

ARROWBEAR PARK COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

Rules and Regulations Handbook

POLICY TITLE: Water Conservation Policy & Emergency Drought Pricing
POLICY NUMBER: 3020

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Revised & Approved 10/20/2022

- 3020.10 General - This Water Conservation Policy for the District is established as a means of promoting the conservation and efficient use of water, and to prevent the waste of this valuable resource in the District. Waste or unreasonable use of water must be prevented and conservation of such waters produced by the wells of the District must be continually stressed to the residents of the community so as to meet the basic needs of human consumption, sanitation and fire protection on a continuing basis.
- 3020.20 Purpose and Scope - The purpose of this Policy is to establish a multi-staged water awareness program to minimize the effect of drought conditions on the customers of the District. Providing customers with water produced solely from District wells is the most cost efficient and best possible means of assuring good quality water to the residents of Arrowbear. Backup resources of water from the state water project network, CLAWA (Crestline-Lake Arrowhead Water Agency) are available, but at a higher cost. The scope of this policy is to reduce the need to rely on higher cost, emergency water during drought conditions through voluntary adherence to the multi-staged conservation plan. Should voluntary conservation fail to reduce water usage to the Districts water production capabilities, this policy provides for mandatory conservation requirements as well as emergency pricing to provide for the increased cost of purchasing water from outside the District as well as penalties for failure to comply with mandatory conservation measures contained herein.
- 3020.20.1. The Policy is meant to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the residents and customers of the District.
- 3020.20.2. The Policy is meant to assure the maximum beneficial use of the water supplies of the District.
- 3020.20.3. The Policy is meant to ensure sufficient water supplies to meet the basic needs of human consumption, sanitation, and fire protection.
- 3020.30 Authority - The District has the power and authority to enact this Policy pursuant to the following state laws:
- 3020.30.1. Water Code Section 31026 authorizes the District to: (1) restrict the use of District water during any emergency caused by drought or other threatened or existing water shortage, (2) to prohibit the waste of District water or the use of District water during such periods, and (3) to prohibit the use of such water during such periods for specific uses which the District may from time to time find to be nonessential.
- 3020.30.2. Water Code Section 375 authorizes the District to adopt and enforce a water conservation program to reduce the quantity of water used by the inhabitants of the District for the purpose of conserving the water supplies of the District.
- 3020.30.3. Water Code Section 350 gives the Board of Directors the authority to declare a water shortage emergency condition if voluntary conservation measures are not successful and the Board finds and determines that the ordinary demands and requirements of water consumers cannot be satisfied without depleting the water supply of the District to the extent that there would be insufficient water for human consumption, sanitation and fire protection.

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3020.30.4. Superseding Regulation – Should any State or Federal requirement, mandate, legislation, code, emergency declaration, or executive action be enacted that provides for requirements over and above the requirements of this policy, the State or Federal requirements will supersede and be incorporated by reference and implemented as required by law.

3020.40 Four-Stage Water Conservation Program - Utilizing past history records of pumping times, well levels and water quality, the General Manager shall determine whether a water shortage exists or is anticipated. As soon as it is reasonably practicable to do so, the General Manager shall report the findings and conclusions to the Board of Directors and make such decisions as may be appropriate including but not limited to implementing this voluntary conservation program and the stage of compliance necessary to protect the District water supplies.

3020.40.1. Stage #1 Conservation Measures - Consist of the placement of Stage #1 public awareness signs throughout the District encouraging residents to exercise reasonable care in the use of water so as to not waste water by runoff of landscape watering, reducing water use (shorter showers, turning water off when brushing teeth, etc.), installing water saving fixtures (toilets, showers, dishwashers, etc.), and repairing leaks from pipes and plumbing fixtures.

3020.40.2. Stage #2 Conservation Measures - Consist of posting Stage #2 restrictions on public awareness signs throughout the District. In addition, conservation tips and suggestions shall be sent to customers via the normal billing statements each month during the water shortage periods. Stage #2 restrictions also request compliance with the following water conservation measures in addition to Stage #1 conservation measures:

3020.40.2.1 Limit irrigation of outdoor plants, lawns, and gardens to the period between 6:00 p.m. and 9:00 a.m. daily or less frequently and ensure no water runoff into streets, gutters, and adjacent lands. Such watering shall not be in excess of needs or be of a manner in which allows for runoff. Newly seeded plants and other new planting may be watered intermittently until rooting is established.

3020.40.2.2 Hose watering of any kind shall not be left unattended and shut-off nozzles for hose ends shall be used for washing of vehicles and household equipment thus eliminating water runoff into streets, gutters, or adjacent lands. Bucket washing of vehicles and equipment followed by hose rinse off using a shut-off nozzle will ensure the most efficient use of water.

3020.40.2.3 Public use lands such as parks should be irrigated only between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. every other day or less frequently.

3020.40.3. Stage #3 Conservation Measures consist of posting Stage #3 restrictions on public awareness signs throughout the District. Stage #3 restrictions also

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require mandatory compliance to the following water conservation measures in addition to making Stage #1 and #2 conservation measures mandatory:

3020.40.3.1. Limit outdoor irrigation of ornamental landscapes or turf with potable water to no more than two days per week. Days that outdoor irrigation of ornamental landscapes or turf may be irrigated are: Saturdays and Wednesday. Ensure no water runoff into streets, gutters, and adjacent lands. Such watering shall not be in excess of needs or be of a manner in which allows for runoff. New landscaping and other new planting shall be curtailed while Stage #3 conservation measures are in effect.

