

Fecha <b>07.04.2009</b>	Sección <b>Mexico</b>	Página <b>3</b>
----------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------

# City warns on water

THE NEWS

The Mexico City government has called on residents to conserve water as the capital faces cuts over the Semana Santa holidays. Mayor Marcelo Ebrard said the city government would set the example by reducing its water use by 20 percent.

Mexico City Water System director Ramón Aguirre Díaz said Monday that the cuts would affect residents of 337 neighborhoods in 13 of the capital's boroughs. More residents in outlying municipalities in the State of Mexico also will be affected by water rationing that has been mandated due to drought conditions in a

reservoir system to the west of the capital, as well as work on the pipes that bring the water into the Mexico City area. The Cutzamala basin provides 30 percent of Mexico City's drinking water.

The service cuts are set to begin early Thursday morning and scheduled to last 36 hours, but city officials warn that some neighborhoods could lack water for at least four days. Water rationing began in February and was originally scheduled for one weekend a month, but that could be expanded due to the severity of the drought in the Cutzamala basin. The city has said it will deliver water over the weekend via 500 tanker trucks and set up points for filling jugs of potable water.

