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**Town of Clayton Water Conservation and Shortage Response Plan 2023**

**BACKGROUND & GENERAL INFORMATION**

The Town of Clayton (hereinafter referred to as “Town”) is located in Western Johnston County and operates its own municipal “Community Water System.” It is currently a distribution system only and is supplied drinking water solely by purchase from Johnston County Utility’s water system. The Town has the operational and financial capability to manage its water system as documented in its Water System Management Plan (in accordance with 15A NCAC 18C .0307©) and on file with NC Division of Environmental Health, Public Water Supply Section. The Town regularly reports current and future needs of its water system as documented in its Local Water Supply Plan (In accordance with NCGS 143-355(l) and online with the NC Division of Water Resources. This Water Conservation and Shortage Response Plan is required as part of the Local Water Supply Plan (in accordance with 15A NCAC 02E .0607) and is now updated to meet the current requirements.

 It is also important to state that because the Town operates a distribution system receiving its water supply solely by purchase from Johnston County Utilities, the Town is bound by purchase contract to enact water conservation, levels of response and triggers which are consistent with the County’s conservation measures, and that are at least as stringent as the County’s plans, policies, or ordinances. This document for the Town is written to reflect the equal or similar conservation measures as stated in the County’s Current Conservation Ordinance (note that the County’s current ordinance also serves as their Water Shortage Response Plan). Any change in the County’s conservation requirements may require appropriate changes in Town procedures, or the procedures in this document. The Town is like several other Towns within Johnson County that purchase water from the County and are linked to the County’s conservation measures. (See Appendix A for a copy of the County’s current conservation ordinance).

The procedures of this Water Conservation and Shortage Response Plan are written to reduce potable water demand and supplement existing drinking water supplies whenever they are in danger of being inadequate to meet their needs.

**SECTION 1 – AUTHORITY**

As stated throughout this document, because the Town is provided its water supply solely by purchase from the County, then the Town is bound by contract to adhere to the conservation measures currently in effect with the County, at a minimum. County officials have authority over the entire County Water System, and to a certain degree have authority to declare shortages and impose minimum restrictions on separate purchase systems, such as the Town. Therefore, authority to declare shortages and impose minimum restrictions is often initiated by the County according to their water shortage policies. However, authority for notification, requirements for water restriction, and enforcement of policies for Town customers rests with the Town itself. Additionally, the Town also has the authority to declare its own distribution system shortage, separate from the County (as described more fully in Section 3.C. below).

The Town Manager, in coordination with the Water Resources Director, is authorized to enact water shortage response provisions in Town whenever the trigger conditions outlined in Section 4 are met. In the absence of the Town Manager, The Water Resources Director or another designee will assume this role.

Town Manager Currently: Rich Cappola, PE

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111 E. Second Street Clayton, NC 27520

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Water Resources Director Currently: Byron W. Poelman

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**SECTION 2 – NOTIFICATION**

As stated previously, the Town is bound by purchase contract with the County to adhere to the conservation measures currently in effect with the County, at a minimum. Consequently, Water Shortage Declarations are initiated by the County. Typically, managerial staff at the County Public Utilities Department notifies the Town Administrative offices, either by e-mail or phone call. From this point, the Town notifies its employees and customers as follows:

**A. Notification of Enactment/Declaration of Water Shortage**

The following notification methods will be used to inform the Town’s customers and employees of a Water Shortage Declaration:

* + Declaration Notice will be posted on Town Bulletin Board at Town Hall
	+ Declaration Label/Notice will be included on customer water bills.
	+ All Town managerial staff will be notified by email or staff meeting; to be passed down to employees.
	+ Declaration Notice will be posted on the Town website and social media.

**B. Notification of Specific Response Measures for Water Shortage**

Actual response measures vary depending on the severity of water shortage (see next section); however, the state of shortage and specific response measures shall be communicated as follows:

* + Response measures will be included with the Declaration Notice posted on Town Bulletin Board at Town Hall.
	+ Short instructions with Declaration Notice/Label on customer water bills which informs customer where to look for additional information regarding response measures.
	+ Response measures will be conveyed to Town managerial staff; to be passed down to employees.
	+ Response measures will be included with Declaration Notice posted on the Town website and social media.
	+ If a stage of water shortage requires any restrictions other than voluntary conservation measures for any user or user class, then a notice will be posted in the local newspaper.

