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## Cyprus droughts

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### News on Cyprus



22 July 2008

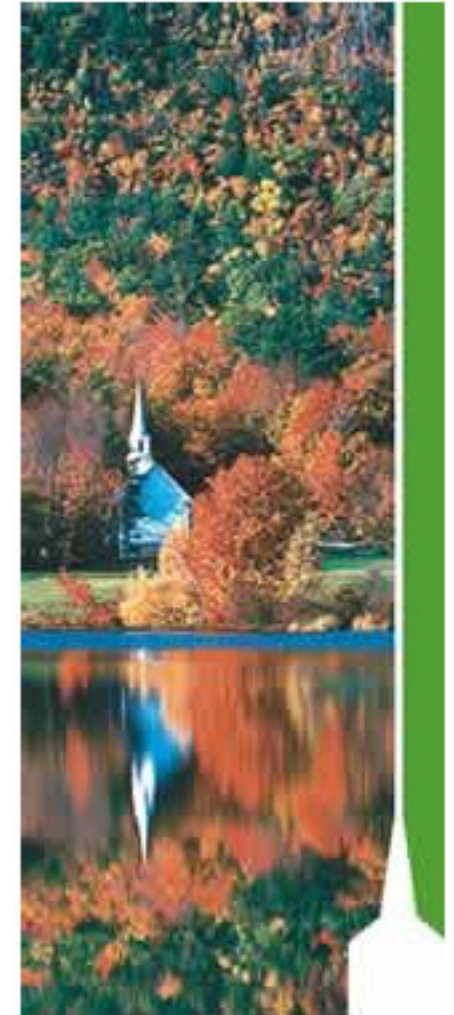
As a severe drought strikes Cyprus, questions over the ability of developers to keep building new projects in areas without a natural water supply have been asked, as many are reduced to water restrictions amid temperatures reaching 40 degrees.

The mayor of Ayia Napa, Antonis Tsokkos revealed that the town's water supply had been cut from 16 hours every two days to just four hours in an attempt to keep water flowing to tourist resorts in the area. Ideally the town should receive 7,000 tonnes of water on a daily basis. It is now existing on under 2,000.

Local media in Cyprus have begun debating the merits of new projects springing up, particularly as the country's water infrastructure is already stretched to breaking point from supplying locals and the 800,000 tourists expected in the coming months.

"Water shortages are a concern for investors, though it is still not the major factor they are looking out for. When designing golf courses these days developers are installing "intelligent" watering systems which recycle the water being used on the housing development, in order to water the fairways and greens. It's now often part of the licensing process itself. In areas where droughts are common, salt water swimming pools are starting to be used more often."

"In most Mediterranean countries the local authorities are now faced with putting budgets aside for issues related to water, especially creating more desalination plants," said Mike O'Riordan, international sales manager of Propertyshowrooms.com.



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