

ORDINANCE NO. 003-00

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF DE LEON, TEXAS, ADOPTING A DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN; ESTABLISHING CRITERIA FOR THE INITIATION AND TERMINATION OF DROUGHT RESPONSE STAGES; ESTABLISHING RESTRICTIONS ON CERTAIN WATER USES; ESTABLISHING PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION OF AND PROVISIONS FOR ENFORCEMENT OF THESE RESTRICTIONS; ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES FOR GRANTING VARIANCES; AND PROVIDING SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of De Leon, Texas recognizes that the amount of water available to the City and its water utility customers is limited and subject to depletion during periods of extended drought;

WHEREAS, the City recognizes that natural limitations due to drought conditions and other acts of God cannot guarantee an uninterrupted water supply for all purposes;

WHEREAS, Section 12.1272 of the Texas Water Code and applicable rules of the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission require all public water supply systems in Texas to prepare a drought contingency plan; and

WHEREAS, as authorized under law, and in the best interest of the citizens of De Leon, Texas, the City Council deems it expedient and necessary to establish certain rules and policies for the orderly and efficient management of limited water supplies during drought and other water supply emergencies;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF DE LEON, TEXAS:

SECTION 1.

That the City of De Leon, Texas Drought Contingency Plan attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and made part hereof for all purposes be, and the same is hereby, adopted as the official policy of the City.

SECTION 2.

That all ordinances that are in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance be, and the same are hereby, repealed and all other ordinances of the City not in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 3.

Should any paragraph, sentence, subdivision, clause, phrase, or section of this ordinance be adjudged or held to be unconstitutional, illegal or invalid, the same shall not affect the validity of this ordinance as a whole or any part or provision thereof, other than the part so declared to be invalid, illegal or unconstitutional.

SECTION 4.

This ordinance shall take effect immediately from and after its passage and the publication of the caption, as the law in such cases provides.

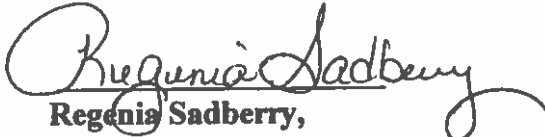
APPROVAL OF FIRST READING ON AUGUST 7, 2000.

DULY PASSED BY THE CITY OF DE LEON, TEXAS, ON THE 22 DAY OF AUGUST, 2000.

APPROVED:


John R. Adcock, Mayor

ATTEST:


**Regenia Sadberry,
City Secretary**

**DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN
FOR THE
CITY OF DE LEON
(Date)**

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 De Leon 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 preparation of the Plan was provided by the City of De Leon by means of scheduling and providing public notice of a public meeting to accept input on the Plan.

Section III: Public And Wholesale Water Customer Education

The City of De Leon 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 releases or utility bill inserts.

The City of De Leon will periodically provide wholesale water customers 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 maintaining a copy of the Plan for review by the public at the De Leon City Hall.

Section IV: Coordination with Regional Water Planning Groups

The service area of the City of De Leon is located within the Brazos G Water Planning Group and the City of De Leon has provided a copy of this Plan to the Brazos G Water Planning Group and TNRCC.

Section V: Authorization

The Mayor, or his/her 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 or his/her 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 (wholesale & retail), and property utilizing water provided by the City of De Leon. The terms "person" and "customer" as used in the Plan include individuals, wholesale water customers, 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, wholesale water customer, company, or organization using water supplied by the City of De Leon.

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.

Drip Irrigation: soaker hoses, or other low water emitter devices.

Even number address: street addresses, box numbers, or rural postal route numbers ending in 0, 2, 4, 6, or 8 and locations without addresses.

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.

Member Cities: Comanche, De Leon, Dublin, Gorman, and Hamilton.

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.

Odd numbered address: street addresses, box numbers, or rural postal route numbers ending in 1, 3, 5, 7, or 9.

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

The Mayor or his/her designee shall monitor water supply and/or demand conditions on a *monthly* 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 a *statistical analysis of the vulnerability of the water source under drought of record conditions*.

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 water supply of Proctor Lake reaches 1144 feet MSL. Each city is responsible for notification of trigger point to other member cities.

Requirements for termination

Stage 1 of the Plan may be rescinded when all of the conditions listed as triggering events have ceased to exist for a period of 3 consecutive days.

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 water supply of Proctor Lake reaches 1142 feet MSL. Each city is responsible for notification of trigger point to other member cities.

Requirements for termination

Stage 2 of the Plan may be rescinded when all of the conditions listed as triggering events have ceased to exist for a period of 3 consecutive days. Upon termination of Stage 2, Stage 1 becomes operative.

Stage 3 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 provided in Section IX of this Plan when water supply of Proctor Lake reaches 1140 feet MSL. Each city is responsible for notification of trigger point to other member cities.

Requirements for termination

Stage 3 of the Plan may be rescinded when all of the conditions listed as triggering events have ceased to exist for a period of 3 consecutive days. Upon termination of Stage 3, Stage 2 becomes operative.