**SECTION 3 – LEVELS OF RESPONSE**

As stated previously, the Town is bound by purchase contract with the County to adhere to the conservation measures currently in effect with the County, at a minimum. Therefore, the County will declare a specific State of Water Shortage and the Town will implement the same response measures as the County, and as summarized below (see Appendix A for a copy of the County’s current conservation ordinance).

**A. Response Levels for Shortage in County Supply Source of Treatment Limitations**

For water shortages due to reduction in the County’s supply resources or treatment limitations, the County Public Utilities Director is empowered to declare a specific Stage of Water Shortage; and the County Manager will publish public statements and is empowered to impose/enforce water restrictions. The County required Level of Response for such shortages is currently based on a hierarchal matrix of User Classes (made up of 3 classes of Essential, Important, and Non-Essential users (and Severity Stages (made up of 3 stages of Advisory, Alert, and Emergency stages). The response matrix below illustrates the levels of response required for certain users if the County Public Utilities Director declares a specific stage of water shortage:

|  |
| --- |
| **Level Of Response Matrix - Johnston County and Town** |
| **For County Supply Source Shortage of Treatment Limitations** |
|   | **Essential Users (Class 1)** | **Socially or Economically Important Users (Class 2)** | **Non- Essential Users (Class 3)** |
| **Water Shortage Advisory (Stage 1)** | Voluntary Conservation | Voluntary Conservation | Voluntary Conservation Strongly Encouraged |
| **Water Shortage Alert (Stage 2)** | Voluntary Conservation (Strongly Encouraged) | Voluntary Conservation (Strongly Encouraged) | Banned |
| **Water Shortage Emergency (Stage 3)** | Targeted for Voluntary Conservation | Banned | Banned |

*Stages declared by County Public Utilities Director. The Town will implement the same response level as the County. See Appendix A for copy of County’s current Conservation Ordinance with detailed descriptions and definitions of User Classes.*

**B. Response Levels for Shortage in County Distribution System**

For water shortages due to problems or limitations in the County Distribution System (as determined by the County Public Utilities Director), the County Manager is empowered to declare a “Water Distribution Crisis,” publish public statements, and impose/enforce water restrictions. The County-required Level of Response for this shortage gives authority to require Mandatory Restrictions and even ban/prohibit specific uses. These restricted uses are not categorized within a specific User Class but are typically considered as non-essential. The table below describes the specific uses that may be restricted if the County Manager declares a Water Distribution Crisis:

|  |
| --- |
| **Level of Response - Johnston County & Town** |
| **For Water Distribution Crisis** |
| **The Following uses may be BANNED / PROHIBITED during a Water Distribution Crisis** |
| Watering: grass, lawn, shrubbery, flowers, or other vegetation (unless granted permission for plants grown for sale) | Swimming Pool: filling, refilling, or otherwise adding water | Washing: rinsing or cleaning of exterior walls, floors, or paved areas | Washing: rinsing or cleaning of vehicles, including automobile, truck, van, motorcycle, or other motor vehicles or trailers (unless granted permission for being in business of washing vehicles) |

*Declared by County Manager. Town will implement response level, same as County. See Appendix A for copy of County’s.*

**C. Response Levels for Water Conservation and Shortages in Town Distribution System**

The Town also reserves the right to declare mandatory water conservation measures as well as a Water Shortage Emergency for its own distribution system (separate and independent from the County). For water shortages due to problems or limitations in the Town Distribution System, the Town Manager in coordination with the Water Resources Director, is empowered to declare the required Level of Response for this shortage also given the authority to issue Mandatory Restrictions and even ban/prohibit specific uses. These restricted uses are not categorized within a specific User Class but are typically considered as non-essential. The Town Manager can declare mandatory water conservation measures or a Water Shortage Emergency, as well as terminate said measures and emergencies. The County’s response measures as described in the table in the preceding section shall also be utilized, solely for the Town’s water system.

