

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Implementation of voluntary water conservation measures and conscientious water use practices are encouraged at all times; however, additional water use restrictions are required during drought and other uncontrollable events that disrupt the availability of water supplies. Unwarranted water usage during these periods can stress water levels in our aquifers, creeks and streams.

The purpose of the Wimberley Water Supply Corporation Drought Contingency Plan is to conserve and protect our available water supply and to minimize adverse impacts caused by drought and other uncontrollable water supply emergencies. This objective will be achieved through the implementation of voluntary and mandatory demand management measures. The ultimate goal of these measures contained in this plan is to reduce non-essential water use and increase water conservation awareness. This plan has been prepared to define conditions that will initiate and terminate the demand management measures.

Non-essential water use: water uses that are not essential nor required for the protection of public, health, safety, and welfare, including:

- (a) Irrigation of landscaped areas, including parks, athletic fields, and golf courses, except otherwise provided under this Plan;
- (b) use of water to wash any motor vehicle, motorbike, boat, trailer, aircraft or other vehicle;
- (c) use of water to wash down any sidewalks, walkways, driveways, parking lots, tennis courts, or other hard-surfaced areas;
- (d) use of water to wash down buildings or structures for purposes other than immediate fire protection
- (e) flushing gutters or permitting water to run or accumulate in any gutter or street;
- (f) use of water to fill, refill or add to any indoor or outdoor swimming pools or Jacuzzi-type pools
- (g) use of water in a fountain or pond for aesthetic or scenic purposes except where necessary to support aquatic life;
- (h) failure to repair a controllable leak(s) within a reasonable period after having been given notice directing the repair of such leak(s); and
- (i) use of water from hydrants for construction purposes or any other purposes other than fire fighting.

This plan will be implemented according to the four drought response stages as determined by the Board. Section 4 describes the conditions that will trigger these stages.

## 2. COORDINATION WITH REGIONAL WATER PLANNING GROUP

Being located within the Colorado River Basin a copy of this plan has been provided to the Hays Trinity Groundwater Conservation District and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

## 3. PERMANANT WATER USE GUIDELINES (YEAR ROUND)

The following allowances and restrictions are in effect at all times, unless superseded by more stringent restrictions upon implementation of a drought response stage.

- Waste of water is prohibited at all times.
- Irrigation with hose-end sprinklers and automatic sprinkler irrigation systems is prohibited during the day between the hours of 10:00AM and 8:00PM.

- Irrigation with hand-held bucket, hand-held hose, soaker hose and drip irrigation systems is allowed on any day and at any time.
- Irrigation of golf courses, athletic fields and commercial nurseries with sprinklers is prohibited during the day between the hours of 10:00AM and 8:00PM
- Vehicle washing.
  - Charity car washes are prohibited unless held at a commercial car wash.
  - Non-commercial vehicle washing is allowed on any day and at any time, but must be done using a hand-held bucket or a hand-held hose equipped with a positive shutoff device.
  - Commercial vehicle washing is allowed on any day and at any time.
- Swimming pools are allowed to operate and be filled as normal. It is recommended that pools be covered while not in use to minimize evaporative losses.
- Operation of non-recirculating aesthetic water features is prohibited at all times.
- Washing impervious surfaces is allowed but should be limited unless required for health and safety.
- Foundation watering is allowed on any day and at any time between the hours of 8:00PM and 10:00AM.
- Other non-essential water uses are allowed but reasonable measures shall be taken to limit usage.

#### 4. TRIGGER CONDITIONS

The Drought Emergency Management Committee is responsible for monitoring water supply and demand conditions on a monthly basis (or more frequently if conditions warrant) and shall determine when conditions warrant initiation or termination of each stage of the Plan, that is, when the specified triggers are reached. The Committee will monitor monthly operations reports, water supply or storage tank levels and/or rainfall as needed to determine when trigger conditions are reached. The triggering conditions, described below take into consideration: the vulnerability of the water source under drought of record conditions; the production, treatment and distribution capacities of the system; and customer usage based upon historical patterns and the Hays Trinity Groundwater Conservation District drought contingency plan if applicable.

##### A. Stage I Conditions

Stage I best management practices may be implemented when one or more of the following conditions exist:

1. When the daily pumpage has exceeded one million gallons for three consecutive days.
2. When the water level in monitored well (well #1 MT. Baldy) falls 30' from the previous year normal level for that well for the time period in consideration.
3. There is an extended period (at least 8 weeks) of low rainfall based on the historical average for the time period in consideration.

