

**CITY OF TAFT, TEXAS  
WATER CONSERVATION PLAN  
Adopted – August 13, 2013**

**SECTION 1.0 – GENERAL**

**1.1 Definitions**

**Conservation:** Those practices, techniques, and technologies that reduce the consumption of water, reduce the loss or waste of water, improve the efficiency in the use of water, or increase the recycling and reuse of water so that a water supply is made available for future or alternative uses.

**Industrial use:** The use of water in processes designed to convert materials of a lower order of value into forms having greater usability and commercial value, commercial fish production, and the development of power by means other than hydroelectric, but does not include agricultural use.

**Irrigation:** The agricultural use of water for the irrigation of crops, trees, and pastureland, including, but not limited to, golf courses and parks which do not receive water through a municipal distribution system.

**Municipal per capita water use:** The sum total of water diverted into a water supply system for residential, commercial, and public and institutional uses divided by actual population served.

**Municipal use:** The use of potable water within or outside a municipality and its environs whether supplied by a person, privately owned utility, political subdivision, or other entity as well as the use of sewage effluent for certain purposes, including the use of treated water for domestic purposes, fighting fires, sprinkling streets, flushing sewers and drains, watering parks and parkways, and recreational purposes, including public and private swimming pools, the use of potable water in industrial and commercial enterprises supplied by a municipal distribution system without special construction to meet its demands, and for the watering of lawns and family gardens.

**Municipal use in gallons per capita per day:** The total average daily amount of water diverted or pumped for treatment for potable use by a public water supply system. The calculation is made by dividing the water diverted or pumped for treatment for potable use by population served. Indirect reuse volumes shall be credited against total diversion volumes for the purpose of calculating gallons per capita per day for targets and goals.

**Pollution:** The alteration of the physical, thermal, chemical, or biological quality of, or the contamination of, any water in the state that renders the water harmful, detrimental, or injurious to humans, animal life, vegetation, or property, or to the public health, safety, or welfare, or impairs the usefulness or the public enjoyment of the water for any lawful or reasonable purpose.

**Public water supplier:** An individual or entity that supplies water to the public for human consumption.

**Regional water planning group:** A group established by the Texas Water Development Board to prepare a regional water plan under Texas Water Code, 16.053.

**Retail public water supplier:** An individual or entity that for compensation supplies water to the public for human consumption. The term does not include an individual or entity that supplies water to itself or its employees or tenants when that water is not resold to or used by others.

**Reuse:** The authorized use for one or more beneficial purposes of use of water that remains unconsumed after the water is used for the original purpose of use and before that water is either disposed of or discharged or otherwise allowed to flow into a watercourse, lake, or other body of state-owned water.

**Water conservation plan:** A strategy or combination of strategies for reducing the volume of water withdrawn from a water supply source, for reducing the loss or waste of water, for maintaining or improving the efficiency in the use of water, for increasing the recycling and reuse of water, and for preventing the pollution of water. A water conservation plan may be a separate document identified as such or may be contained within another water management document(s).

**Water loss** - The difference between water diverted or treated and water delivered (sold). Water loss can result from:

1. inaccurate or incomplete record keeping;
2. meter error;
3. unmetered uses such as firefighting, line flushing, and water for public buildings and water treatment plants;
4. leaks; and
5. water theft and unauthorized use.

**Wholesale public water supplier:** An individual or entity that for compensation supplies water to another for resale to the public for human consumption. The term does not include an individual or entity that supplies water to itself or its employees or tenants as an incident of that employee service or tenancy when that water is not resold to or used by others, or an individual or entity that conveys water to another individual or entity, but does not own the right to the water which is conveyed, whether or not for a delivery fee.

## **SECTION 2.0 – MUNICIPAL WATER CONSERVATION PLAN**

### **2.1 Objective**

The objectives of this water conservation plan are to reduce water consumption from the levels that would prevail without conservation efforts, reduce the loss and waste of water, improve efficiency in the use of water, and to document the level of recycling and reuse in the water supply.

## **2.2 Continuing Public Education & Information**

The City of Taft periodically provides the public with information by means of press releases. The City plans to further educate the public with water bill inserts, press releases, and educational events promoting water conservation. This will promote additional community awareness of the City's plans. The City will provide education programs within the Taft Independent School District. The program is intended to increase use of these curricula within the customer boundaries. The City will also form a Committee to discuss, assess and provide direction for the conservation programs outlined in this document. The committee will include residential, commercial, and any other interested customers.

