

WATER RESOURCE AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN and WATER CONSERVATION PLAN

INTRODUCTION

The goal of this plan is to cause a reduction in water use in response to drought or emergency conditions so the water availability can be preserved. Since emergency conditions can occur rapidly, responses must also be enacted quickly. This plan has been prepared in advance considering conditions that will initiate and terminate the rationing program.

Because College Mound Special Utility District purchases treated water from NTMWD, the Board has adopted the Model Water Conservation Plan and the Water Resource and Emergency Management Plan of NTMWD. These entire plans are available upon request at the District office and on the District website www.collegemoundwater.com

NTMWD controls the Stage of the outside watering restrictions due to drought conditions, however; College Mound SUD will trigger different stages of the plan in system emergencies warrant restrictions. Each stage of the plan is outlined as follows:

Stage 1

The goal for water use reduction under Stage 1 is a five percent (5%) reduction in the amount of water produced by NTMWD from the previous annual payment period prior to drought restrictions. **If circumstances warrant or if required by NTMWD, the General Manager or official designee can set a goal for greater or lesser water use reduction.** The General Manager or official designee may order the implementation of any or all of the actions listed below, as deemed necessary to achieve a five percent (5%) reduction. Measures described as “required notification to TCEQ” impose mandatory requirements on customer. The supplier must notify TCEQ and NTMWD within five (5) business days if these measures are implemented:

- Continue action in the water conservation plan.
Notify wholesale customers of actions being taken and request them to implement similar procedures.
- Initiate engineering studies to evaluate alternatives should conditions worsen.
- Further accelerate public education efforts on ways to reduce water use.
- Halt non-essential water use or College Mound SUD. (Vehicle washing, etc...)
- Encourage the public to wait until the current drought or emergency situation has passed before establishing new landscaping.
- All users are encouraged to reduce the frequency of draining and refilling swimming pools.

Requires Notification to TCEQ: Limit landscape watering with sprinklers or irrigation systems at each service address to no more than two days per week on designated days between April 1 to October 31 before 10 am or after 6 pm, provided no runoff occurs. Limit landscape watering with sprinklers or irrigation systems at each service address to once every week on designated days between November 1 to March 31. Exceptions are as follows:

- An exception is allowed for landscape associated with new construction that may be watered as necessary for thirty (30) days from the installation of new landscape features.
- An exemption is also allowed for registered and properly functioning ET/Smart irrigation systems and drip irrigation systems from the designated outdoor water use days limited to no more than two days per week. ET/Smart irrigation and drip irrigation systems are however subject to all other restriction applicable under this stage.

- An exception for additional watering of landscape may be provided by handheld hose with shutoff nozzle, use of dedicated irrigation drip zones, and/or soaker hose provided no runoff occurs.
- Foundations, new landscaping, new plantings (first year) of shrubs, and trees (within a ten foot (10') radius of its trunk) may be watered by a handheld hose, a soaker hose, or a dedicated zone using a drip irrigation system provided no runoff occurs.

Requires Notification to TCEQ: Initiate a rate surcharge for all water use over a certain level.

Requires Notification to TCEQ: Landscape watering of parks, golf courses, and athletic fields using potable water are required to meet the same reduction goals and measures outlined in this stage. Exception for golf course greens and tee boxes which may be hand watered as needed.

Stage 2

Requires Notification to TCEQ: Initiate a rate surcharge for all water use over a certain level.

Requires Notification to TCEQ: Landscape watering of parks, golf courses, and athletic fields using potable water are required to meet the same reduction goals and measures outlined in this stage. Exception for golf course greens and tee boxes which may be hand watered as needed.

