

ORDER NO. 2024-02

**ORDER ADOPTING THE 2024 WATER CONSERVATION PLAN AND
THE 2024 DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN**

STATE OF TEXAS §
 §
COUNTY OF GALVESTON §

WHEREAS, Galveston County Water Control and Improvement District No. 1 (the "District") is a political subdivision of the State of Texas, created and operating under Chapters 49 and 51 of the Texas Water Code; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the District (the "Board") is required by §11.1271 of the Texas Water Code to establish and enforce a drought contingency plan for the District; and

WHEREAS, the District's engineer developed a Drought Contingency Plan and Water Conservation Plan that was previously adopted by the Board of Directors by Ordinance No. 2021-01, on 19th of July 2021; Providing for Severability; and Establishing an Effective Date, and

WHEREAS, 30 Texas Administrative Code Section 288.30 requires the district to prepare and adopt the next revision of these Plans by May 1, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Board now desires to prepare and adopt the next revision of these Plans in accordance with 30 Texas Administrative Code Section 288.30 in order to ensure that these Plans remains accurate and meets the needs of the District;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD THAT:

Section 1. The revised Water Conservation Plan is attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and the revised Drought Contingency Plan is attached hereto as Exhibit "B". These revised Plans are hereby established and will be implemented during periods of water shortage and drought in an effort to reduce water loss, waste, or consumption and increase the efficiency of water use. The Revised Plan replaces and supersedes the Plan.

Section 2. If any portion of this Order, or the application of same to any person or set of circumstances is for any reason held to be unconstitutional, void or invalid (or for any reason unenforceable), the validity of the remaining portions of this Order or the application to such other persons or sets of circumstances shall not be affected hereby, it being the intent of the Board in adopting this Order, that no portion hereof shall become inoperative or fail by reason of any unconstitutionality or invalidity of any other portion.

Section 3. A copy of this Order shall be filed in the official records

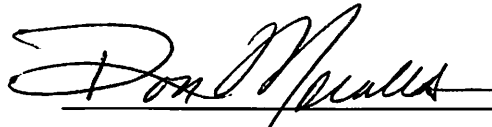
of the District.

Section 4. This Order shall be and remain in full force and effect from and after the date of filing.

Section 5. If necessary, the District's attorney is directed to publish a substantive statement of the rules or regulations contained in the Revised Plan, and the penalty for their violation, in accordance with Section 49.004 of the Water Code and Section 27.031 of the Government Code.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 29th day of April 2024.

Galveston County Water Control and
Improvement No. 1



Ron Morales, President
Board of Directors

ATTEST:



Doreen Bridges, Secretary
Board of Directors

Exhibit B
Drought Contingency Plan

GALVESTON COUNTY WCID #1 2024 DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN

Section 1. 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 Galveston County WCID #1 (the “WCID #1”) 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 conditions are deemed to constitute a waste of water which subjects the offender(s) to penalties as defined in Section 10 of this Plan.

Section 2. Public Involvement

Opportunity for the public for provide input into the preparation of the Plan was provided by the WCID #1 by means of holding a public meeting to discuss the plan on April 29, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. prior to the plan being adopted by the Board of Directors.

Section 3. Public Education

The WCID #1 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 public events, press releases and/or utility bill inserts.

Section 4. Coordination with Regional Water Planning Groups

The service area of the WCID #1 is located within the Region H regional water planning area and WCID #1 has provided a copy of this Plan to the Region H regional water planning group.

Section 5. Authorization

The General Manager 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 General Manager 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 6. Application

The provisions of this Plan shall apply to all persons, customers, and property utilizing water provided by the WCID #1. The terms “person” and “customer” as used in the Plan include individuals, corporations, partnerships, associations, and all other legal entities.

Section 7. 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 WCID #1.

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.

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

Foundation watering: an application of water to the soils directly abutting (within two feet) of the foundation of a building or other structure.

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 as 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 8. Criteria for Initiation and Termination of Drought Response Stages

The General Manager or his/her 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 the contracted surface water supply volume and groundwater well capacity.

Utilization of alternative water sources and/or alternative delivery mechanisms.

The WCID #1 water system is supplied with a combination of well water and surface water. The well water is supplied by water wells owned and operated by the WCID #1 and can safely supply our annual daily average. The surface water supply is through a purchase agreement with the Gulf Coast Water Authority and this supply can safely supply our daily annual average. With limitations on either of these supplies during peak pumping seasons, it may be necessary to implement water usage restrictions. The WCID #1 has five pump stations that can pump well water, surface water or a combination of both. The pump stations can

safely supply the average daily average flow but may require usage restrictions in the event of equipment outages during peak water pumping seasons.