## **2.3 Plan Review and Update**

This water conservation plan will be reviewed and updated, as appropriate, based on an assessment of previous five year and ten-year targets and any other new or updated information. The City will review and update the next revision of its water conservation plan every five years after to coincide with the regional water planning group. The revised plan will also include an implementation report.

## **2.4 Enforcement Procedure & Plan Adoption**

The City shall adopt an Ordinance which prohibits wasting water and authorized the City Manager, or his/her designee, to implement and enforce this Water Conservation Plan. The Ordinance shall outline the implementation and enforcement authority of the City Manager and provide the most recent updates to the plan. Implementation of the City's Water Conservation Plan shall be by resolution as adopted by the City of Taft's City Council.

The provisions of this Plan shall apply to all persons, customers and property utilizing water provided by the City of Taft. The terms person and customer as used in the Plan include individuals, corporations, partnerships, associations, and all other legal entities.

Water uses regulated or prohibited under this Water Conservation Plan are considered to be non-essential and continuation of such uses during times of water shortage or other emergency water supply condition are deemed to constitute a waste of water which subjects the offender(s) to penalties as referenced in this plan.

## **SECTION 3.0 WATER CONSERVATION PLAN**

### **3.1 Specific, Quantified 5 & 10-Year Targets**

The following five (5) and ten (10) year targets shall be established:

#### **Five-year targets based on 5-year rolling averages**

- 1. Reduce per capita per day consumption by 3%**
- 2. Reduce the level of unaccounted water losses to 15%.**

**Ten-year targets based on 5-year rolling averages**

1. Reduce per capita per day consumption by an additional 3%.
2. Reduce the level of unaccounted water losses to 12%.

<b>Description</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2020</b>
Total Water Use	GPCD	103	154	147	140
Real Losses	GPCD	19.7	16.8	14.7	12.9

To accomplish the 5-year and 10-year targets the City of Taft shall utilize the programs and policies in this Plan such as accurate metering devices, universal metering, meter testing and repair, periodic meter replacement, control of unaccounted water, public education, non-promotional water rates, and leak detection and repair.

The 5 and 10 year targets in this Water Conservation Plan shall be in accordance with 30 TAC Part 1, Chapter 288, Subchapter C, Rule 288.2 (a)(1)(C). The water conservation plan, over the next five to ten years, shall implement existing and proposed new water efficiency programs. In addition to the programs included in the recommended plan, the City will continuously monitor and evaluate its overall water conservation effort in relation to its water supply and water and wastewater facility capacity needs. The Water Conservation Plan will require a concerted effort over the next 5 to 10 years to manage demand and meet water savings goals. In future years, based on the results of monitoring and continuing evaluation, the City shall consider implementing some of the other more aggressive programs which have been evaluated in this study in order to meet established goals.

The following programs are either currently or may be implemented before within the next five to ten years:

1. System Water Audit and Water Loss
2. Water Conservation Pricing
3. Prohibition on Wasting Water
4. School Education
5. Water Survey for Single-Family and Multi-Family Customers
6. Landscape Irrigation Conservation and Incentives
7. Athletic Field Conservation
8. Metering of All New Connections and Retrofit of Existing Connections
9. Water Reuse
10. Public Information BMP
11. New Construction BMP
12. Park Conservation BMP
13. Conservation Programs for Commercial Accounts

### **3.2 Metering Devices and Universal Metering**

Programs meter testing, meter repair, and periodic meter replacement are already in place and have been developed using the American Water Works Association (AWWA) standards and recommendations.

The City will provide for annual replacement of meters in the system that does not register the correct amount of water flowing through them. This program will increase revenues and water accountability. Funding for the meters will come from the amount allocated for infrastructure replacement. Meter replacement will take place as described below:

#### Meter Infrastructure Replacement

1. Identify and report active ¾- and 1-inch meters that register less than 200 cubic feet of flow and active 1 ½-inch or greater meters that register less than 1500 cubic feet of flow for three consecutive months.
2. Compare the meter-reading report with the flow report to determine which meters appear to be functioning improperly.
3. After all valid reasons for low flow at a location have been identified; the remainder can be assumed to be non-functioning and can be scheduled for replacement.

### **3.3 Unaccounted-For Water Use**

The City of Taft shall conduct periodic visual inspections along distribution lines and an annual audit of the water system to determine illegal connections and abandoned services. The system water audit is the overall figure that can be used to monitor the total level of non-revenue water in the system. The City of Taft shall conduct this audit annually as stated below.