**SECTION 4 – TRIGGERS**

As stated previously, the Town is bound by purchase contract with the County to adhere to the conservation measures currently in effect with the County, at a minimum. Most of the Triggers for a specific stage of water shortage are set by the County. Once a trigger criterion is met, the County will notify the Town of any Declaration or Stage of Water Shortage, and the Town will respond as described in the previous sections. For reference, the County’s current Trigger criteria is summarized below (see Appendix A for a copy of the County’s current conservation ordinance and specific Triggers). The Town may also be triggered into its own distribution shortage, separate from the County, as described by the last bullet below:

* + County Water Shortage Advisory (Stage 1): Triggered when Johnston County Public Utilities Director determines a potential shortage of water supply is indicated, such that adequate potable water supplies cannot be maintained, whether the shortage is caused by drought, mechanical failure, or limitations of the water treatment facilities.
	+ County Water Shortage Alert (Stage 2): Triggered when Johnston County Public Utilities Director determines the raw water supply is below the level necessary to meet normal demands and if the supply continues to decline such that there may not be sufficient water supply to meet normal demands and/or there are treatment facility limitations which cannot provide adequate supplies of potable water.
	+ County Water Shortage Emergency (Stage 3): Triggered when Johnston County Public Utilities Director determines the raw water supply is below the level necessary to meet normal demands and serious shortages exist and/or there are treatment facility limitations which cannot provide adequate supplies of potable water.
	+ County Water Distribution System Crisis: Triggered when Johnston County Public Utilities Director, in conjunction with the County Manager, determined that there is a shortage of water supply due directly to problems with the County Distribution System. Such problems include consideration of the following factors: Water pressure within the County System at specific monitored locations; ability to fill elevated tanks within the County System; ability to maintain ground storage levels for water treatment purposes: ability to maintain water pressure standards within the entire County system.
	+ Town Water Shortage Emergency: Triggered when Town Manager, in coordination with the Water Resources Director, determines that there is a shortage of water supply due directly to problems with the Town Distribution System. Such problems include consideration of the following factors: Water pressure within the Town System at specific monitoring locations; ability to fill elevated tanks within the Town System; ability to maintain water pressure standards within the entire Town System.

**SECTION 5 – ENFORCEMENT**

The direct or indirect use of water from the Town distribution system in violation of this plan is prohibited. The Town shall enforce the provisions of this, separate from the County, for all customers on the Town’s water system. To be consistent with other County policies as described in previous sections, the following actions and penalties are modeled after Johnston County but tailored for the Town.

**A. Methods of Enforcement**

Violations may be reported directly to the Town Department of Water Resources, the Town Police Department or by AMI water meter monitoring. This section applies to all people using Town water, inside and outside the Town limits, regardless of whether they have a contract for water service with the Town. A customer of the Town shall be responsible for all violations that occur in connection with water that passes through the meter for which the customer is billed by the Town. Any person who uses water in violation of a restriction or ban imposed on the use of water during a mandatory conservation period, a period of water shortage emergency or in violation of a water rationing policy, or who otherwise violates the provisions of this section, or who impedes or interferes with any action undertaken or ordered pursuant to this section and policies adopted hereunder, shall be subject to the penalties listed below. The typical progression of a reported violation, along with specific penalties is described below:

* Enforcement by police officers, code enforcement and AMI monitoring. Upon the declaration of mandatory conservation, water shortage emergency, or rationing, the Manager and every police officer or code enforcement official within the Town may enforce any restrictions or bans imposed on the use of water.
* Suspicion of violation. Whenever the Town has reasonable cause to believe that a person is violating any of the provisions of this section or any policy adopted hereunder, the Town shall immediately notify that person of the violation by affixing a written notice of the violation to the property where the violation occurred and personally delivering or mailing such notice to the customer of record and to any other person known to the Town who is responsible for the violation or its correction. Such notice shall describe the violation, order that it be corrected, cured, or abated immediately or within such specified times as the Manager determines is reasonable under the circumstances, and warn that more severe measures, such as civil penalties, criminal charges or termination of water service may be brought, assessed, or imposed. If the order is not complied with within the time allotted, the Manager may undertake enforcement action as follows.
* Enforcement action. Any person who, after being given notice of violation, does not comply with this section or policy adopted hereunder within the time specified shall, at the option of the Town, be subject to any of the following: Civil penalties, criminal penalties, termination of water service, injunctive relief, or any appropriate equitable remedy issuing from a court of competent jurisdiction.
	+ Criminal penalties. Any person may be charged with violation of this section or policy adopted hereunder and prosecuted in district court. Any person so charged and found guilty of violating this section or policy shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. Each day's violation shall constitute a separate offense. The penalty for violation shall be a maximum fine of $50 per occurrence or imprisonment for not more than 30 days. The imposition of one or more penalties for any violation shall not excuse any violation or permit it to continue.
	+ Civil penalties. In addition to or in lieu of criminal prosecution, violation of this section or any policy adopted hereunder may subject the violator or customer to a civil penalty of up to $1,000 per violation per day for so long as the violation exists. Each day on which a violation occurs or continues shall constitute a separate and distinct violation. In determining the amount of the civil penalty, the Manager shall take into account all relevant circumstances, including, but not limited to, the extent of harm caused by the violation, the magnitude and duration of the violation, efforts to correct the violation, the compliance history of the person against whom the violation is assessed, the cost of enforcement to the Town, whether the violation was willful or intentional and any other factor as justice requires. The Town shall serve a written citation on the violator, and the customer, if different, by personal delivery or by certified or registered mail, return receipt requested. The citation shall describe the violation and shall specify the amount of the civil penalty levied. The civil penalty is collectible in a civil action in debt. The imposition of one or more penalties for a violation shall not excuse any violation or permit it to continue.
	+ Termination of service. The Manager or his designee may make findings of fact and order whether service should continue, be flow restricted, or terminated. Termination of water service shall be performed in accordance with the Town's ordinances, policies, procedures, and practices. The standard reconnection charge shall be paid for the reconnection of any water service terminated pursuant to the current Town ordinances and procedures.
	+ Appeal. Any person against whom enforcement action has been taken, hereafter referred to as “aggrieved party,” is entitled to appeal to the Town Council upon serving written notice to the Town Manager and following administrative procedures for appeal to the Town Council.