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 7 Definitions when the following occurs:

- When water demand equals or exceeds 80% (3.728 MGD) of available contracted surface water supply for four (4) consecutive days; OR
- When the WCID #1 groundwater wells are operating at 80% of maximum pumping capacity for three (3) consecutive days to augment an inadequate supply of contracted surface water; OR
- When water supply is deemed insufficient to meet demand by the General Manager or his/her designee.

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 seven (7) consecutive days. The General Manager or his/her designee shall have the discretion to terminate this stage prior to seven (7) days if conditions dictate or to continue this stage even if the requirements for termination have been met.

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 9 of the Plan when the following occurs:

- When water demand equals or exceeds 85% (3.961 MGD) of available contracted surface water supply for four (4) consecutive days; OR
- When the WCID #1 groundwater wells are operating at 85% of maximum pumping capacity for three (3) consecutive days to augment an inadequate supply of contracted surface water; OR
- When water supply is deemed insufficient to meet demand by the General Manager or his/her designee; AND
- When the Gulf Coast Water Authority (GCWA) requires municipal customers to reduce GCWA water by 10% or more of current usage.

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 seven (7) consecutive days. The General Manager or his/her designee shall have the discretion to terminate this stage prior to seven (7) days if conditions dictate or to continue this stage even if the requirements for termination have been met.

Upon termination of Stage 2, Stage 1, or the applicable drought response stage based on the triggering criteria 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 the following occurs:

- When water demand equals or exceeds 90% (4.194 MGD) of available contracted surface water supply for three (3) consecutive days; OR
- When the WCID #1 groundwater wells are operating at 90% of maximum pumping capacity for one (1) day to augment an inadequate supply of contracted surface water; OR
- When water supply is deemed insufficient to meet demand by the General Manager or his/her designee; OR
- Storage levels cannot be maintained due to daily consumption; AND
- When the Gulf Coast Water Authority (GCWA) requires municipal customers to reduce GCWA water by 20% or more of current usage.

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 seven (7) consecutive days. The General Manager or his/her designee shall have the discretion to terminate this stage prior to seven (7) days if conditions dictate or to continue this stage even if the requirements for termination have been met.

Upon termination of Stage 3, Stage 2, or the applicable drought response stage based on the triggering criteria becomes operative.

Stage 4 Triggers – EMERGENCY 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 the following occurs:

- When water demand equals or exceeds 95% (4.427 MGD) of available contracted surface water supply for one (1) day; OR
- When there exists an inability to process water supply due to main breaks or systemic failure; OR
- Failure of the water system due to “acts of God” (tornados, hurricane, etc.) or man; OR
- The inability to obtain water-treating chemicals due to unforeseen conditions; OR
- When water supply is deemed insufficient to meet demand by the General Manager or his/her designee; OR
- Storage levels cannot be maintained due to daily consumption; AND
- When the Gulf Coast Water Authority (GCWA) requires municipal customers to reduce GCWA water by 50% or more of current usage.

Requirements for termination

Stage 4 of the Plan may be rescinded when all of the conditions listed as triggering events have ceased to exist for a period of three (3) consecutive days. The General Manager or his/her designee shall have the discretion to terminate this stage prior to three (3) days if conditions dictate. Depending on system conditions, the General Manager or his/her designee may direct the utility to move to a lower stage of drought contingency measures.

Section 9. Drought Response Stages

The General Manager or his/her designee, shall monitor water supply and/or demand conditions on a weekly basis and, in accordance with the triggering criteria set forth in Section 8 of this Plan, shall determine that a mild, moderate, severe, or emergency water shortage condition exists and shall implement the following notification procedures:

Notification

Notification of the Public

The General Manager or his/her designee shall notify the public by means of posting on the WCID #1 website, as well as a news release to radio, television, and newspaper. The notice will include: (1) the date the restrictions will begin, (2) the circumstances that triggered the restrictions, (3) the stages of response and explanation of the restrictions to be implemented, and (4) an explanation of the consequences for violations.

Additional Notification

The General Manager or his/her designee shall notify directly, or cause to be notified, directly, the following individuals and entities: (1) members of the WCID #1 Board of Directors, (2) TCEQ (required when mandatory restrictions are imposed), (3) major water users, and (4) critical water users.