The City of Taft shall developed regulations and targets per the new standards required by the TCEQ and proposed by the TWDB. The performance indicator approach provides an internal accountability for specific water system tasks which will improve the performance and efficiency of the system in the long-term. The audit and performance indicators will be incorporated into the City's Water Conservation Plan. The plan will be updated on a regular basis with specific portions such as the targets and goals being updated every year so that water supply performance can be to assess more accurately.

### **3.4 Public Education**

The City will periodically provide the public with information about conservation measures including information about the conditions under which conservation measures are to be employed. This information will be provided by means of public notice, press releases, and mailings.

### **3.5 Non-Promotional Water Rate Structure**

The City of Taft has water rates in place for various rate classes. When the customer reaches a specified consumption, the rate increases for all usage above the specified gallonage. In the future, based on the results of monitoring and additional assessments, the City shall consider increasing the water rate structure to improve their effect on water conservation and to manage cost of service more effectively. This is done by analyzing the trends of use by customers and water demands upon the water system.

The City's current rate structure consists of residential and commercial. Each customer will be assessed a meter charge based on meter size. There is an additional usage charge. The rates adopted and implemented shall include a conservation rate structure.

Currently, the City bases its rates on cost of service for each customer class. To realize the true cost of service, the peaking factors for each customer need to be analyzed. These rate structure improvements will be studied, and equitable rates will be implemented.

### **3.6 Coordination with Regional Water Planning Groups**

The water service area of the City of Taft is located within the Region N Water Planning area and a copy of this Plan has been provided to the Region N Water Planning Group (RWPG).

### **3.7 Additional Requirements:**

#### **3.7.1 Program for Leak Detection, Repair, and Water Loss Accounting**

- a. The City shall make an annual accounting of water delivery efficiencies. At the end of each year, the City shall calculate the difference between water pumped to the system and water sold through the meters. This calculation is reduced to a percentage of water losses. This is maintained and reviewed on an annual basis.
- b. Leaks are reported by any municipal employee as well as the general public.
- c. The Water Treatment Plant monitors system pressure at all times and sizeable leaks are noticeable and reported as soon as noted.
- d. All leaks are repaired as soon as practicable.

#### **3.7.2 Record Management System**

The Water Treatment Plant maintains records of:

- Water received from San Patricio Municipal Water District
- Water pumped to the distribution system

The Water Department maintains records of:

- Water metered within the system
- Water loss calculations including residential, commercial/industrial and public/institutional

### **3.8 Best Management Practices Guide**

The City recognizes that in order to accomplish the goals and objectives of this water conservation plan, other conservation measures may be required that are not outlined within the body of this document. The City is aware of the Water Conservation Best Management Practices Guide published by the Water Conservation Implementation Task Force. As deemed necessary, the City will implement other measures either from the BMP guide or as otherwise seen fit to assure compliance with the plan.

**DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN  
FOR THE  
CITY OF TAFT, TEXAS  
ADOPTED: AUGUST 13, 2013**

**Section I: Declaration of Policy, Purpose, and Intent**

In order to conserve the available water supply and protect the integrity of water supply facilities, with particular regard for domestic water use, sanitation, and fire protection, and to protect and preserve public health, welfare, and safety and minimize the adverse impacts of water supply shortage or other water supply emergency conditions, the City of Taft hereby adopts the following regulations and restrictions on the delivery and consumption of water.

Water uses regulated or prohibited under this Drought Contingency Plan (the Plan) are considered to be non-essential and continuation of such uses during times of water shortage or other emergency water supply condition are deemed to constitute a waste of water which subjects the offender(s) to penalties as defined in Section XI of this Plan.

**Section II: Public Involvement**

Opportunity for the public to provide input into the Plan shall be available by means of City Council meeting held on the second Tuesday of each month.

**Section III: Public Education**

The City of Taft will periodically provide the public with information about the Plan, including information about the conditions under which each stage of the Plan is to be initiated or terminated and the drought response measures to be implemented in each stage. This information will be provided by means of press release.

**Section IV: Coordination with Regional Water Planning Groups**

The service area of the City of Taft is located within the Region N Water Planning Area and the City of Taft has provided a copy of this Plan to the Region N Water Planning Area.

**Section V: Authorization**

The Mayor, City Manager and/or their designee is hereby authorized and directed to implement the applicable provisions of this Plan upon determination that such implementation is necessary to protect public health, safety, and welfare. The Mayor, City Manager and/or their designee, shall have the authority to initiate or terminate drought or other water supply emergency response measures as described in this Plan.



