

# Amending the Water Conservation Plan and Drought Contingency Plan

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Item 31





## **Objectives**

- Bring clarity to the plans
- Enhance the water conservation program by adding best management practices
- Strengthen drought measures to reach goals for reduction
- Add Lake Texana level for a trigger point at Stage 1-Voluntary
- Reduce overall demand of water
- TCEQ requirement



#### Outreach

- Presented proposed changes and received feedback from the following stakeholders through meetings, conferences, and events:
  - Regional Customers, including their city customers
  - Water Resource Advisory Committee
  - City departments
  - General public
  - Commercial and industrial customers



## **Key Difference**

- Separation of Water Conservation Plan (WCP) and Drought Contingency Plan (DCP) into <u>two</u> documents because:
  - Water Conservation is a comprehensive plan to reduce consumption through education and BMP's to meet goals.
  - Drought Contingency measures are temporary and inconvenient measures used during drought critical periods to reduce demand



#### **Year-Round Best Management Practices Include:**

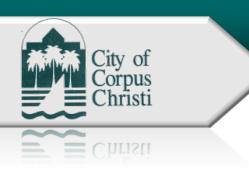
- Irrigation by spray or sprinklers only permitted before 10 a.m. or after 6 p.m.
  - Irrigation by hand or drip irrigation permitted at any time of day





Prohibition on Wasting Water is year-round. No person shall:

- Allow water to run off property into gutter or streets
- Permit or maintain defective plumbing
- Allow water to flow constantly through a tap, hydrant, valve, etc.
- Use of any non-recycling decorative fountain
- Allow irrigation head or sprinklers to spray directly on paved surfaces
- Operate an irrigation system at water pressure higher than recommended



## What's Different in Conservation Plan

- Proposed programs to be developed
  - Irrigation education and consultations
  - Rainwater harvesting
  - Review and revise development code for turf requirement





## **Drought Contingency Plan**

## Four Basic Categories

- Discretionary outdoor
- Recreational
- Commercial Enterprise
- Public Health and Safety





## **Drought Response Stages**

Drought Stage Response	Reservoir Storage Level	Target Demand Reduction Levels
Stage 1- Mild	<50% or if Lake Texana is <40%	5%
Stage 2- Moderate	<40%	10%
Stage 3- Severe	<30%	15%
Stage 4- Critical	<20%	30%
Stage 5- Emergency	Not Applicable	50%



Stage 1: (Combined Lake Levels or Lake Texana are below 50%)

#### **Current Plan**

- Voluntary
- No irrigation between 10 am and 6 pm
- Watering still permitted by hand or drip irrigation
- No water waste

#### **Proposed Plan**

- Voluntary
- Irrigation limited to once per week
- Watering still permitted by hand or drip irrigation
- No water waste



Stage 2: (Lake Levels are below 40%)

#### **Current Plan**

- Mandatory
- No irrigation between 10 am and 6 pm
- Watering still permitted by hand or drip irrigation
- No water waste
- Optional measures\*

#### **Proposed Plan**

- Mandatory
- Irrigation limited to once per week
- Watering still permitted by hand or drip irrigation
- Car washing limited to watering day (except at commercial facilities)
- Pool/pond filling limited to watering day
- No use of fountains/waterfalls
- Water for foundation on watering day



Stage 2: (Lake Levels are below 40%)

#### **Proposed Plan continued**

- Use of hydrants limited to firefighting or activities necessary for public health and safety (construction may obtain special permit)
- Non-essential water uses are prohibited (certain exemptions may be permitted):
  - Wash-down of any sidewalks
  - Washing buildings
  - Water for dust control
  - Flushing gutters and/or streets
  - Failure to control leaks



Stage 3: (Lake Levels are below 30%)

#### **Current Plan**

- Mandatory
- Irrigation limited to once every five days
- Watering still permitted by hand or drip irrigation
- No water waste
- Optional measures\*

#### **Proposed Plan**

- Mandatory
- Stage 2 measures continue and;
- Irrigation limited to once every other week
- Irrigation of golf course fairways prohibited
- Water from hydrants for construction under special permit is discontinued (this measures is at discretion of CM)



Stage 4: (Lake Levels are below 20%)

<b>Customer Category</b>	Current Plan	Proposed Plan
Residential	Allocation: 6,000 – 12,000 gallons	Demand Charge
	per month	
Multi-unit	Allocation: 6,000 per dwelling unit	Demand Charge
Commercial and	Allocation: 75% usage of	Allocation: 90% usage of
Institutional	corresponding month in previous	corresponding month in previous
	year	year
Industrial	Allocation: 90% usage of 36 month	Allocation: 90% usage of
	average	corresponding month in previous
		year



#### <u>Current Surcharges</u> – For Residential Customers

- •\$5.00 for each 1,000 gallons over allocation to 1,000 gallons
- \$8.00 for each additional 1,000 gallons up to the second 1,000 gallons
- \$16.00 for each additional 1,000 gallong up to the third 1,000 gallons
- \$40.00 for each additional 1,000 gallons over allocation



#### **Proposed Surcharges** - For Residential Customers

Gallons Used per Household	Stage 1 & 2 Monthly Water Bill	100% increase
2,500	\$12.95	\$25.89 100.00%
3,000	\$15.46	\$30.92 100.00%
4709*	\$24.05	\$48.11 100.00%
5,000	\$25.52	\$51.03 100.00%
7,500	\$34.44	\$68.87 100.00%
10,000	\$54.83	\$109.66 100.00%
12,500	\$71.96	\$143.92 100.00%
15,000	\$89.09	\$178.19 100.00%



<u>Proposed Surcharges</u> – For Commercial, Institutional, and Industrial Customers

- Monthly allocation is 90% of usage in corresponding month prior to Stage 2 implementation
- Surcharges for use over the allocation are the same as the current plan



## Waivers and Exemptions

- •Will be reviewed by committee and permit will be assigned
- •Exemption include new plantings, vegetable gardens, athletic fields, botanical gardens, water wells, aerobic septic systems
- Permit must be located within two feet of street address number.



Enforcement: Penalty for restriction violation the same as current plan: \$500 maximum per violation



## Questions?

