

**§ 13.05.038. Criteria for initiation and termination of drought response stages.**

- (a) The public works director or his/her designee shall monitor water supply and/or demand conditions daily and shall determine when conditions warrant initiation or termination of each stage of this plan, that is, when the specified "triggers" are reached.
- (b) Utilization of alternative water sources and/or alternative delivery mechanisms. The city has no other alternative water source(s).
- (c) The triggering criteria described below are based on the draw down levels of city water wells and system capacity.

**(1) Stage 1 triggers – Mild water shortage conditions.**

- (A) Requirements for initiation. Customers shall be requested to voluntarily conserve water and adhere to the prescribed restrictions on certain water uses, defined in section 13.05.037 definitions, when the city's well(s) draw down level is equal to or less than 80 percent of the well's original capacity and/or when pumping time from wells meets or exceeds 50% of one day (24 hrs.) or 12 hrs. for three consecutive days.
- (B) Requirements for termination. Stage 1 of this plan may be rescinded when all the conditions listed as triggering events have ceased to exist for a period of 5 consecutive days.

**(2) Stage 2 triggers – Moderate water shortage conditions.**

- (A) Requirements for initiation. Customers shall be required to comply with the requirements and restrictions on certain nonessential water uses, defined in section 13.05.037 definitions, when the city's well(s) draw down level is equal to or less than 70 percent of the well's original capacity and/or when pumping time from wells meets or exceeds 70% of one day (24 hrs.) or 14.5 hours for three consecutive days.
- (B) Requirements for termination. Stage 2 of this plan may be rescinded when all the conditions listed as triggering events have ceased to exist for a period of 5 consecutive days. Upon termination of stage 2, stage 1, or the applicable drought response stage based on the triggering criteria, becomes operative.

**(3) Stage 3 triggers – Severe water shortage conditions.**

- (A) Requirements for initiation. Customers shall be required to comply with the requirements and restrictions on certain nonessential water uses, defined in section 13.05.037 definitions, when the city's well(s) draw down level is equal to or less than 60 percent of the well's original capacity and/or when pumping time from wells meets or exceeds 75% of one day (24 hrs.) or 17 hours for three consecutive days.
- (B) Requirements for termination. Stage 3 of this plan may be rescinded

when all the conditions listed as triggering events have ceased to exist for a period of 5 consecutive days. Upon termination of stage 3, stage 2, or the applicable drought response stage based on the triggering criteria, becomes operative.

(4) Stage 4 triggers – Critical water shortage conditions.

- (A) Requirements for initiation. Customers shall be required to comply with the requirements and restrictions on certain nonessential water uses, defined in section 13.05.037 definitions, when the city's well(s) draw down level is equal to or less than 50 percent of the well's original capacity and/or when pumping time from wells meets or exceeds 80% of one day (24 hrs.) or 20 hours for three consecutive days.
- (B) Requirements for termination. Stage 4 of this plan may be rescinded when all the conditions listed as triggering events have ceased to exist for a period of 5 consecutive days. Upon termination of stage 4, stage 3, or the applicable drought response stage based on the triggering criteria, becomes operative.

(5) Stage 5 triggers – Emergency water shortage conditions.

- (A) Requirements for initiation. Customers shall be required to comply with the requirements and restrictions for stage 5 of this plan when the public works director, or his/her designee, determines that a water supply emergency exists based on:
- (B) Major water line breaks, or pump or system failures occur, which cause unprecedented loss of capability to provide water service; or
- (C) Natural or manmade contamination of the water supply source(s).
- (D) Requirements for termination. Stage 5 of this plan may be rescinded when all the conditions listed as triggering events have ceased to exist for a period of 5 consecutive days.

(6) Stage 6 triggers – Water allocation.

- (A) Requirements for initiation. Customers shall be required to comply with the water allocation plan, prescribed in section 13.05.039 hereof, and the requirements and restrictions for stage 5 of this plan when the capacity of the city's wells is equal to or less than 40 percent of original capacity.
- (B) Requirements for termination. Water allocation may be rescinded when all the conditions listed as triggering events have ceased to exist for a period of 5 consecutive days.

(Ordinance 21-0601 adopted 6/1/21)

**§ 13.05.039. Drought response stages.**

- (a) The public works director, or his/her designee, shall monitor water supply and/or demand conditions daily and, in accordance with the triggering criteria set forth in section 13.05.038 hereof, shall determine that a mild, moderate, severe, critical, emergency, or water allocation condition exists. The public works director shall inform the CAO, who shall implement the following notification procedures:
  - (1) Notification of the public. The CAO or his/her designee shall notify the public by means of:
    - (A) Publication in a newspaper of general circulation;
    - (B) Direct mail to each customer or information included with utility billings;
    - (C) Announcements on the city's website and social media sites;
    - (D) Public service announcements; and/or
    - (E) Signs posted in public places.
  - (2) Additional notification. The CAO or his/her designee shall notify directly, or cause to be notified directly, the following individuals and entities:
    - (A) Mayor and members of the city council;
    - (B) Fire chief;
    - (C) County emergency management coordinator;
    - (D) TCEQ;
    - (E) Major water users; and
    - (F) Critical water users.
- (b) Responses.
  - (1) Stage 1 response – Mild water shortage conditions.
    - (A) Target. Achieve a voluntary 5 percent reduction in daily demand.
    - (B) Voluntary water use restrictions for reducing demand.
      - (i) Water customers are requested to voluntarily limit the irrigation of landscaped areas to Sundays and Thursdays for customers with a street address ending in an even number (0, 2, 4, 6 or 8), and Saturdays and Wednesdays for water customers with a street address ending in an odd number (1, 3, 5, 7 or 9), 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.
      - (ii) All operations of the city shall adhere to water use restrictions prescribed for stage 1 of the plan.