**Section VI: Application**

The provisions of this Plan shall apply to all persons, customers, and property utilizing water provided by the City of Taft. The terms “person” and “customer” as used in the Plan include individuals, corporations, partnerships, associations, and all other legal entities.

**Section VII: Definitions**

For the purposes of this Plan, the following definitions shall apply:

Aesthetic water use: water use for ornamental or decorative purposes such as fountains, reflecting pools, and water gardens.

Commercial and institutional water use: water use which is integral to the operations of commercial and non-profit establishments and governmental entities such as retail establishments, hotels and motels, restaurants, and office buildings.

Conservation: those practices, techniques, and technologies that reduce the consumption of water, reduce the loss or waste of water, improve the efficiency in the use of water or increase the recycling and reuse of water so that a supply is conserved and made available for future or alternative uses.

Customer: any person, company, or organization using water supplied by the City of Taft.

Domestic water use: water use for personal needs or for household or sanitary purposes such as drinking, bathing, heating, cooking, sanitation, or for cleaning a residence, business, industry, or institution.

Industrial water use: the use of water in processes designed to convert materials of lower value into forms having greater usability and value.

Landscape irrigation use: water used for the irrigation and maintenance of landscaped areas, whether publicly or privately owned, including residential and commercial lawns, gardens, golf courses, parks, and rights-of-way and medians.

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 landscape 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, airplane 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.

North Side Residences: Any address that is located north of US Highway 181 within the City of Taft Service Area.

South Side Residences: Any address that is located south of US Highway 181 within the City of Taft Service Area.

### **Section VIII: Criteria for Initiation and Termination of Drought Response Stages**

The Mayor, City Manager and/or their designee shall monitor water supply and/or demand conditions on a weekly basis and shall determine when conditions warrant initiation or termination of each stage of the Plan, that is, when the specified “triggers” are reached.

The triggering criteria described below are based on trigger levels based on a statistical analysis of the vulnerability of the water source under drought of record conditions, or based on known system capacity limits,.

#### **Stage 1 Triggers -- MILD Water Shortage Conditions**

##### Requirements for initiation

Customers shall be requested to voluntarily conserve water and adhere to the prescribed restrictions on certain water uses, defined in Section VII – Definitions, when Stage 1 Conditions are declared by the City of Corpus Christi and/or the San Patricio Municipal Water District.

##### Requirements for termination

Stage 1 of the Plan may be rescinded after Stage 1 Conditions are rescinded by the City of Corpus Christi and/or the San Patricio Municipal Water District.

## **Stage 2 Triggers -- MODERATE Water Shortage Conditions**

### Requirements for initiation

Customers shall be required to comply with the requirements and restrictions on certain non-essential water uses provided in Section IX of this Plan when Stage 2 Conditions are declared by the City of Corpus Christi and/or the San Patricio Municipal Water District.

### Requirements for termination

Stage 2 of the Plan may be rescinded after Stage 2 Conditions are rescinded by the City of Corpus Christi and/or the San Patricio Municipal Water District. Upon termination of Stage 2, Stage 1 becomes operative.

## **Stage 3 Triggers -- SEVERE Water Shortage Conditions**

### Requirements for initiation

Customers shall be required to comply with the requirements and restrictions on certain non-essential water uses for Stage 3 of this Plan when Stage 3 Conditions are declared by the City of Corpus Christi and/or the San Patricio Municipal Water District.

### Requirements for termination

Stage 3 of the Plan may be rescinded after Stage 3 Conditions are rescinded by the City of Corpus Christi and/or the San Patricio Municipal Water District. Upon termination of Stage 3, Stage 2 becomes operative.

## **Stage 4 Triggers -- CRITICAL Water Shortage Conditions**

### Requirements for initiation

Customers shall be required to comply with the requirements and restrictions on certain non-essential water uses for Stage 4 of this Plan when Stage 4 Conditions are declared by the City of Corpus Christi and/or the San Patricio Municipal Water District.

### Requirements for termination

Stage 4 of the Plan may be rescinded after Stage 4 Conditions are rescinded by the City of Corpus Christi and/or the San Patricio Municipal Water District. Upon termination of Stage 4, Stage 3 becomes operative.

