Borough of Allendale

WATER DEPARTMENT

ALLENDALE, NEW JERSEY

April 2, 1965

Allendale's water supply is adequate for all normal usage, except lawn sprinkling. Your Board of Public Works supervises your Water Department, and is composed of six members appointed by the Mayor and Council. The Utility is owned by the Borough of Allendale. The Board of Public Works is a self-supporting, non-profit organization. We want the public to be fully informed as to our status and to obtain your co-operation, understanding, and assistance.

The first thing we must appreciate is that our present source of water comes from deep wells that are fixed in capacity. The maximum quantity pumped is approximately 850,000 gallons in one day. After several days of heavy demand the supply falls to approximately 700,000 gallons per day, and this level can be maintained more or less indefinitely.

The second thing to understand is the difficulty and time it takes to locate new satisfactory wells. Three (3) test wells were recently drilled, and resulted in one good well. We expect this new well to be in operation by the middle of this coming June. The anticipated sustainable supply will then be 900,000 gallons per day. (drought or no drought)

Finally, Allendale does not have, and cannot have, a large reservoir to accommodate sudden huge demands on its system. Our present storage capacity is limited to one 400,000 gallon tank which makes us acutely sensitive to short term peak demands. We are proceeding with plans to add an additional storage tank, which is expected to be completed before the summer of 1966.

In the winter months, we use 300,000 gallons per day. In the summer months, with a total ban against sprinkling in effect, Allendale uses up to 550,000 gallons per day. This is obviously less than available supply, but limited storage, reserves for fire-fighting, and intra-day peaks make such bans necessary. We have extremely high water pressure in Allendale. For example, if every household in town turned on a garden hose for three hours, consumption of 2,600,000 gallons could result. The likelihood of this happening is remote, but it emphasizes the fantastic demand that sprinkling can impose.

Faced with the above, your Board of Public Works hereby advises you that: A) Restrictions on the use of water by Allendale consumers can be anticipated this summer. B) A total ban on sprinkling is a likely possibility.

In the meantime your Board of Public Works will press for early completion of our proposed new storage reservoir, and continue its search for water. While we pursue our plans, please co-operate with the water restrictions that will, of necessity, be imposed for this coming summer.