Stage 4 Triggers - Emergency Water Shortage Conditions - Water AllocationRequirements for initiation

Customers shall be required to comply with the Stage 4 water allocation plan prescribed in Section IX of this Plan when the Mayor, or his/her 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 4 and water allocation may be rescinded when all of the conditions listed as triggering events have ceased to exist for a period of 3 consecutive days. Upon termination of Stage 4, Stage 3 becomes operative.

Section IX: Drought Response Stages

The Mayor, or his/her 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, critical, or emergency water shortage condition exists and shall implement the following notification procedures:

NotificationNotification of the Public:

The Mayor or his/ here designee shall notify the public by means of: *publication in a newspaper of general circulation, public information spots on a local/area radio station, and signs posted in public places.*

Additional Notification:

The Mayor or his/ her designee shall notify directly, or cause to be notified directly, the following individuals and entities:

Members of the City Council

Fire Chief(s)

City and/or County Emergency Management Coordinator(s)

TNRCC (required when mandatory restrictions are imposed)

Major water users

Critical water users, i.e. hospitals, nursing homes

The above individuals or entities shall be directly notified only when Stage III or IV is to be implemented.

Stage 1 Response -- MILD Water Shortage Conditions

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

Supply Management Measures:

The following measures are to be implemented directly by the City of De Leon to manage limited water supplies and/or reduce water demand: Reduced flushing of water mains, Reduced irrigation of public landscaped areas.

Voluntary Water Use Restrictions:

Water customers are requested to voluntarily limit the following:

- (a) Irrigation of landscaped areas with hose-end sprinklers or automatic irrigation systems be limited to one day per week, and divided into zones. Watering day and zones are to be designated by the City. 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. However, all watering should be prohibited between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., due to high evaporation.
- (b) Refrain from use of water to wash any motor vehicle, motorbike, boat, trailer, airplane or other vehicle except on designated watering day between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. and between 5:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.. 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 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 is contingent upon frequent vehicle cleansing, such as garbage trucks and vehicles used to transport food and perishables.

- (c) Refrain from use of water to fill, refill, or add to any indoor or outdoor swimming pools, wading pools, or jacuzzi-type pools except on designated watering day between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. and between 5 p.m. and 8:00 p.m..
- (d) Refrain from operation of any ornamental fountain or pond for aesthetic or scenic purposes except where necessary to support aquatic life and where such fountains or ponds are equipped with a recirculation system.
- (e) Use of water from fire 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 under special permit from the City of De Leon.
- (f) Refrain from use of water for the irrigation of golf course greens, tees, and fairways except on designated watering day between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. and between 5:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m..
- (g) All restaurants are requested to serve water only upon request of the patron.
- (h) The following uses of water are defined as non-essential and should be refrained from:
 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 2 Response -- MODERATE Water Shortage Conditions

Goal: Achieve a 25% percent reduction in daily water demand.

Supply Management Measures:

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 is limited to one day per week, and divided into zones. Watering day and zones are to be designated by the City. 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. However, all watering is prohibited between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., due to high evaporation.
- (b) Use of water to wash any motor vehicle, motorbike, boat, trailer, airplane or other vehicle is prohibited except on designated watering day between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. and between 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.. 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 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 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 day between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. and between 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m..
- (d) Operation of any ornamental fountain or pond for aesthetic or scenic purposes is prohibited except where necessary to support aquatic life and where such fountains or ponds are equipped with a recirculation system.
- (e) Use of water from fire hydrants shall be limited to fire fighting, related activities, or other activities necessary to maintain public health, safety, and welfare. The use of water from fire hydrants for construction purposes is prohibited.
- (f) The watering of golf tees is prohibited. Use of water for the irrigation of golf course greens, and fairways is prohibited except on designated watering day between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. and between 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.. However, if the golf course utilizes a water source other than that provided by the City of De Leon, the facility shall not be subject to these regulations.
- (g) All restaurants are prohibited from serving water except upon request of the patron.
- (h) 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 -- CRITICAL Water Shortage Conditions

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

Supply Management Measures:

The following measures are to be implemented directly by the City of De Leon to manage limited water supplies and/or reduce water demand: Reduced flushing of water mains, Reduced irrigation of public landscaped areas.

Water Use Restrictions. All requirements of Stage 2 shall remain in effect during Stage 3 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.
- (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 and 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 4 Response -- EMERGENCY - WATER ALLOCATION

In the event that water shortage conditions threaten public health, safety, and welfare, the Mayor 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 (9,000) Nine Thousand gallons per month.

Residential water customers shall pay the following surcharges:

- \$25.00 for the first 1,000 gallons over allocation.
- \$30.00 for the second 1,000 gallons over allocation.
- \$45.00 for the third 1,000 gallons over allocation.
- \$45.00 for each additional 1,000 gallons over allocation, 1st offense.
- \$60.00 for each additional 1,000 gallons over allocation, 2nd offense.
- 3rd Offense, Water may be disconnected. Reconnection fee \$150.00.