## **Stage 5 Triggers -- EMERGENCY Water Shortage Conditions**

### Requirements for initiation

Customers shall be required to comply with the requirements and restrictions for Stage 5 of this Plan when Stage 5 Conditions are declared by the City of Corpus Christi and/or the San Patricio Municipal Water District; or the Mayor, City Manager and/or their designee, determines that a water supply emergency exists based on:

1. Major water line breaks, or pump or system failures occur, which cause unprecedented loss of capability to provide water service; **or**
2. Natural or man-made contamination of the water supply source(s).

Requirements for termination

Stage 5 of the Plan may be rescinded after Stage 5 Conditions are rescinded by the City of Corpus Christi and/or the San Patricio Municipal Water District; or when all of the conditions listed as triggering events have ceased to exist for a period of 3 consecutive days.

**Stage 6 Triggers -- WATER ALLOCATION**

Requirements for initiation

Customers shall be required to comply with the water allocation plan prescribed in Section IX of this Plan and comply with the requirements and restrictions for Stage 5 of this Plan when Stage 6 Conditions are declared by the City of Corpus Christi and/or the San Patricio Municipal Water District; or the Mayor, City Manager and/or their designee, determines that a water supply emergency exists based on:

1. Major water line breaks, or pump or system failures occur, which cause unprecedented loss of capability to provide water service; **or**
2. Natural or man-made contamination of the water supply source(s).

Requirements for termination - Water allocation may be rescinded after Stage 6 Conditions are rescinded by the City of Corpus Christi and/or the San Patricio Municipal Water District; or when all of the conditions listed as triggering events have ceased to exist for a period of 3 consecutive days.

**Section IX: Drought Response Stages**

The Mayor, City Manager and/or their designee, shall monitor water supply and/or demand conditions on a daily basis and, in accordance with the triggering criteria set forth in Section VIII of this Plan, shall determine that a mild, moderate, severe, critical, emergency or water shortage condition exists and shall implement the following notification procedures:

**Stage 1 Response -- MILD Water Shortage Conditions**

Goal: Achieve a voluntary 5% percent reduction in daily water use.

Supply Management Measures:

Raise public awareness of the situation and request voluntary reductions in non-essential water use.

Voluntary Water Use Restrictions:

- (a) Water customers are requested to voluntarily limit the irrigation of landscaped areas to Thursdays for address north of US Highway 181 and Tuesdays for water customers with a address south of US Highway 181, and to irrigate landscapes only between the hours of midnight and 10:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m to midnight on designated watering days.
- (b) All operations of the City of Taft shall adhere to water use restrictions prescribed for Stage 2 of the Plan.
- (c) Water customers are requested to practice water conservation and to minimize or discontinue water use for non-essential purposes.

**Stage 2 Response -- MODERATE Water Shortage Conditions**

Goal: Achieve a voluntary 10% percent reduction in daily water use.

Supply Management Measures:

Raise public awareness of the situation and request voluntary reductions in non-essential water use.

Water Use Restrictions. Under threat of penalty for violation, the following water use restrictions shall apply to all persons:

- (a) Irrigation of landscaped areas with hose-end sprinklers or automatic irrigation systems shall be limited to Thursdays for customers with a street address north of US Highway 181 and Tuesdays for water customers with a street address south of US Highway 181, and irrigation of landscaped areas is further limited to the hours of 12:00 midnight until 10:00 a.m. and between 8:00 p.m. and 12:00 midnight on designated watering days. However, irrigation of landscaped areas is permitted at anytime if it is by means of a hand-held hose, a faucet filled bucket or watering can of five (5) gallons or less, or drip irrigation system.
- (b) Use of water to wash any motor vehicle, motorbike, boat, trailer, airplane or other vehicle is prohibited except on designated watering days between the hours of 12:00 midnight and 10:00 a.m. and between 8:00 p.m. and 12:00 midnight. Such washing, when allowed, shall be done with a hand-held bucket or a hand-held hose equipped with a positive shutoff nozzle for quick rises. 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 is contingent upon frequent vehicle cleansing, such as garbage trucks and vehicles used to transport food and perishables.

- (c) 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 between the hours of 12:00 midnight and 10:00 a.m. and between 8 p.m. and 12:00 midnight.
- (d) Operation of any ornamental fountain or pond for aesthetic or scenic purposes is prohibited except where necessary to support aquatic life or where such fountains or ponds are equipped with a recirculation system.
- (e) Use of water from hydrants shall be limited to fire fighting, related activities, or other activities necessary to maintain public health, safety, and welfare, except that use of water from designated fire hydrants for construction purposes may be allowed with permission from the City of Taft.
- (f) All restaurants are prohibited from serving water to patrons except upon request of the patron.
- (g) The following uses of water are defined as non-essential and are prohibited:
  - 1. wash down of any sidewalks, walkways, driveways, parking lots, tennis courts, or other hard-surfaced areas;
  - 2. use of water to wash down buildings or structures for purposes other than immediate fire protection;
  - 3. use of water for dust control;
  - 4. flushing gutters or permitting water to run or accumulate in any gutter or street; and
  - 5. failure to repair a controllable leak(s) within a reasonable period after having been given notice directing the repair of such leak(s).