Stage 3

The goal for water use reduction under Stage 3 is a reduction of whatever amount is necessary in the amount of water obtained from NTMWD from the previous annual payment period prior to drought restrictions. **If circumstances warrant or if required by NTMWD, the General Manager or official designee can set a goal for greater or lesser water use reduction.**

The General Manager or official designee may order the implementation of any or all of the actions listed below, as deemed necessary. Measures described as “requires notification to TCEQ” impose mandatory requirements on member cities and customers. The supplier must notify TCEQ and NTMWD within five (5) business day if these measures are implemented.

- Continue or initiate any actions available under Stages 1 and 2.
- Notify wholesale customers of actions being taken and request them to implement similar procedures.
- Implement viable alternative water supply strategies.

Requires Notification to TCEQ: Initiate mandatory water use restrictions as follows:

- Hosing and washing of paved areas, buildings, structures, windows, or other surfaces is prohibited except by variance and performed by a professional service using high efficiency equipment.
- Prohibit operation of ornamental fountains or ponds that use potable water except where supporting aquatic life or water quality.

Requires Notification to TCEQ: Prohibit new sod, hydro seeding, hydro mulching, and sprigging.

Requires Notification to TCEQ: Prohibit the use of potable water for the irrigation of new landscaping.

Requires Notification to TCEQ: Prohibit all commercial and residential landscape watering, except that foundations and trees (within a ten foot (10') radius of its trunk) may be watered for two hours on day per week with a handheld hose, a dedicated zone using a drop irrigation system and/or soaker hose before 10 am or after 6 pm, provided no runoff occurs. ET/Smart irrigation system and drip irrigation system are **not** exempt from this requirement.

Requires Notification to TCEQ: Prohibit washing of vehicles except at commercial vehicle wash facilities.

Requires Notification to TCEQ: Landscape watering of parks, golf courses, and athletic fields with potable water is prohibited. Exception for golf course greens and tee boxes which may be hand watered as needed. Variances may be granted by College Mound SUD under special circumstances.

Requires Notification to TCEQ: Prohibit the filling, draining and refilling of existing swimming pools, wading pools, Jacuzzi and hot tubs except to maintain structural integrity, proper operation and maintenance or to alleviate a public safety risk. Existing pools may add water to replace losses from normal use and evaporation. Permitting of new swimming pools, wading pools, Jacuzzi and hot tubs is prohibited.

Requires Notification to TCEQ: Prohibit the operation of interactive water features such as water sprays, dancing water jets, waterfalls, dumping buckets, shooting water cannons, or splash pads that are maintained for public recreation.

Requires Notification to TCEQ: Require all commercial water users to reduce water use by a percentage established by the General Manager of official designee.

Requires Notification to TCEQ: If NTMWD has imposed a reduction in water available to Member Cities and Customers, impose the same percent reduction on wholesale customers.

Requires Notification to TCEQ: Initiate a rate surcharge for all water use over normal rates for all water use.

Procedures for Granting Variances to the Plan:

The General Manager or official designee may grant temporary variances for existing water uses otherwise prohibited under this Water Resource and Emergency Management Plan if one or more of the following conditions are met:

- Failure to grant such a variance would cause an emergency condition adversely affecting health, sanitation, or fire safety for public or the person or entity requesting the variance.
- Compliance with this plan cannot be accomplished due to technical or other limitations.
- Alternative methods that achieve the same level of reduction in water use can be implemented.
- Variances shall be granted or denied at the discretion of the General Manager or official designee.

All petitions for variances should be in writing and should include the following information:

- Name and address of the petitioners
- Purpose of water use
- Specific provisions from which relief is requested
- Detailed statement of the adverse effect of the provision from which relief is requested
- Description of the relief requested
- Period of time for which the variance is sought
- Alternative measures that will be taken to reduce water use
- Other pertinent information

Procedures for Enforcing Mandatory Water Use Restriction:

Mandatory water use restrictions may be imposed in Stage 1, Stage 2, and Stage 3 of the Water Resource and Emergency Management Plan stages. The penalties associated with the mandatory water use restrictions are determined by the College Mound Special Utility District Board of Directors.