



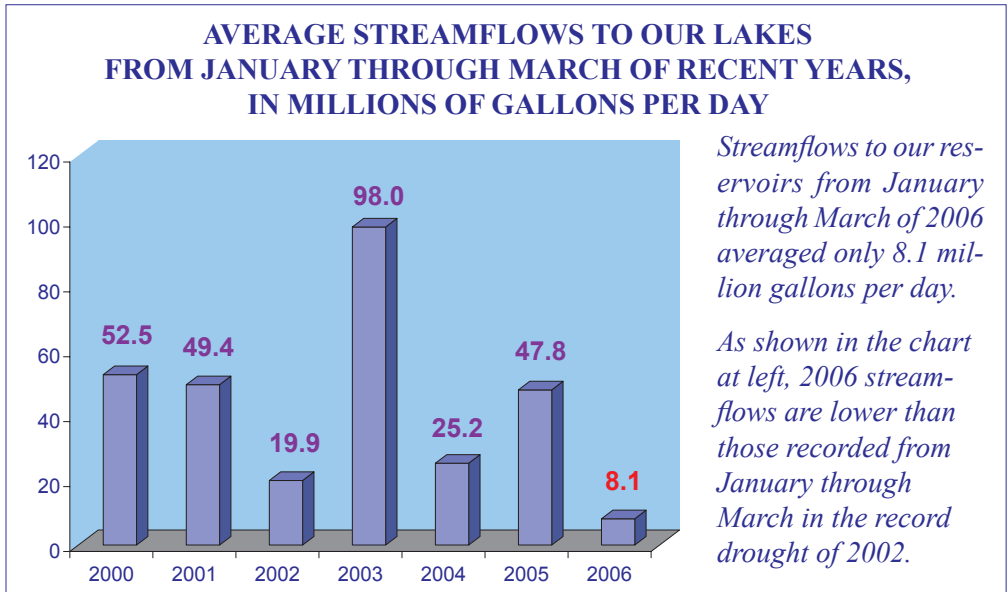
## OWASA BOARD DECLARES WATER SUPPLY ADVISORY

On April 27<sup>th</sup>, the OWASA Board of Directors declared a "Water Supply Advisory" for OWASA customers.

Near-normal rainfall in early May did not significantly increase the levels of our reservoirs, which remained about 93% full as of May 12th. More significantly, the daily water flows in streams and creeks that replenish our reservoirs are still well below normal.

The Water Supply Advisory means that OWASA is formally alerting customers of a potential water shortage and that additional water use restrictions may go into effect if conditions do not improve.

Before declaring the Water Supply Advisory, OWASA Board Members praised the conservation practices of OWASA customers since the drought of 2002,



*Streamflows to our reservoirs from January through March of 2006 averaged only 8.1 million gallons per day.*

*As shown in the chart at left, 2006 streamflows are lower than those recorded from January through March in the record drought of 2002.*

which have made a significant difference in the community's water supplies.

Due to conservation efforts of OWASA

and our customers, our reservoirs currently have about 450 million gallons more water than we would have expected

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## OWASA supports holding a Land and Water Conservation Bond Referendum in November

The OWASA Board of Directors is urging the General Assembly to call a Statewide Land and Water Conservation Bond referendum as part of the November, 2006 elections.

OWASA is participating in a coalition of more than 160 local governments, businesses and non-profit organizations called Land for Tomorrow (LFT). LFT is proposing that \$200 million of bonds be sold annually for five years, and that the



### LAND for TOMORROW

bonds be used to purchase land to protect water supplies, streams and rivers; provide for parks and recreation; and conserve prime farm and forest lands, scenic and natural areas and historic places. The money would be invested through the State's existing conservation

trust funds and a new initiative that ties job creation to resource protection.