### **Stage 3 Response -- SEVERE Water Shortage Conditions**

Goal: Achieve a voluntary 15% percent reduction in daily water use.

Supply Management Measures:

Raise public awareness of the situation and request voluntary reductions in non-essential water use.

Water Use Restrictions. All requirements of Stage 2 shall remain in effect during Stage 3 except:

- (a) Irrigation of landscaped areas shall be limited to designated watering days between the hours of 12:00 midnight and 10:00 a.m. and between 8 p.m. and 12:00 midnight and shall be by means of hand-held hoses, hand-held buckets, drip irrigation, or permanently installed automatic sprinkler system only. The use of hose-end sprinklers is prohibited at all times.
- (b) The watering of golf course tees is prohibited unless the golf course utilizes a water source other than that provided by the City of Taft.
- (c) The use of water for construction purposes from designated fire hydrants is to be discontinued.

#### **Stage 4 Response -- CRITICAL Water Shortage Conditions**

Goal: Achieve a voluntary 30% percent reduction in daily water use.

Supply Management Measures:

Raise public awareness of the situation and request voluntary reductions in non-essential water use.

Water Use Restrictions. All requirements of Stage 2 and 3 shall remain in effect during Stage 4 except:

- (a) Irrigation of landscaped areas shall be limited to designated watering days between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. and between 8:00 p.m. and 12:00 midnight and shall be by means of hand-held hoses, hand-held buckets, or drip irrigation only. The use of hose-end sprinklers or permanently installed automatic sprinkler systems are prohibited at all times.
- (b) Use of water to wash any motor vehicle, motorbike, boat, trailer, airplane or other vehicle not occurring on the premises of a commercial car wash and commercial service stations and not in the immediate interest of public health, safety, and welfare is prohibited. Further, such vehicle washing at commercial car washes and commercial service stations shall occur only between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. and between 6:00 p.m. and 10 p.m.
- (c) The filling, refilling, or adding of water to swimming pools, wading pools, and jacuzzi-type pools is prohibited.

- (d) Operation of any ornamental fountain or pond for aesthetic or scenic purposes is prohibited except where necessary to support aquatic life or where such fountains or ponds are equipped with a recirculation system.
- (e) No application for new, additional, expanded, or increased-in-size water service connections, meters, service lines, pipeline extensions, mains, or water service facilities of any kind shall be approved, and time limits for approval of such applications are hereby suspended for such time as this drought response stage or a higher-numbered stage shall be in effect.

**Stage 5 Response -- EMERGENCY Water Shortage Conditions**

Goal: Achieve a voluntary 50% percent reduction in daily water use.

Supply Management Measures:

Raise public awareness of the situation and request voluntary reductions in non-essential water use.

Water Use Restrictions. All requirements of Stage 2, 3, and 4 shall remain in effect during Stage 5 except:

- (a) Irrigation of landscaped areas is absolutely prohibited.
- (b) Use of water to wash any motor vehicle, motorbike, boat, trailer, airplane or other vehicle is absolutely prohibited.

**Stage 6 Response -- WATER ALLOCATION**

In the event that water shortage conditions threaten public health, safety, and welfare, the Mayor, City Manager and/or their designee is hereby authorized to allocate water according to the following water allocation plan:

**Single-Family Residential Customers**

The allocation to residential water customers residing in a single-family dwelling shall be as follows:

<b>Persons per Household</b>	<b>Gallons per Month</b>
1 or 2	6,000
3 or 4	7,000
5 or 6	8,000
7 or 8	9,000
9 or 10	10,000
11 or more	12,000



