



ORANGE WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY

*A public, non-profit agency providing water, sewer and reclaimed water services
to the Carrboro-Chapel Hill community.*

NEWS RELEASE April 1, 2011

OWASA reports lakes rise from 78% to 83% full

OWASA reported Friday morning that its water supply reservoirs have risen from 78% full on Wednesday to 83% full this morning.

During March, OWASA measured 4.4 inches of rain at the Jones Ferry Road Water Treatment Plant in Carrboro and 4.6 inches of rain at the Cane Creek Reservoir about 9 miles west of Carrboro. Historic average rainfall for March is 4.5 inches.

OWASA is continuing to monitor water supply, demand, weather forecasts and other conditions, but is not expecting a need for additional water use restrictions based on current conditions and forecasts.

Ed Kerwin, OWASA's Executive Director, said Friday that there is a low risk of shortage conditions this year. "However, we encourage all OWASA customers to continue conserving. It's always the right thing to do, and it is an essential component of our long-range water supply strategy."

OWASA officials noted that conservation also reduces greenhouse gas emissions, because drinking water (and wastewater) requires pumping, which relies on electrical power. Over the long-term, conservation also helps OWASA defer multi-million dollar expansions of system capacities for treatment, etc.

For more information about OWASA's current water supply and demand conditions, Long-Range Water Supply Plan; year-round conservation requirements; and conservation tips; please visit our website at www.owasa.org. (See below for more details).

Customers with comments or questions are invited to contact either Ed Holland, OWASA's Planning Director, or Patrick Davis, OWASA's Sustainability Manager (contact information is provided below).

For more information:

Ed Holland, Planning Director, 537-4215; eholland@owasa.org

Patrick (Pat) Davis, Sustainability Manager, 537-4210; pdavis@owasa.org

OWASA website information:

[Water conservation information](#)

[Conservation requirements in normal and shortage conditions](#)

[WATER WATCH](#) (current information about water supply and demand conditions)

[OWASA's conservation water rates](#)