Ms. Marge Anders Limbert, a member of the OWASA Board of Directors who also serves on the staff of Land for Tomorrow, said "Our community has already benefited greatly from the conservation trust funds that our State's leaders so wisely established in years past. Supporting the Land and Water Conservation Bond

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*Este boletín informativo contiene información sobre los servicios de agua y alcantarillado de OWASA. Para obtener una traducción, por favor llame al 537-4221, mande un correo electrónico a [webmaster@owasa.org](mailto:webmaster@owasa.org), o visite la página de Internet [www.owasa.org](http://www.owasa.org). ¡Muchas gracias!*

# WATER SUPPLY ADVISORY DECLARED

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if water demands remained at the high levels that occurred in 2001-02. The 450 million gallons is equal to the capacity of University Lake, or 13% of our total reservoir capacity.

We have an adequate supply of water for the near term. However, based on an analysis of streamflows over the past eighty years, we are concerned that reservoirs could be depleted later this year if the drought continues, and supply may be limited in 2007.

For OWASA, the current drought began in June 2005, when our reservoirs were last full. The NC Drought Management Advisory Council recently changed its drought rating from "severe" to "moderate" for central North Carolina.

During the Water Supply Advisory, the year-round conservation requirements first implemented in 2003 will remain in effect for all OWASA customers.

## Summary of conservation requirements in a Water Supply Advisory

During a Water Supply Advisory, the following mandatory restrictions apply in the Carrboro-Chapel Hill area served by OWASA. These standards are part of water conservation ordinances adopted by the Towns of Carrboro and Chapel Hill and Orange County:

- ◆ Conventional spray irrigation is limited to three days per week. For odd-numbered addresses, spray irrigation is allowed on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays; for even addresses, Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays.
- ◆ Spray irrigation is allowed before 9:00 AM and after 8:00 PM. (Day-time irrigation involves significant water loss due to evaporation.)
- ◆ Outdoor water use for lawn and garden watering is limited to a maximum of one inch per week.
- ◆ Watering by hand and with soaker hoses, bubbler systems and certain other methods involving limited evaporation is allowed at any time of day and on any day of the week, but the limit of one inch per week applies.
- ◆ Existing and new irrigation systems must have automatic controllers and a rain or soil moisture sensor to prevent watering during rainfall or when there is sufficient moisture in the ground for plant health and survival.
- ◆ Hoses for outdoor use must have automatic shut-off nozzles.
- ◆ Restaurants and other dining facilities may serve water only if requested by a customer.
- ◆ Hotels, motels, etc. shall change bed linens only upon request of the customer, upon customer changeover or every five days for long-term guests.
- ◆ If OWASA notifies a customer that there is a leak in the customer's water supply line, irrigation or plumbing system, etc., the customer must fix the leak within 10 days of receiving the notice.
- ◆ Water waste is prohibited. Water waste includes using so much water that it runs onto adjacent properties or street right-of-way or causes ponding on impervious surfaces; failing to fix a leak that is easily repairable; and irrigation during rainfall or when soil moisture is already adequate.

These standards and related conservation information are posted in the Water Conservation Section of the OWASA Website, [www.owasa.org](http://www.owasa.org). A Spanish version is also available.

Water conservation:  
part of our  
community's  
**SUSTAINABLE**  
quality of life.

## LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION BOND REFERENDUM

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means we will have more funding available to protect our watershed and water quality for the immediate future and for generations to come."

The Land and Water Conservation bonds are needed as the State's rapidly growing population, which is expected to exceed

that of Michigan, Ohio and New Jersey in the next 25 years, puts pressure on irreplaceable resources.

There are 2,600 miles of streams and rivers that don't meet water quality standards in North Carolina. Approximately 100,000 acres of natural, farm and forest lands are built over each year.

Your legislators need to hear from you that you'd like the opportunity to vote for this bond money to protect our places that matter.

We invite you to visit [www.landfortomorrow.org](http://www.landfortomorrow.org) to find out how you can help support the Land and Water Conservation Bond.

**OWASA is the public, non-profit water and sewer agency serving the Carrboro-Chapel Hill community.**