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 9,000 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 De Leon of a greater number on a form prescribed by the Mayor. The Mayor 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 De Leon 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. If the number of dwelling units served by a master meter is reduced, the customer shall notify the City of De Leon in writing within two (2) days. In prescribing the method for claiming more than two (2) dwelling units, the Mayor 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 De Leon shall be fined not less than \$25.00. Customers billed from a master meter under this provision shall pay the following monthly surcharges:

- \$25.00 for 1,000 gallons over allocation up through 1,000 gallons for each dwelling unit.
- \$30.00, thereafter, for each additional 1,000 gallons over allocation up through a second 1,000 gallons for each dwelling unit.
- \$45.00, thereafter, for each additional 1,000 gallons over allocation up through a third 1,000 gallons for each dwelling unit.
- \$45.00 for each additional 1,000 gallons over allocation, 1st offense.

\$60.00 for each additional 1,000 gallons over allocation, 2nd offense.
3rd Offense, Water may be disconnected. Reconnection fee \$150.00

Surcharges shall be cumulative.

Commercial Customers

A monthly water allocation shall be established by the Mayor, or his/her 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, 50% percent of whose monthly usage is less than 10,000 gallons, shall be allocated 7,500 gallons. The Mayor 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 De Leon to determine the allocation. Upon request of the customer or at the initiative of the Mayor, the allocation may be reduced or increased if, (1) the designated period does not accurately reflect the customer's normal water usage, or (2) other objective evidence demonstrates that the designated allocation is inaccurate under present conditions. A customer may appeal an allocation established hereunder to the City Council. Nonresidential commercial customers shall pay the following surcharges:

\$25.00 per thousand gallons for the first 1,000 gallons over allocation.
\$30.00 per thousand gallons for the second 1,000 gallons over allocation.
\$45.00 per thousand gallons for the third 1,000 gallons over allocation.
\$45.00 for each additional 1,000 gallons over allocation, 1st offense.
\$60.00 for each additional 1,000 gallons over allocation, 2nd offense.
3rd Offense, Water may be disconnected. Reconnection fee \$150.00

The surcharges shall be cumulative.

Industrial Customers

A monthly water allocation shall be established by the Mayor, or his/her designee, for each industrial customer, which uses water for processing purposes. The industrial customer's allocation shall be approximately 90% percent of the customer's water usage baseline. Ninety (90) days after the initial imposition of the allocation for industrial customers, the industrial customer's allocation shall be further reduced to 85% percent of the customer's water usage baseline. The industrial customer's water use baseline will be computed on the average water use for the 12 month period ending prior to the date of implementation of

Stage 2 of the Plan. If the industrial water 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 billing history exists. The Mayor shall give his/her best effort to see that notice of each industrial 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 De Leon to determine the allocation, and the allocation shall be fully effective notwithstanding the lack of receipt of written notice. Upon request of the customer or at the initiative of the Mayor, the allocation may be reduced or increased, (1) if the designated period does not accurately reflect the customer's normal water use because the customer had shutdown a major processing unit for repair or overhaul during the period, (2) the customer has added or is in the process of adding significant additional processing capacity, (3) the customer has shutdown or significantly reduced the production of a major processing unit, (4) the customer has previously implemented significant permanent water conservation measures such that the ability to further reduce water use is limited, or (5) if other objective evidence demonstrates that the designated allocation is inaccurate under present conditions. A customer may appeal an allocation established hereunder to the City Council.

Industrial customers shall pay the following surcharges:

- \$25.00 per thousand gallons for the first 1,000 gallons over allocation.
- \$30.00 per thousand gallons for the second 1,000 gallons over allocation.
- \$45.00 per thousand gallons for the third 1,000 gallons over allocation.
- \$45.00 for each additional 1,000 gallons over allocation, 1st offense.
- \$60.00 for each additional 1,000 gallons over allocation, 2nd offense.
- 3rd Offense, Water may be disconnected. Reconnection fee \$150.00

The surcharges shall be cumulative.

Section X: Enforcement

- (a) No person shall knowingly or intentionally allow the use of water from the City of De Leon for residential, wholesale, 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 Mayor, or his/her 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 less than twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) and not more than two hundred dollars (\$200.00). 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 shall, upon due notice to the customer, be authorized to discontinue water service to the premises where such violations occur.

Section XI: Variances

The Mayor, or his/her 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 De Leon within 5 business days after the Plan or a particular drought response stage has been invoked. All petitions for variances shall be reviewed by the Mayor, or his/her 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.

Variances granted by the City of De Leon shall be subject to the following conditions, unless waived or modified by the Mayor or his/her designee:

- (a) Variances granted shall include a timetable for compliance.
- (b) Variances 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.

Services discontinued under such circumstances shall be restored only upon payment of a re-connection charge, hereby established at \$150.00, and any other costs incurred by the City of De Leon in discontinuing service. In addition, suitable assurance must be given to the Mayor 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 De Leon, 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) Any employee of the City of De Leon, 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 business days nor more than 5 business 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.