##### B. Stage II Conditions

Stage II best management practices may be implemented when one or more of the following conditions exist:

1. 10% reduction in daily pumpage was not achieved in stage I for previous 60 days based on the historical average.



2. As a condition of stage II the daily pumpage has exceeded 900,000 gallons for three consecutive days.
3. Static level in monitored well (well #1 MT. Baldy) falls 40' from the historical normal level for that well for the time period in consideration.

#### C. Stage III Conditions

Stage III best management practices may be implemented when one or more of the following conditions exist:

1. Additional 10% reduction in daily pumpage was not achieved in stage II for previous 60 days based on the historical average.
2. As a condition of stage III the daily pumpage has exceeded 800,000 gallons for three consecutive days.
3. Static level in monitored well (well #1 MT. Baldy) falls 50' from the historical normal level for that well for the time period in consideration.

#### D. Stage IV Conditions

1. Failure of a major component of the system or an event which reduces the minimum residual pressure in the system below 20 psi for a period of 24 hours or longer
2. Water consumption of 100 percent of the maximum available and the water storage levels in the system drop during one 24-hour period.
3. Natural or man-made contamination of the supply source(s).
4. Reduction of wholesale water supply due to drought conditions.
5. Other unforeseen events, which could cause imminent health or safety risks to the public.

### 5 STAGES OF BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

The following best management practices and use restrictions are to be implemented by the triggers in Section 4. The Board shall institute monitoring and enforce penalties for violations of the use restrictions for each of the Stages listed below. The water allocation measures are summarized below.

#### A. Stage I Restrictions

Target: Achieve a 10% reduction in total water use and daily water demand based on historical average for previous 60 days daily pumpage.

#### Wimberley WSC Best management Practices

The Corporation will notify customers of water use restrictions in effect.

#### Customer Water Use Restrictions for Demand Reduction

- (1) Alternate day, time of day or duration restrictions for irrigation with hose-end sprinklers or automatic irrigation systems of gardens and landscaped areas two (2) days per week. Customers with street addresses ending in an even number may water outside areas on Sundays and Thursdays between the hours of 6:00AM to 9:00AM and 8:00PM to 11:00PM. Customers with odd number street address may water outside areas on Saturdays and Wednesdays between the hours of 6:00AM and 9:00AM and 8:00PM and 11:00PM.
- (2) Irrigation of landscaped areas is permitted any day between the hours of 6:00AM and 9:00AM and 8:00PM and 11:00PM by means of a hand-held hose, a faucet filled bucket or watering can of five (5) gallons or less or drip irrigation system.
- (3) Use of water to wash any motor vehicle, motorbike, boat, trailer, airplane or other vehicle is prohibited except on designated water days and times. Such washing when allowed shall be done with a hand-held hose equipped with a positive shutoff nozzle for quick rinses. Vehicle

- washing may be done at any time on the immediate premises of a commercial car wash or commercial service station. Further, such washing may be exempted from these regulations if the health, safety and welfare of the public are contingent upon frequent vehicle cleansing, such as garbage trucks and vehicles used to transport food and perishables.
- (4) Use of water for pressure washing is permitted on designated days and times.
  - (5) Use of water to fill, refill or add to any indoor or outdoor swimming pools, wading pools, or Jacuzzi-type pools is prohibited except on designated watering days and times. 25% of Swimming Pool water surface must be covered when pool is not in use to minimize evaporation.
  - (6) Wimberley Water Supply Corporation restricts the use of water from hydrants to firefighting, related activities or other activities necessary to maintain public health, safety and welfare.
  - (7) Use of water for car washes for fund raising purposes is prohibited.

## B. Stage II Restrictions

Target: Achieve an additional 10% (20% total) reduction in total water use and daily water demand based on historical average for previous 60 days daily pumpage.

### Wimberley WSC Best Management Practices

The Corporation will eliminate flushing operations except to meet public health requirements. The corporation will notify customers of water use restrictions in effect.