“Household” means the residential premises served by the customer’s meter. “Persons per household” includes only those persons currently physically residing at the premises and expected to reside there for the entire billing period. It shall be assumed that a particular customer’s household is comprised of two (2) persons unless the customer notifies the City of Taft of a greater number of persons per household on a form prescribed by the Mayor, City Manager and/or their designee. The Mayor, City Manager and/or their designee shall give his/her best effort to see that such forms are mailed, otherwise provided, or made available to every residential customer. If, however, a customer does not receive such a form, it shall be the customer’s responsibility to go to the City of Taft offices to complete and sign the form claiming more than two (2) persons per household. New customers may claim more persons per household at the time of applying for water service on the form prescribed by the Mayor, City Manager and/or their designee. When the number of persons per household increases so as to place the customer in a different allocation category, the customer may notify the City of Taft on such form and the change will be implemented in the next practicable billing period. If the number of persons in a household is reduced, the customer shall notify the City of Taft in writing within two (2) days. In prescribing the method for claiming more than two (2) persons per household, the Mayor, City Manager and/or their designee shall adopt methods to insure the accuracy of the claim. Any person who knowingly, recklessly, or with criminal negligence falsely reports the number of persons in a household or fails to timely notify the City of Taft of a reduction in the number of person in a household shall be fined not less than \$50.

Residential water customers shall pay the following surcharges:

- \$5.26 for the first 1,000 gallons over allocation.
- \$5.26 for the second 1,000 gallons over allocation.
- \$5.26 for the third 1,000 gallons over allocation.
- \$5.26 for each additional 1,000 gallons over allocation.

Surcharges shall be cumulative.

### **Master-Metered Multi-Family Residential Customers**

The allocation to a customer billed from a master meter which jointly measures water to multiple permanent residential dwelling units (e.g., apartments, mobile homes) shall be allocated 6,000 gallons per month for each dwelling unit. It shall be assumed that such a customer’s meter serves two dwelling units unless the customer notifies the City of Taft of a greater number on a form prescribed by the Mayor, City Manager and/or their designee. The Mayor, City Manager and/or their designee shall give his/her best effort to see that such forms are mailed, otherwise provided, or made available to every such customer. If, however, a customer does not receive such a form, it shall be the customer’s responsibility to go to the City of Taft offices to complete and sign the form claiming more than two (2) dwellings. A dwelling unit may be claimed under this provision whether it is occupied or

not. New customers may claim more dwelling units at the time of applying for water service on the form prescribed by the Mayor, City Manager and/or their designee. If the number of dwelling units served by a master meter is reduced, the customer shall notify the City of Taft in writing within two (2) days. In prescribing the method for claiming more than two (2) dwelling units, the Mayor, City Manager and/or their designee shall adopt methods to insure the accuracy of the claim. Any person who knowingly, recklessly, or with criminal negligence falsely reports the number of dwelling units served by a master meter or fails to timely notify the City of Taft of a reduction in the number of person in a household shall be fined not less than \$ 50. Customers billed from a master meter under this provision shall pay the following monthly surcharges:

- \$5.26 for 1,000 gallons over allocation up through 1,000 gallons for each dwelling unit.
- \$5.26, thereafter, for each additional 1,000 gallons over allocation up through a second 1,000 gallons for each dwelling unit.
- \$5.26, thereafter, for each additional 1,000 gallons over allocation up through a third 1,000 gallons for each dwelling unit.
- \$5.26, thereafter for each additional 1,000 gallons over allocation.

Surcharges shall be cumulative.

### **Commercial Customers**

A monthly water allocation shall be established by the Mayor, City Manager and/or their designee, for each nonresidential commercial customer other than an industrial customer who uses water for processing purposes. The non-residential customer's allocation shall be approximately 75% percent of the customer's usage for corresponding month's billing period for the previous 12 months. If the customer's billing history is shorter than 12 months, the monthly average for the period for which there is a record shall be used for any monthly period for which no history exists. Provided, however, a customer, 100 percent of whose monthly usage is less than 1,000 gallons, shall be allocated 1,000 gallons. The Mayor, City Manager and/or their designee shall give his/her best effort to see that notice of each non-residential customer's allocation is mailed to such customer. If, however, a customer does not receive such notice, it shall be the customer's responsibility to contact the City of Taft to determine the allocation. Upon request of the customer or at the initiative of the Mayor, City Manager and/or their designee, the allocation may be reduced or increased if, (1) the designated period does not accurately reflect the customer's normal water usage, (2) one nonresidential customer agrees to transfer part of its allocation to another nonresidential customer, or (3) other objective evidence demonstrates that the designated allocation is inaccurate under present conditions. A customer may appeal an allocation established hereunder to the Mayor, City Manager and/or their designee. Nonresidential commercial customers shall pay the following surcharges:

Customers whose allocation is 1,000 gallons through 4,000 gallons per month:

- \$5.26 per thousand gallons for the first 1,000 gallons over allocation.
- \$5.26 per thousand gallons for the second 1,000 gallons over allocation.
- \$5.26 per thousand gallons for the third 1,000 gallons over allocation.
- \$5.26 per thousand gallons for each additional 1,000 gallons over allocation.

