

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

ITEM NO. D(4)

**AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT
MEETING DATE: June 17, 2003**

TITLE: A Request to Adopt An Ordinance Amending the Carrboro Town Code Provisions Dealing with Water Conservation Restrictions

DEPARTMENT: Town Attorney	PUBLIC HEARING: No
ATTACHMENT: A. Ordinance Amendment	FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael Brough – 918-7315

PURPOSE

At the May 6, 2003, Bernadette Pelissier, Chair of the OWASA Board of Directors, presented and discussed new water conservation standards. The Board of Aldermen received the report and adopted a resolution referring the new standards to the Town Attorney to draft the appropriate ordinance amendment to incorporate the standards into the town's water conservation ordinance. The purpose of this item is to request that the Board adopt the ordinance amendment.

INFORMATION

The OWASA Board of Directors approved the revised water conservation standards on February 27, 2003 and requested that Carrboro, Chapel Hill, and Orange County update their water conservation ordinances to reflect new circumstances and conditions.

The attorney has drafted the attached ordinance, which replaces the existing water conservation restriction found in Article III of Chapter 5 of the Town Code. The amendment puts into ordinance form the "Standards" recommended by OWASA with minor format and wording changes necessary to incorporate these provisions into the Carrboro Code. The ordinance can be enforced by civil penalties, just as is provided for the current ordinance(civil penalties of \$25 for the first offense, \$50 for the second, and \$100thereafter). The only substantive difference between the OWASA recommended "Standards" and the proposed ordinance is that, under Section 5-27 of the ordinance, at each stage of a shortage, the regulations do not go into effect until the Mayor issues a proclamation putting them into effect (rather than a unilateral declaration by OWASA). That is the same approach the Board adopted with respect to the existing ordinance.

ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION

The Administration recommends that the Board adopt the ordinance amendment (Attachment A).