

Due to continuous dry spell, City Hall airs an urgent appeal to all residents to help conserve water by recycling and using the commodity appropriately.

City Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office OIC Elmeir Apolinario issued the call in the light of water scarcity in the city that led the Zamboanga City Water district (ZCWD) to impose a water rationing scheme starting last week.

Apolinario yesterday convened a meeting with representatives from the ZCWD, City Agriculturist Office, City Environment and Natural Resources Office and the City Mayor's Office to discuss plans and measures on how to cope with the aggravating water situation.

"Let us all do our share as concessionaires by not wasting water," Apolinario said citing the need to reducing the volume of water for the plants, washing cars, washing clothes and washing dishes among others. "It is okay to have no power but not water."

Other than conserving water, the public should also be wary of illegal connections and use of booster pumps especially at this time when the water supply has gone down.

ZCWD Engineering Department head Engr. Marli Acosta De Fiesta said the water level at the Pasonanca intake is below normal and that the water firm can still manage through the rationing schedule it provided. However, as to how long it can supply water, will depend on the weather, she said.

On the other hand, Apolinario said barangay officials should also help the ZCWD and the City Government in monitoring water lines in view of persistent reports that some scrupulous individuals resort to line tapping in areas where there is strong water pressure.

"The barangays should be in the forefront because the ZCWD cannot do it alone. Please help monitor water thievery through fire hydrants or lines in areas where water pressure is strong," Apolinario added. — Sheila Covarrubias

City Hall calls for water conservation

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