



## Planning for 50 years

Dean Moss, General Manager

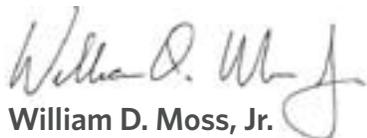
Can you imagine what Beaufort and Jasper Counties will be like fifty years from now? How many people will live here and where they will live? Most importantly to BJWSA, how much water will they need and where will we get it? If we are to ensure a sustainable drinking water supply for Beaufort and Jasper Counties in the future, we have to plan now.

The first step of our planning effort is careful evaluation of the high demand for water, especially during the summer for irrigation. We've set a goal of reducing water demand over the next 50 years by about 20% per person through increasing the efficiency of our own operations and helping our customers become more efficient as well. Using less water will help delay the need for new facilities, thereby reducing long-term costs.

Our second effort involves looking at ways to reclaim and reuse as much of our treated wastewater as we can. Our supply of treated, reclaimed water will grow as the population increases and we slowly replace septic tanks with sewers. In South Carolina, BJWSA is a leader in producing and providing high quality reclaimed water for irrigation. We will expand our piping system so more locations needing irrigation can take advantage of our reclaimed water. With more reclaimed water used for irrigation, less water has to be taken from the river and treated to drinking water standards; again, stretching the life of our existing facilities and reducing long-term costs.

Finally, we are considering where our increased future water supplies should come from. Currently, we rely on the Savannah River, which is a high quality and reliable supply. We plan to increase river withdrawals, but we must be prudent and find other sources to tap in times of drought or contamination, or if South Carolina were to restrict our access to the river.

The technical part of the planning study is almost complete and we are ready to begin a public discussion of the alternatives. We will provide all of our customers with a detailed, but understandable, explanation of the technical and financial issues and hope to engage as many people as possible in these discussions. We invite you to participate.

  
**William D. Moss, Jr.**  
General Manager

## Learn to Irrigate Efficiently: Do You Know When Your Lawn Needs a Drink?

Watering only when your lawn shows signs of stress from lack of water is the most efficient way to keep it healthy. Many common turf grass diseases are made worse by – or even may be the result of – watering too frequently. Also, if you water your lawn every day, you are encouraging shallow roots. Grass needs deep roots to protect it against drought.

Here are some techniques that can help you determine when your lawn needs a drink.

**Color test:** A lawn will have a bluish-gray cast when it has not had water for an extended period.

**Footprinting:** Walk across your lawn late in the day and see if your steps left any footprints. If your footprints remain for a while, the lawn should be watered.

**Leaf check and screwdriver test:** Plants can wilt even though water may be in the soil. If your grass leaves are wilting, rolling or folding, push a screwdriver (or a reasonable facsimile) into the lawn. If the soil is very dry, it will be difficult to push the screwdriver into the ground.

When your lawn is showing a need for water, apply about half an inch of water on coarse, sandy soil and 1 inch of water on heavy or fine-textured soil. These amounts will moisten the soil to a depth of 4 to 6 inches.

To learn how to calibrate your irrigation system to apply the proper amount of water, visit the Clemson Extension website at [www.clemson.edu/extension/hgic/plants/landscape/lawns/hgic1207.html](http://www.clemson.edu/extension/hgic/plants/landscape/lawns/hgic1207.html) or call the Beaufort County Clemson Extension office at 843-470-3655 and ask for brochure # HGIC 1207 entitled "Watering Lawns."





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## Beaufort-Jasper Water & Sewer Authority

6 Snake Rd. | Okatie, SC 29909  
843.987.9292 | [www.bjwsa.org](http://www.bjwsa.org)

Dean Moss General Manager

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### Need More Information?

Contact Jerrie Legare,  
BJWSA Communications Manager  
at 987-9213 or [jerriel@bjwsa.org](mailto:jerriel@bjwsa.org).



[www.smartirrigationmonth.com](http://www.smartirrigationmonth.com) .....

## Rain Barrels at a Special Price

BJWSA is offering rain barrels at the discounted prices below (including sales tax):

**60 gallon rain barrel - \$105.00**  
*retail \$144.45*

**80 gallon rain barrel - \$125.00**  
*retail \$165.85*

**To order**, download and complete a form at [www.lcrainbarrel.com/bjwsa1.pdf](http://www.lcrainbarrel.com/bjwsa1.pdf) and mail with a check payable to Beaufort-Jasper Water & Sewer Authority.

Barrels can be picked up between 9:00 a.m. and Noon at Beaufort-Jasper Water & Sewer Authority, 6 Snake Road, Okatie, SC on either July 11 or August 8 (must specify on order).

### For complete information

on the barrels, visit [www.lcrainbarrel.com](http://www.lcrainbarrel.com). Contact Russ Charek at 843.271.6255 or

Email [Russ@lcrainbarrel.com](mailto:Russ@lcrainbarrel.com) with any additional questions.

## If You've Ever Seen Fire Hydrants Gushing Water, You May Have Wondered Why.

We flush fire hydrants to make sure they are operating properly and will provide an adequate water supply for firefighting. We also run hydrants to test water quality.

Every year, BJWSA tests all 6,726 hydrants connected to the water system by flushing them and taking readings. Water traveling through the pipe at a high speed can stir up the inside of the pipe and discolor the water. If the water is not clear, we allow it to run until it is.

During a hydrant flushing in your area, you might experience low pressure or your water may be discolored. If this occurs, turn off all water, wait about 15 minutes, and then run cold water in the bathtub. It's best to use the tub because there is no screen on the spout to clog up while you are flushing the line. Once the water runs clear in the tub, turn on each faucet in the house to make sure all the discolored water is flushed out. It's also a good idea to run the washing machine without anything in it. If the water does not clear up in about 15 minutes, please call BJWSA customer service.



**Use Water Wisely...Every Drop Counts!** .....