### Customer Water Use Restrictions for Demand Reduction

- (1) Alternate day, time of day or duration restrictions for irrigation with hose-end sprinklers or automatic irrigation systems of gardens and landscaped areas one (1) day per week. Customers with street addresses ending in an even number may water outside areas on Sundays between the hours of 6:00AM to 9:00AM and 8:00PM to 11:00PM. Customers with odd number street address may water outside areas on Saturdays between the hours of 6:00AM and 9:00AM and 8:00PM and 11:00PM.
- (2) Irrigation of landscaped areas is permitted on designated days by means of a hand-held hose, a faucet filled bucket or watering can of five (5) gallons or less or drip irrigation system two (2) days per week. Customers with street addresses ending in an even number may water outside areas on Sundays and Thursdays between the hours of 6:00AM to 9:00AM and 8:00PM to 11:00PM. Customers with odd number street address may water outside areas on Saturdays and Wednesdays between the hours of 6:00AM and 9:00AM and 8:00PM and 11:00PM.
- (3) Customers are not allowed to use water for pre-defined non-essential purposes as listed on page 1
- (4) Use of water for pressure washing is prohibited.
- (5) Use of water to wash any motor vehicle, motorbike, boat, trailer, airplane or other vehicle is prohibited.
- (6) Use of water to add to any indoor or outdoor swimming pools, wading pools, or Jacuzzi-type pools is permitted on your designated days and times. 50% of Swimming Pool water surface must be covered when pool is not in use to minimize evaporation.
- (7) Wimberley Water Supply Corporation restricts the use of water from hydrants to firefighting, related activities or other activities necessary to maintain public health, safety and welfare.

## C. Stage III Restrictions

Target: Achieve an additional 10% (30% total) reduction in total water use and daily water demand based on historical average for previous 60 days daily pumpage.



#### Wimberley WSC Best management Practices

The Corporation will eliminate flushing operations except to meet public health requirements. The corporation will notify customers of water use restrictions in effect.

#### Customer Water Use Restrictions for Demand Reduction

- (1) Irrigation of landscaped areas shall be limited to Sundays and Thursdays for customers with street addresses ending in an even number and Saturdays and Wednesdays for customers with street addresses ending in an odd number between the hours of 6:00AM and 9:00AM and between 8:00PM and 11:00PM and **shall be by means of hand-held hoses with positive shut off nozzle, hand-held buckets, or drip irrigation. THE USE OF HOSE-END SPRINKLERS OR PERMANENTLY INSTALLED AUTOMATIC SPRINKLER SYSTEMS ARE PROHIBITED AT ALL TIMES.**
- (2) Use of water to wash any motor vehicle, motorbike, boat, trailer, airplane or other vehicle is prohibited.
- (3) Use of water to add to any indoor or outdoor swimming pools, wading pools, or Jacuzzi-type pools is prohibited. 75% of Swimming Pool water surface must be covered when pool is not in use to minimize evaporation.
- (4) Operation of any ornamental fountain or pond for aesthetic or scenic purposes is prohibited.
- (5) Wimberley Water Supply Corporation restricts the use of water from hydrants to firefighting, related activities or other activities necessary to maintain public health, safety and welfare.
- (6) All restaurants are prohibited from serving water to patrons except upon request of the patron.

#### D. Stage IV Restrictions

#### Customer Water Use Restrictions for Demand Reduction

**ALL OUTSIDE WATERING IS PROHIBITED.**

Wimberley Water Supply Corporation may adopt and enforce any or all additional measures as needed to protect water supplies and human health safety.

## 6. INITIATION AND TERMINATION PROCEDURES

Once a trigger conditions occurs, the Corporation, or its designated responsible representative, shall, based on recommendations from the Chairperson of the Drought/Emergency Management Committee, decide if the appropriate stage of best management practices and customer water use restrictions shall be initiated. The initiation may be delayed if there is a reasonable possibility the water system capacity will not be compromised by condition.

Written notice of the proposed stage of water demand reduction measure and customer water use restrictions shall be mailed or delivered to each affected customer upon the initiation of each stage. In addition, upon adoption of any stage, a notice will be placed in a local newspaper or announced on a local radio or television station. The customer notice shall contain the following information:

- a. The state (level) of water demand reduction measure to be employed
- b. The date water demand reduction measure shall begin
- c. Penalty for violations of the water demand reduction measure program
- d. Affected area or areas.

A sample Customer Notice of water demand reduction measure and customer water use restrictions is included in Miscellaneous Transaction Forms of the tariff.

If the water demand reduction measure extends beyond 30 days then the Chairperson of the Drought Emergency Management Committee or manager shall present the reasons for the measures at the next scheduled Board Meeting and shall request the concurrence of the Board to extend the period or reduced demand measures.

When the trigger condition no longer exists then the responsible official may terminate the water demand reduction measures provided that such an action is based on sound judgment. Written notice of the end of demand reduction measures shall be given to customers. A water demand reduction measures period may not exceed 60 days without extension by action of the Board.

## 7. PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS

Under threat of penalty for violation the following water use restrictions shall apply to all persons.