3020.40.3.2. There shall be no hose washing of sidewalks, driveways, parking areas, patios, porches, decks, or verandas.

3020.40.4. Stage #4 requires the formal declaration of drought by the Governor as well as the Board of Directors of the District. Implementation of drought pricing Policy 3020.90 will begin one (1) billing cycle after the declaration. Notice will be given in printed material accompanying the monthly bill. Stage #4 Conservation Measures consist of posting Stage #4 restrictions on public awareness signs throughout the District. Stage #4 restrictions require mandatory compliance to the following water conservation:

3020.40.4.1. No watering of outdoor landscaping. Individual plants may be watered by hand using a pail or watering can using no more than one-half (1/2) gallon of water, per plant, per day. New landscaping and other new planting shall be curtailed while Stage #4 conservation measures are in effect.

3020.40.4.2. Public use lands such as parks will only be irrigated one day per week between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m.

3020.40.4.3. There shall be no hose washing of sidewalks, driveways, parking areas, patios, porches, decks, or verandas.

3020.50 Voluntary Compliance - Conservation Measures outlined in Stages #1 and #2 will be considered voluntary, with no notice or penalty associated with failure to comply.

3020.60 Mandatory Compliance - Conservation Measures outlined in Stages #3 and #4 will be considered mandatory, with a Notice of Violation given for failure to comply and penalties for repeated violations.

3020.70 Notice of Violation - The conservation measures covered under this policy are intended to enlist voluntary compliance and community support for common sense use of the District's valuable water resource. Under the direction of the Board and by virtue of passage of this policy through ordinance, the District has authority to notify offenders as to any violations of this policy and issue a Notice of Violation of the Water Conservation Policy. The Notice will specify the violation and request compliance per the Policy in writing.

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- 3020.80 Penalties - Violations of the policies contained herein will result in the following penalties:
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| 3020.80.1. | First Violation after Notice of Violation | \$100.00 |
| 3020.80.2. | Second Violation after Notice of Violation | \$200.00 |
| 3020.80.3. | Third Violation after Notice of Violation | \$300.00 |
| 3020.80.4. | Continued violations of the policy will result in discontinuance (shut-off) of water services to the property. Properties where discontinuance (shut-off) of water services occurs due to water conservation policy violations will continue to accrue District approved minimum charges and be subject to the financial responsibility requirements detailed in the Rules and Regulations Policy 3030. Resumption of water service will occur at the discretion of the General Manager upon assurances from the customer that violations will not occur and payment of any and all past due charges and penalties. General Manager determinations may be appealed upon written request to the Board of Directors and will be heard at the next regularly scheduled Board Meeting. Board decisions will be final. | |
- 3020.90 DROUGHT PRICING REQUIREMENTS FOR IMPLEMENTATION: The drought pricing structure would only be implemented when two specific conditions existed: (1) Declaration of Emergency by the Board of Directors of the Arrowbear Park County Water District as determined by factors including, but not limited to: precipitation levels, well levels, customer demand, and pumping capacity, and (2) Purchase or anticipation of purchase within the next thirty (30) days of water from outside the District to provide sufficient water supply to meet anticipated demand. Customers would be given one (1) billing cycle notice prior to the drought condition water rate implementation to allow them to adjust usage accordingly.
- 3020.100 DROUGHT PRICING STRUCTURE: In the event that a drought condition and all three specific conditions exist described above; the following rate and policy adjustments will be implemented, **only while such conditions exist**, to cover the cost of importing emergency water supplies and to assist in the conservation of District water supplies. Notification will be given to customers one (1) billing cycle in advance so they have the opportunity to curtail water usage prior to the drought rates going into effect. Notice will be given in printed material accompanying the monthly bill.
- Drought Pricing
Usage Rate per cubic foot (Cuft) will increase \$0.02 per Cuft.
(1 Cuft = 7.48 gallons)
- Mandatory Restrictions & Penalties During Drought Pricing Conditions: No hose or irrigation system watering of outdoor landscaping. Individual plants may be watered by hand using a pail or watering can using no more than one-half (1/2) gallon of water, per plant, per day. New landscaping and other new planting shall be curtailed. There shall be no hose washing of vehicles, sidewalks, driveways, parking areas, patios, porches, decks, or verandas.

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A Notice of Violation: The District has authority to notify offenders as to any violations of this policy and issue a Notice of Violation of the Water Conservation Policy. The Notice will specify the violation and request compliance per the Policy in writing.

Penalties: Repeated violations of the policies contained herein will result in the following penalties:

First Violation after Notice of Violation \$ 100.00

Second Violation after Notice of Violation \$ 200.00

Third Violation after Notice of Violation \$ 300.00

Continued violations of the policy will result in discontinuance (shut-off) of water services to the property. Properties where discontinuance (shut-off) of water services occurs due to water conservation policy violations will continue to accrue District approved minimum charges and be subject to the financial responsibility requirements detailed in the Rules and Regulations. Resumption of water service will occur at the discretion of the General Manager upon assurances from the customer that violations will not occur and payment of any and all past due charges and penalties. General Manager determinations may be appealed upon written request to the Board of Directors and will be heard at the next regularly scheduled Board Meeting. Board decisions will be final.

- 3020.110 Connection to Emergency Water Supply - The available water connection with the state water project (CLAWA) may be turned on to supply the District with supplemental water at the discretion of the General Manager.
- 3020.120 Water Sales to Adjacent Districts - Sale of water from the District to adjacent water agencies may be limited or curtailed at any time, at the discretion of the General Manager.