

October 17, 2017

Re: Drought Warning – Update To Car Dealerships

Dear Customer:

In our letter of October 9, 2017, we alerted you that a **Drought Warning** had been issued for the Charlottesville and Albemarle County region, based in large part on the concern with the declining level of the South Fork Rivanna Reservoir. At this date, it is difficult to estimate when restrictions may be lifted.

One specific mandatory restriction states that the washing of automobiles, trucks and other vehicles is to be conducted only at a certified commercial carwash facility. The clear inference was that car dealerships like yours were to end all washing operations.

After speaking with a few of you over the last week, the **following is the policy** the ACSA will enforce for the duration of the mandatory water restrictions of a Drought Warning. If the ACSA is required to declare a Drought Emergency, the policy below may be modified.

- Cars, trucks and other vehicles, whether new or used, may be washed and detailed upon arrival at your facility.
- Cars, trucks and other vehicles, whether new or used, may be washed upon delivery to a customer at the time of purchase.
- Lot washing of any vehicle **should not** be conducted since this practice likely violates the Albemarle County stormwater ordinance.
- The washing of vehicles brought in for service should be limited to those vehicles owned by customers who are surveyed on the quality of your service operations.
- If you rent/lease vehicles, they may be washed at the end of the agreement period.
- Vehicle washing may be conducted at any of the certified commercial carwash facilities. Visit our website at: <http://www.serviceauthority.org/drought.html> to identify these facilities.

The ACSA requests that you implement other conservation measures to reduce your water use by at least 20%. Further, we ask that you begin to consider plans for more significant water conservation measures in your vehicle washing, such as the use of recycled water, if you are not already doing so. We trust this modified approach will result in minimal effect on your business operations, and we thank you in advance for your cooperation during this challenging water emergency.

Sincerely,


Tim Brown
Environmental Compliance Specialist

TB/dst

Cc: Gary O'Connell, ACSA Executive Director
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