These individuals and entities will only be notified once the WCID #1 has entered Stage 2 or

higher drought restrictions.

Stage 1 Response – MILD Water Shortage Conditions

Target: Achieve a voluntary 10 percent reduction in total water use, based on the previous 14 days.

Best Management Practices for Supply Management

The WCID #1 will implement the following to manage the supply of available water:

- Visually inspect water lines and repair leaks on a daily basis;
- Flushing hydrants or valves shall be limited to maintaining public health, safety, and welfare;
- Notify the GCWA of implementation of this drought stage;
- Implement system oversight to be able to make adjustments as required to meet changing conditions;
- Reduce or discontinue flushing of water mains;
- Reduce all operations of the WCID #1 to adhere to water use restrictions prescribed for Stage 2; and
- Where feasible, substitute reclaimed, non-potable water for WCID #1 irrigation.

Voluntary Water Use Restrictions for Reducing Demand

- (a) Contact high-use customers directly and request voluntary water conservation measures to reduce usage by at least 10%.
- (b) Encourage more efficient water usage through conservation measures such as those in Appendix A.
- (c) Discourage waste of water, which is defined as excessive pooling and/or runoff from a property that forms a stream of water in a street for a distance of 50 feet or greater, or pools in a street or parking lot to a depth greater than ¼ inch.
- (d) Publicize a voluntary lawn watering schedule that:
 - a. Limits the irrigation of landscaped areas with automatic sprinkler systems or hose-end sprinklers to designated watering days:
 - i. Monday and Thursday (OR Tuesday and Friday) between the hours of 12:01 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. and between 10:00 p.m. and 11:59 p.m. for customers with even numbered addresses.
 - ii. Tuesday and Friday (OR Monday and Thursday) between the hours of 12:01 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. and between 10:00 p.m. and 11:59 p.m. for customers with odd numbered addresses.
 - b. Allows irrigation of landscaped areas by the following means at any time:
 - i. Faucet-filled bucket or watering can of five (5) gallons or less.
 - ii. Soaker hose that does not produce a spray of water above the ground.

- iii. Drip irrigation system that does not produce a spray of water above the ground.
 - iv. Hand-held hose equipped with a positive shutoff nozzle.
- (e) Publicize the need to minimize or discontinue water use for non-essential purposes, which are defined as the use of water for:
 - a. Washing the following:
 - i. Motor or recreational vehicles.
 - 1. Washing is allowed during designated times and days for applicable residential addresses.
 - 2. Such washing, when allowed, shall be done with a hand-held bucket and/or hand-held hose equipped with a positive shutoff nozzle.
 - ii. Sidewalks, walkways, driveways, parking lots, tennis courts or other hard surfaced areas.
 - iii. Building or structures for purposes other than immediate fire protection.
 - b. Filling, refilling, or replenishing any recreational pool, pond for aesthetic or scenic purposes, or ornamental water fountains, fixtures, etc., except on designated watering days and where such pool, ponds or fountains are equipped with a recirculation system and are necessary to protect aquatic life.
 - c. Irrigating the following:
 - i. Parks or greenbelts.
 - ii. Golf course greens, tees, and fairways except on designated watering days.
 - 1. If a golf course uses a water source other than potable water provided by the WCID #1, then the facility shall not be subject to these restrictions.
 - iii. Stabilizing foundations through the use of water, except on designated watering days between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.
 - d. Controlling dust.
 - e. Flushing gutters or permitting water to run to accumulate in any gutter or street.
 - f. Failing to repair a leak(s) within a reasonable time after having been given notice directing the repair of such leak(s).
- (f) During winter months, request water users to insulate pipes rather than running water to prevent freezing.

Stage 2 Response – MODERATE Water Shortage Conditions

Target: Achieve a 20 percent reduction in total water use, based on the previous 14 days.

Best Management Practices for Supply Management

The WCID #1 will implement the following to manage the supply of available water:

- Continue implementation of all relevant actions in preceding phase.

