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WATER, WATER EVERYWHERE – SO WHY IS THERE A WATERING BAN?

JUNE 19 EVENT TO EXPLORE HOW WATER PRICING COULD AID CONSERVATION

BOSTON – Even though the Commonwealth is blessed with adequate rainfall and full reservoirs, **many towns* greet summer with watering bans** and other draconian conservation tactics that seem better suited to the desert Southwest. Why?

Economists Sheila Olmstead and Robert Stavins, in their new Pioneer Institute study *Managing Water Demand*, argue that heavy-handed, punitive

restrictions on water use are not only expensive, but often ineffective. At this Thursday's Pioneer event, at Suffolk University Law School, 120 Tremont Street, Boston, MA from 8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m., the authors will explain how adjusting water prices to manage demand could be a more cost-effective way to achieve important environmental goals.

Their presentation will be discussed by an expert panel including:

- Stephen Estes-Smargiassi, *Planning Director, MWRA*
- Jeffrey Nutting, *Franklin Town Administrator*
- Eric Hooper, *Superintendent of Sharon's Public Works Department*

Moderated by:

- David Cash, *Assistant Secretary for Policy, MA Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs*

***Communities with mandatory water restrictions this summer include** Acton, Avon, Brewster, Bridgewater, Burlington, Chelmsford, Danvers, Dighton, Foxborough, Groton, Hanson, Hopkinton, Littleton, Mansfield, Marion, Medway, Middleborough, Millis, Newbury, Plymouth, North Raynham, Reading, Shirley, Shrewsbury, Stow, Swansea, Walpole, Wareham, Wenham, and West Boylston.

To review Olmstead and Stavins' study, please visit www.pioneerinstitute.org

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Managing Water Demand: Price vs. Non-Price Conservation Programs

Thursday, July 19, 2007

8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Suffolk University Law School

120 Tremont Street, Boston, MA