

DECLARATION OF LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY PURSUANT TO EXECUTIVE LAW - SECTION 24

As Mayor of the Village of South Blooming Grove, New York, I, George Kalaj exercise the power granted me under New York State Executive Law Section 24 to preserve public health and safety. A state of emergency is hereby declared immediately and until further notice due to the insufficiency of the water supply within the Village effective as of the date and time below.

The Village has operated under emergency conditions including Stage II water restrictions for several years due to insufficient water supplies. The Village has been forced to purchase 12 to 20 trucks of water per day at significant expense. Village residents have had to endure multiple boil water restrictions. The current water system is insufficient to meet the needs of the Village. The County Department of Health has cited the Village several times for water supply related issues. The Village is under a consent order to develop long-term water supply improvements and is actively seeking sources of funding to make these improvements.

Since 2020, the Village has worked diligently to locate additional sources of water and plan for system improvements, including investigating potential water sources and applying for grant funds for necessary improvements. Through these efforts the Village has identified Capital #7 Well as a viable source of water for the Village to address current needs while the Village implements long-term solutions. The Village has entered into a lease with the landowner for the Capital #7 Well and has requested the assistance of the state and county to bring this source of water online.

While the Village continues its long-term planning for water system improvements in productive partnership with the Orange County Department of Health, the New York State Department of Health, and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, I order that the Village take all steps necessary to bring emergency sources of water online for the Village to meet the current needs of the Village.

I order that the Village take all measures necessary to comply with the requirements of the State and County Departments of Health, including but not limited to retaining all professionals necessary to apply for sources of funding for required and necessary water supply improvements, to investigate and develop sources of water, and to provide engineering or legal support.

I further order that Stage II water conservation measures will continue including the following:

LAWN and LANDSCAPE WATERING

Residents will not be allowed to:

- Water lawns, gardens, trees or shrubs with a sprinkler or irrigation system.
- Wash down outdoor surfaces such as exterior sidewalks, driveways or walkways.
- Use water for filling outdoor decorative features, fountains.

Residents running remote sprinklers or irrigation will be cited.

Residents are encouraged to use rain barrels, which collect rainwater and can be used for lawn watering, plant watering, and other garden needs.

WATER RUNOFF

Water runoff is strictly prohibited.

HYDRANT PERMITS

Residents applying for new hydrant water taking permits must apply for a variance from the water restrictions from the Village Board. Existing hydrant water taking permit holders may continue to draw water from designated locations.

VEHICLE WASHING

Washing automobiles, boats, watercraft or other vehicles is prohibited during this water restriction.

PRESSURE WASHING AND CLEANING OF BUILDINGS, ETC.

Pressure washing businesses that use their own water tank, with water supplied from an alternate source such as a well, may operate in the Village during this period. During this critical water shortage, customers are encouraged to postpone home improvement or other projects that may require pressure washing.

ORNAMENTAL FOUNTAINS OR OTHER DECORATIVE WATER BODIES

Residents should eliminate the use of water to maintain ornamental fountains, artificial waterfalls, reflection pools and decorative water bodies for aesthetic or scenic purposes, except for the minimum amount of make-up water necessary to support aquatic life.

SWIMMING POOLS

Residents are not allowed to fill, Swimming pools, wading pools or hot tubs.

This State of Emergency shall take effect as of 5:00 p.m. on October 6, 2025 and continue for thirty (30) days, unless rescinded.

This Declaration of a Local State of Emergency shall be published in the local paper, provided to at least two television and radio stations within normal operating range of the Town, and made available on the Town's website and shall remain in force and effect until an announcement that it has been rescinded or expires pursuant to Executive Law Section 24, whichever comes first.

Dated: October 6, 2025
5:00 P.M.


MAYOR GEORGE KALAJ