Mandatory Water Use Restrictions for Reducing Demand

- (a) Continue implementation of all relevant actions in preceding phase.
- (b) Contact commercial and industrial users and advise of mandatory water use restrictions to reduce usage by at least 20%.
- (c) Contact high-use customers directly and request voluntary water conservation measures to reduce usage by at least 20%.
- (d) Prohibit waste of water, which is defined as excessive pooling and/or runoff from a property that forms a stream of water in a street for a distance of 50 feet or greater, or pools in a street or parking lot to a depth greater than ¼ inch.
- (e) Publicize a mandatory lawn watering schedule that:
 - a. Limits the irrigation of landscaped areas with automatic sprinkler systems or hose-end sprinklers to designated watering days:
 - i. Monday and Thursday (OR Tuesday and Friday) between the hours of 12:01 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. and between 10:00 p.m. and 11:59 p.m. for customers with even numbered addresses.
 - ii. Tuesday and Friday (OR Monday and Thursday) between the hours of 12:01 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. and between 10:00 p.m. and 11:59 p.m. for customers with odd numbered addresses.
 - b. Allows irrigation of landscaped areas by the following means at any time:
 - i. Faucet-filled bucket or watering can of five (5) gallons or less.
 - ii. Soaker hose that does not produce a spray of water above the ground.
 - iii. Drip irrigation system that does not produce a spray of water above the ground.
 - iv. Hand-held hose equipped with a positive shutoff nozzle.
- (f) Prohibit the use of water for non-essential purposes, which are defined as the use of water for:
 - a. Washing the following:
 - i. Motor or recreational vehicles.
 1. Washing is allowed during designated times and days for applicable residential addresses.
 2. Such washing may be exempted from these regulations if the health, safety or welfare of the public is contingent, i.e., garbage trucks and other vehicles used to transport food and perishables.
 3. Such washing, when allowed, shall be done with a hand-held bucket and/or hand-held hose equipped with a positive shutoff nozzle.

- ii. Sidewalks, walkways, driveways, parking lots, tennis courts or other hard surfaced areas.
 - iii. Building or structures for purposes other than immediate fire protection.
 - b. Filling, refilling, or replenishing any recreational pool, pond for aesthetic or scenic purposes, or ornamental water fountains, fixtures, etc., except on designated watering days and where such pool, ponds or fountains are equipped with a recirculation system and are necessary to protect aquatic life.
 - c. Irrigating the following:
 - i. Parks or greenbelts.
 - ii. Golf course greens, tees, and fairways except on designated watering days.
 - 1. If a golf course uses a water source other than potable water provided by the WCID #1, then the facility shall not be subject to these restrictions.
 - iii. Stabilizing foundations through the use of water, except on designated watering days between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.
 - 1. Watering is permitted by means of (1) handheld hose equipped with a positive shutoff nozzle and (2) soaker hose or drip irrigation system placed within 24 inches of the foundation that does not produce a spray of water above the ground.
 - d. Controlling dust.
 - e. Flushing gutters or permitting water to run to accumulate in any gutter or street.
 - f. Failing to repair a leak(s) within a reasonable time after having been given notice directing the repair of such leak(s).
 - g. Use of water from hydrants shall be limited to fire fighting or related activities, except that use of water from designated fire hydrants for construction purposes may be allowed under special permit from the WCID #1.
 - h. Use of treated effluent, recycled by the water system's wastewater treatment plant is permissible.

Stage 3 Response – SEVERE Water Shortage Conditions

Target: Achieve a 25 percent reduction in total water use, based on the previous 14 days.

Best Management Practices for Supply Management

The WCID #1 will implement the following to manage the supply of available water:

- Continue implementation of all relevant actions in preceding phase.
- Initiate conservation incentives.
- Implement use of the WCID #1's four (4) water wells as an alternative water supply

source.

Mandatory Water Use Restrictions for Reducing Demand

- (a) Continue implementation of all relevant actions in preceding phase.
- (b) Use of automatic sprinkler systems is prohibited.
- (c) Water of golf courses with potable water is prohibited unless the golf course utilizes a water source other than that provided by WCID #1.
- (d) Use of water for construction purposes from designated fire hydrants by special permit is allowed.
- (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 Shortage Conditions

Target: Achieve a 40 percent reduction in total water use, based on the previous 14 days.

Best Management Practices for Supply Management

The WCID #1 will implement the following to manage the supply of available water:

- Continue implementation of all relevant actions in preceding phase.

Mandatory Water Use Restrictions for Reducing Demand

- (a) Continue implementation of all relevant actions in preceding phase.
- (b) Publicize ways to limit indoor water usage – see Appendix B.
- (c) No external use of water except for protection of health, safety, welfare and fire protection.

Section 10. Enforcement

No person shall knowingly or intentionally allow the use of water from the WCID #1 for residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural, governmental, or any other purpose in a manner contrary to any provisions of the 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 General Manager or his/her designee, in accordance with provisions of this Plan.

