through May 8th, 2004, as Drinking Water Week in Nebraska, and I do hereby urge all citizens to take due note of the observance.

The Nebraska Section of the American Water Works Association is a group of public water suppliers in the State of Nebraska dedicated to the promotion of public health, safety and welfare through the improvement of the quality and quantity of water delivered to the public.

*(see photos on next page)*

## Conserve water and reduce summer water bills

- Water every other day, unless you have new sod.
- Water during the cool part of the day.
- Raise mower height one inch in June, July and August.

### April and May

Roots of cool season lawns (*blue grass, fescue*) are relatively deep now. Apply supplemental water in the absence of natural rainfall—about an inch per week. Water deeply and infrequently.

### June

Roots of cool season lawns are beginning to slough off for the summer. Apply supplemental water in the absence of rainfall—about 1.25 inches per week. Water more frequently and more shallow than in spring.

### July and August

Roots of cool season lawns are at their shallowest point of the season. Apply supplemental water in the absence of rainfall—about 1.5 inches per week. Water to the depth of the root system (usually about 2 inches deep). Water more frequently and more shallow than in spring.

### September and October

Roots of cool season lawns are relatively deep now. Water deeply and infrequently. Apply supplemental water in the absence of rainfall—about an inch per week.



**Governor Mike Johanns signed a proclamation April 21, declaring May 2-8 National Drinking Water Week in the State of Nebraska. Water supply representatives attending the ceremony included: Greg Bouc, City of Valparaiso, John S. Olsson, Nebraska Section American Water Works Association, Tim Rutledge, Midwest Assistance Program, Governor Mike Johanns, Jack Daniel, Nebraska Health and Human Services Department of Regulation and Licensure, Rob Pierce, League of Nebraska Municipalities, and Doug Clark, Metropolitan Utilities District, Omaha.**

# STATE OF NEBRASKA



## Proclamation

- WHEREAS,** *Quality drinking water is one of our state's most important resources; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Water plays an important role in the lives of Nebraskans through its contributions to public health, agriculture, recreation and economic development; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Nebraskans are committed to preserving the quality and purity of the state's drinking water supply; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Conservation of our drinking water supply is vitally important; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Drinking Water Week is observed nationally during the month of May to recognize the importance of programs that protect and preserve the purity of our drinking water supply.*
- NOW, THEREFORE,** *I, Mike Johanns, Governor of the State of Nebraska, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM the week of May 2nd through May 8th, 2004, as*

### **DRINKING WATER WEEK**

*in Nebraska, and I do hereby urge all citizens to take due note of the observance.*

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand, and cause the Great Seal of the State of Nebraska to be affixed this Twenty-First day of April, in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Four.*



Attest:

*Jan D. Lake*  
Secretary of State

*Mike Johanns*  
Governor