- a. **First Violation-** The customer /member will be notified by a verbal and or written notice of their specific violation and their need to comply with the Drought Contingency Plan regulations. The notice will show the amount of penalty to be assessed for continued violations.
- b. **Second Violation –** Wimberley Water Supply Corporation will assess a penalty of \$50.00
- c. **Subsequent Violations-**Wimberley Water Supply Corporation will assess an additional penalty (not to exceed six time the minimum monthly bill) for each violation occurring after the Second Violation. Wimberley Water Supply Corporation may also install a flow-restricting device in the customer/member's meter service to limit the amount of water that will pass through the meter in a 24-hour period. *The costs of this procedure will be for the actual work and equipment and shall be paid by the customer/member.*
- d. **Termination-** Wimberley Water Supply Corporation may terminate water service for up to 7 consecutive days for continuing violation(s) after penalties are assessed. Service will remain off until any delinquent penalty or other assessment is fully paid including a charge for reconnection.

Any person, including a person classified as a water customer of the Wimberley Water Supply Corporation, in apparent control of the property where a violations occurs or originates shall be presumed to be the violator, and proof that the violations occurred on the person's property shall constitute a rebuttable presumption that the person in apparent control of the property committed the violations, but any such person shall have the right to show that he/she did not commit the violations. Parents shall be presumed to be responsible for violations of their minor children and proof that a violations, committed by a child, occurred on the property within the parents control shall constitute a rebuttable presumption that the parent committed the violations, but any such parent may be excused if he/she proves that he/she had previously directed the child not to use the water as it was used violation of this Plan and that the parent could not have reasonable knowledge of the violations.

**THESE PROVISIONS APPLY TO ALL CUSTOMERS OF THE CORPORATION.**

**NOTE: PENALTY --** The TCEQ rules provide that a WSC is allowed to charge a reasonable penalty to customers that fail to comply with the Rationing Procedures in accordance with 30TAC 291.41(j) if:

- (1) The penalty is clearly stated in the tariff
- (2) The penalty is reasonable and does not exceed six (6) times the minimum monthly bill stated in the water supply corporation's tariff



- (3) The water supply corporation has deposited the penalty in a separate account dedicated to enhancing water supply for the benefit of all the water supply corporation's customers

## 8. EXEMPTIONS OR WAIVERS

The Drought/Emergency Management Committee or Designee may, in writing, grant a temporary variance for existing water uses otherwise prohibited under this Plan if it is determined that failure to grant such variance could cause an emergency condition adversely affecting the health or sanitation of the public or the person requesting such variance and if one or more of the following conditions are met:

- a. Compliance with this Plan cannot be technically accomplished during the duration of the water supply shortage or other conditions for which the Plan is in effect.
- b. Alternative methods can be implemented which will achieve the same level of reduction in water use.

Persons requesting an exemption from the provisions of this Ordinance shall file a petition for variance with the Drought/Emergency Management Committee or Designee after the Plan or a particular drought response stage has been invoked or after a condition justifying the variance first occurs. All petitions for variances shall be reviewed by the Committee and shall include the following:

- Name and address of the petitioner(s)
- Purpose of water use and location of service
- Specific provision(s) of the Plan from which the petitioner is requesting relief
- Detailed statement as to how the specific provision of the Plan adversely affects the petitioner or what damage or harm will occur to the petitioner or others if petitioner complies with this Plan
- Description of the relief requested
- Period of time for which the variance is sought
- Alternative water use restrictions or other measures the petitioner is taking or proposes to take to meet the intent of this Plan and the compliance date
- Other pertinent information as requested by the Committee or Designee

Variances granted by the Committee or Designee shall be subject to the following conditions unless specifically waived or modified by the Committee or Board of Directors:

- Variances granted shall include a timetable for compliance
- Variances granted shall expire when the applicable Best Management Practice Stage is no longer in effect, unless the petitioner has failed to meet specified requirements. No variance allowed for a condition requiring water demand reduction measures will continue beyond the termination of the applicable Best Management Practice Stage. Any variance for a subsequent water reduction measure must be petitioned again. The fact that a variance has been granted in response to a petition will have no relevance to the Committee's decision on any subsequent petition.

No variance shall be retroactive or otherwise justify any violation of this Plan occurring prior to the issuance of the variance.

## 9. IMPLEMENTATION

The Board establishes a Drought/Emergency Management Committee by Resolution, the chairperson of which will be the responsible representative to make Drought and Emergency Water Management recommendations to the Board. This Committee will review the procedures in this Plan at least annually. Modifications may be required to accommodate system growth, changes in water use demand, available water supply and/or other circumstances.

This Plan was adopted by the Board at a properly noticed meeting held on May 16, 2013 and to become effective May 16, 2013.

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Paul Polhemus, President

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Chris Nichols, Secretary-Treasurer