For the first violation of Drought Response, a written or verbal notice of violation shall be issued. For subsequent violations, the District may terminate service. Services discontinued

under such circumstances shall be restored only upon payment of a re-connection charge, hereby established at \$100.00, and any other costs incurred by the WCID #1 in discontinuing service. In addition, suitable assurance must be given to the General Manager 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.

Further 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 (\$500.00). Each day that one or more of the provisions in the Plan is violated shall constitute a separate offense. Any citation issued shall direct him/her to appear in a Justice Court of Galveston County. 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. If the alleged violator fails to appear in the Court, a warrant for his/her arrest may be issued. A summons to appear may be issued in lieu of an arrest warrant.

Any person, including a person classified as a water customer of the WCID #1, 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 the Plan and that the parent could not have reasonably known of the violation.

Section 11. Variances

The General Manager, or his/her designee, may, in writing grant a 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 Plan shall file a petition for variance with the WCID #1 within five (5) days after the Plan or a particular drought response stage has been invoked. All petitions for variance shall be reviewed by the General Manager,

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 the Plan.
- (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 proposed to take to meet the intent of this Plan and the compliance date.
- (h) Other pertinent information.

APPENDIX A

WATER CONSERVATION & DROUGHT MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

SOURCES

Texas Water Development Board
P.O. Box 13231
1700 N. Congress Ave.
Austin Tx 78711-3231
(512) 463 7847 voice
(512) 4752053 fax
www.twdb.state.tx.us

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 13087
Austin Tx 78711-3087
(512) 239 1000
www.tceq.state.tx.us

Water Resource Center
U.S. EPA
Mail Code RC-41 00
401 M Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460
Telephone: (202) 260-7786
Fax: (202) 260-0386
e-mail: waterpubs@epamail.epa.gov
www.epa.gov/ow

American Water Works Association
6666 West Quincy Ave.
Denver Co 80235
(303) 794 7711
www.awwa.org

APPENDIX B

WATER CONSERVATION TIPS

Suggestions on ways to save water which may be included in public information are listed below.

A. Bathroom

- a. Take a shower instead of filling the tub and taking a bath. Showers usually use less water than tub baths.
- b. Install a low-flow shower head which restricts the quantity of flow at 60 psi to no more than 3.0 gallons per minute.
- c. Take short showers and install a cutoff valve or turn the water off while soaping and back on again only to rinse.
- d. Do not use hot water when cold will do. Water and energy can be saved by washing hands with soap and cold water; hot water should only be added when hands are especially dirty.
- e. Reduce the level of the water being used in a bath tub by one or two inches if a shower is not available.
- f. Turn water off when brushing teeth until it is time to rinse.
- g. Do not let water run when washing hands. Instead, hands should be wet, and water should be turned off while soaping and scrubbing and turned on again to rinse. A cutoff valve may also be installed on the faucet.
- h. Shampoo hair in the shower. Shampooing in the shower takes only a little more water than is used to shampoo hair during a bath and much less than shampooing and bathing separately.
- i. Hold hot water in the basin when shaving instead of letting the faucet continue to run.
- j. Test toilets for leaks. To test for a leak, a few drops of food coloring can be added to the water in the tank. The toilet should not be flushed. The customer can then watch to see if the coloring appears in the bowl within a few minutes. If it does, the fixture needs adjustment or repair.
- k. Use a toilet tank displacement device. A one-gallon plastic milk bottle can be filled with stones or with water, recapped, and placed in the toilet tank. This will reduce the amount of water in the tank but still provide enough for flushing. (Bricks, which some people use

for this purpose, are not recommended, since they crumble eventually and could damage the working mechanism. Displacement devices should never be used with new low-volume flush toilets.

- l. Install faucet aerators to reduce water consumption.
- m. Never use the toilet to dispose of cleaning tissues, cigarette butts, or other trash. This can waste a great deal of water and also places an unnecessary load on the wastewater treatment plant.
- n. Install a new low-volume toilet that uses 1.6 gallons or less per flush when building a new home or remodeling a bathroom.