- (iii) Water customers are requested to practice water conservation and to minimize or discontinue water use for nonessential purposes.

(2) Stage 2 response – Moderate water shortage conditions.

- (A) Target. Achieve a 10 percent reduction in daily demand.

- (B) Water use restrictions for demand reduction. Under threat of penalty for violation, the following water use restrictions shall apply to all persons:

- (i) Irrigation of landscaped areas with hose-end sprinklers or automatic irrigation systems shall be limited to Sundays and Thursdays for customers with a street address ending in an even number (0, 2, 4, 6 or 8), and Saturdays and Wednesdays for water customers with a street address ending in an odd number (1, 3, 5, 7 or 9), 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. However, irrigation of landscaped areas is permitted at any time if it is by means of a handheld hose, a faucet filled bucket or watering can of five (5) gallons or less, or drip irrigation system.
- (ii) 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 midnight and 10:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. to midnight. Such washing, when allowed, shall be done with a handheld bucket or a handheld hose equipped with a positive shutoff nozzle. Vehicle washing may be done at any time on the immediate premises of a commercial carwash 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.
- (iii) 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 midnight and 10:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. to midnight.
- (iv) 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.
- (v) Use of water from hydrants shall be limited to firefighting, 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.
- (vi) Use of water for the irrigation of golf course greens, tees, and

fairways is prohibited except on designated watering days between the hours of midnight and 10:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. to midnight. However, if the golf course utilizes a water source other than that provided by the city, the facility shall not be subject to these regulations.

- (vii) All restaurants are prohibited from serving water to patrons, except upon request of the patron.
- (viii) The city will reduce or discontinue irrigation of public landscaped areas and reduce or discontinue flushing of water mains.
- (ix) The following uses of water are defined as nonessential and are prohibited:
  - a. Wash down of any sidewalks, walkways, driveways, parking lots, tennis courts, or other hard-surfaced areas;
  - b. Use of water to wash down buildings or structures for purposes other than immediate fire protection;
  - c. Use of water for dust control;
  - d. Flushing gutters or permitting water to run or accumulate in any gutter or street; and
  - e. Failure to repair a controllable leak(s) within a reasonable period after having been given notice directing the repair of such leak(s).

(3) Stage 3 response – Severe water shortage conditions.

(A) Target. Achieve a 20 percent reduction in demand.

(B) Water use restrictions for demand reduction. Under threat of penalty for violation, the following water use restrictions shall apply to all persons. All requirements of stage 2 shall remain in effect during stage 3 except:

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

(4) Stage 4 response – Critical water shortage conditions.

- (A) Target. Achieve a 50 percent reduction in demand.
- (B) Water use restrictions for reducing demand. Under threat of penalty for violation, the following water use restrictions shall apply to all persons. All requirements of stage 2 and 3 shall remain in effect during stage 4 except:
- (i) 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 8:00 p.m. and midnight and shall be by means of handheld hoses, handheld buckets, or drip irrigation only. The use of hose-end sprinklers or permanently installed automatic sprinkler systems are prohibited at all times.
  - (ii) Use of water to wash any motor vehicle, motorbike, boat, trailer, airplane, or other vehicle not occurring on the premises of a commercial carwash and commercial service stations and not in the immediate interest of public health, safety, and welfare is prohibited. Further, such vehicle washing at commercial carwashes and commercial service stations shall occur only between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.
  - (iii) The filling, refilling, or adding of water to swimming pools, wading pools, and Jacuzzi-type pools is prohibited.
  - (iv) 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.
  - (v) 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.
- (5) Stage 5 response – Emergency water shortage conditions.
- (A) Target. Achieve a 60 percent reduction in demand.
- (B) Water use restrictions for reducing demand. Under threat of penalty for violation, the following water use restrictions shall apply to all persons. All requirements of stage 2, 3, and 4 shall remain in effect during stage 5 except:
- (i) Irrigation of landscaped areas is absolutely prohibited.
  - (ii) Use of water to wash any motor vehicle, motorbike, boat, trailer, airplane, or other vehicle is absolutely prohibited.

(6) Stage 6 response – Water allocation. If water shortage conditions threaten public health, safety, and welfare, the CAO is hereby authorized to order water rationing and/or terminate service to selected uses of the system in accordance with the following sequence:

- (A) Irrigation users;
- (B) Recreation users;
- (C) Commercial users;
- (D) School users;
- (E) Residential users; and
- (F) Hospitals and public safety facilities.

(Ordinance 21-0601 adopted 6/1/21)