Customers whose allocation is 4,000 gallons per month or more:

- \$5.26 times the block rate for each 1,000 gallons in excess of the allocation up through 5 percent above allocation.
- \$5.26 times the block rate for each 1,000 gallons from 5 percent through 10 percent above allocation.
- \$5.26 times the block rate for each 1,000 gallons from 10 percent through 15 percent above allocation.
- \$5.26 times the block rate for each 1,000 gallons more than 15 percent above allocation.

The surcharges shall be cumulative. As used herein, “block rate” means the charge to the customer per 1,000 gallons at the regular water rate schedule at the level of the customer’s allocation.

#### **Section X: Enforcement**

- (a) No person shall knowingly or intentionally allow the use of water from the City of Taft for residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural, governmental, or any other purpose in a manner contrary to any provision of this Plan, or in an amount in excess of that permitted by the drought response stage in effect at the time pursuant to action taken by the Mayor, City Manager and/or their designee, in accordance with provisions of this Plan.
- (b) Any person who violates this Plan is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction shall be punished by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars (\$500). Each day that one or more of the provisions in this Plan is violated shall constitute a separate offense. If a person is convicted of three or more distinct violations of this Plan, the Mayor, City Manager and/or their designee shall, upon due notice to the customer, be authorized to discontinue water service to the premises where such violations occur. Services discontinued under such circumstances shall be restored only upon payment of a re-connection charge and any other costs incurred by the City of Taft in discontinuing service. In addition, suitable assurance must be given to the City that the same action shall not be repeated while the Plan is in effect. Compliance with this plan may also be sought through injunctive relief in the district court.

- (c) Any person, including a person classified as a water customer of the City of Taft, in apparent control of the property where a violation occurs or originates shall be presumed to be the violator, and proof that the violation occurred on the person's property shall constitute a rebuttable presumption that the person in apparent control of the property committed the violation, but any such person shall have the right to show that he/she did not commit the violation. Parents shall be presumed to be responsible for violations of their minor children and proof that a violation, committed by a child, occurred on property within the parents' control shall constitute a rebuttable presumption that the parent committed the violation, 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 in violation of this Plan and that the parent could not have reasonably known of the violation.
  
- (d) The Mayor, City Manager, police officer, or other City employee designated by the Mayor, may issue a citation to a person he/she reasonably believes to be in violation of this Ordinance. The citation shall be prepared in duplicate and shall contain the name and address of the alleged violator, if known, the offense charged, and shall direct him/her to appear in the municipal court on the date shown on the citation for which the date shall not be less than 3 days nor more than 5 days from the date the citation was issued. The alleged violator shall be served a copy of the citation. Service of the citation shall be complete upon delivery of the citation to the alleged violator, to an agent or employee of a violator, or to a person over 14 years of age who is a member of the violator's immediate family or is a resident of the violator's residence. The alleged violator shall appear in municipal court to enter a plea of guilty or not guilty for the violation of this Plan. If the alleged violator fails to appear in municipal court, a warrant for his/her arrest may be issued. A summons to appear may be issued in lieu of an arrest warrant. These cases shall be expedited and given preferential setting in municipal court before all other cases.

## **Section XI: Variances**

The Mayor, City Manager and/or their designee, may, in writing, grant temporary variance for existing water uses otherwise prohibited under this Plan if it is determined that failure to grant such variance would cause an emergency condition adversely affecting the health, sanitation, or fire protection for 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 condition 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 City of Taft within 5 days after the Plan or a particular drought response stage has been invoked. All petitions for variances shall be reviewed by the Mayor, City Manager and/or their designee, and shall include the following:

- (a) Name and address of the petitioner(s).
- (b) Purpose of water use.
- (c) Specific provision(s) of the Plan from which the petitioner is requesting relief.
- (d) 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 Ordinance.
- (e) Description of the relief requested.
- (f) Period of time for which the variance is sought.
- (g) 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.
- (h) Other pertinent information.

Variations granted by the City of Taft shall be subject to the following conditions, unless waived or modified by the Mayor, City Manager, and/or his/her designee:

- (a) Variations granted shall include a timetable for compliance.
- (b) Variations granted shall expire when the Plan is no longer in effect, unless the petitioner has failed to meet specified requirements.

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