B. Kitchen

- a. Use a pan of water (or place a stopper in the sink) for rinsing pots and pans and cooking implements when cooking rather than turning on the water faucet each time a rinse is needed.
- b. Never run the dishwasher without a full load. In addition to saving water, expensive detergent will last longer and a significant energy saving will appear on the utility bill.
- c. Use the sink disposal sparingly, and never use it for just a few scraps.
- d. Keep a container of drinking water in the refrigerator. Running water from the tap until it is cool is wasteful. Better still, both water and energy can be saved by keeping cold water in a picnic jug on a kitchen counter to avoid opening the refrigerator door frequently.
- e. Use a small pan of cold water when cleaning vegetables rather than letting the faucet run.
- f. Use only a little water in the pot and put a lid on it for cooking most food. Not only does this method save water, but food is more nutritious since vitamins and minerals are not poured down the drain with the extra cooking water.
- g. Use a pan of water for rinsing when hand-washing dishes rather than running the faucet.
- h. Always keep water conservation in mind, and think of other ways to save in the kitchen. Small kitchen savings from not making too much coffee or letting ice cubes melt in a sink can add up over a year's time.

C. Laundry

- a. Wash only a full load when using an automatic washing machine (32 to 59 gallons are required per load).

- b. Use the lowest water level setting on the washing machine for light loads whenever possible.
- c. Use cold water as often as possible to save energy and to conserve the hot water for uses which cold water cannot serve. (This is also better for clothing made of today's synthetic fabrics.)

D. Appliances and Plumbing

- a. Check water requirements of various models and brands when considering purchasing any new appliance that uses water. Some use less water than others.
- b. Check all water connections and faucets for leaks. A slow drip can waste as much as 170 gallons of water EACH DAY, and can add as much as \$10.00 per month to the water bill.
- c. Learn to replace washers so that drips can be corrected promptly. It is easy to do, costs very little, and can represent a substantial amount saved in plumbing and water bills.
- d. Check for water leakage you may be unaware of, such as a leak between the water meter and the house. To check, all indoor and outdoor faucets should be turned off, and the water meter should be checked. If it continues to run or turn, a leak probably exists and needs to be located.
- e. Insulate all hot water pipes to avoid the delays (and wasted water) experienced while waiting for the water to turn hot.
- f. Be sure the hot water heater thermostat is not set too high. Extremely hot settings waste water and energy because the water often has to be cooled with cold water before it can be used.
- g. Use a moisture meter to determine when house plants need water. More plants die from over-watering than from being on the dry side.

E. Out-of-Doors Use

- a. Water lawns between the hours of 8:00 pm to 6:00 am during the hotter summer months. Much of the water used on the lawn can simply evaporate between the sprinkler and the grass.
- b. Use a sprinkler that produces large drops of water, rather than a fine mist, to avoid evaporation.
- c. Turn soaker hoses so the holes are on the bottom to avoid evaporation.

- d. Water slowly for better absorption, and never water in high winds.
- e. Forget about watering the streets, walks, and driveways. They will never grow a thing.
- f. Condition the soil with compost before planting grass or flower beds so that water will soak in rather than run off.
- g. Fertilize lawns at least twice a year for root stimulation. Grass with a good root system makes better use of less water.
- h. Learn to know when grass needs watering. If it has turned a dull gray-green or if footprints remain visible, it is time to water.
- i. Do not water too frequently. Too much water can overload the soil so that air cannot get to the roots and can encourage plant diseases.
- j. Do not over-water. Soil can absorb only so much moisture and the rest simply runs off. A timer will help, and either a kitchen timer or an alarm clock will do. An inch and one-half of water applied once a week will keep most Texas grasses alive and healthy.
- k. Operate automatic sprinkler systems only when the demand on the town's water supply is lowest. Set the system to operate between 4 and 6 am.
- l. Do not scalp lawns when mowing during hot weather. Taller grass holds moisture better. Rather, grass should be cut fairly often, so that only 1 to 2 inches is trimmed off. A better looking lawn will result.
- m. Use a watering can or hand water with the hose in small areas of the lawn that need more frequent watering (those near walks or driveways or in especially hot, sunny spots).
- n. Learn what types of grass, shrubbery, and plants do best in the area and in which parts of the lawn, and then plant accordingly. If one has a heavily shaded yard, no amount of water will make roses bloom. In especially dry sections of the state, attractive arrangements of plants that are adapted to arid or semi-arid climates should be chosen.
- o. Consider decorating areas of the lawn with rocks, gravel, wood chips, or other materials now available that require no water at all.
- p. Do not "sweep" walks and driveways with the hose. Use a broom or rake instead.
- q. Use a bucket of soapy water and use the hose only for rinsing when washing the car.