* + If, after the initial Warning Notice and allowable Correction Period, the customer is still in violation, then a daily penalty shall be added to the customer’s water bill for each day that the customer remains in violation. The penalty schedule shall be as follows, depending on the size of the water service connection for the customer:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Size of Service | Penalty |
| ≤ ¾ inch | $20.00 |
| 1 inch | $40.00 |
| 1.5 inch | $50.00 |
| 2 inch | $60.00 |
| 4 inch | $80 .00 |
| 6 inch | $100.00 |
| 8 inch | $120.00 |

* If a Warning Notice or Penalties are not complied with, or ignored, the Revenue and Utility Customer Service Director may restrict or terminate water service without notice.

**B. Authority for Enforcement**

The provisions in the preceding section shall be enforced by the Town of Clayton Police Department and Town Code Enforcement Officer as deemed necessary.

**SECTION 6 – PUBLIC COMMENT FOR THIS PLAN**

This draft plan will be sent to NC Division of Water Resources for review and comment by state authorities. Prior to adoption of this Water Conservation and Shortage Response Plan, Town customers will have multiple opportunities to comment on the provisions herein. A draft plan will be made available and publicly noticed. A public hearing will be scheduled with appropriate public notice provided. All subsequent revisions to the draft plan will also be published and publicly noticed prior to an adoption vote by the Town Council.

**SECTION 7 – VARIANCE PROCEDURES**

**A. Methods of Applying for Variance Request**

Applications for Water Restriction Variance Requests are available at Town Hall. (See Appendix B for a copy of the Water Restriction Variance Application as developed for the Town). All applications must be submitted for review to the Water Resources Director, or his/her designee. In the sole opinion of the Water Resources Director, Water Restriction Variance Requests may also be forwarded to the Town Manager for consultation and input. A decision to approve or deny individual variance requests shall be rendered by the Water Resources Director or designee within 2 weeks and in consideration of the factors given in the following section.

**B. Factors for Approval or Denial of Variance Request**

Prior to rendering a decision for a Water Restriction Variance Request, the Water Resources Director or designee shall carefully consider the following factors:

* + What is the purpose of the requested water usage?
	+ Is the requested water usage a necessary use for drinking water?
	+ What is the impact on water demand made to the requested water usage?
	+ What is the expected duration of requested water usage?
	+ Are there alternative sources for the requested water usage?
	+ Is the requested water usage socially or economically important?
	+ Will the requested water usage prevent fire or structural damage?
	+ Are there other relevant factors that the requested water usage may have on water demand or supply?

The weight of each factor in rendering a decision shall be determined by the Water Resources Director. The final decision for a variance must also consider how all the factors above relate to the effectiveness of the overall water shortage response effort (as described in the section on Plan Effectiveness below). If the overall effectiveness of the water shortage response effort would be compromised by granting a variance request, then the request should not be approved.

**C. Further Variance Procedures**

Upon denial of a Water Restriction Variance Request as described above, an applicant may pursue a Town Variance of the above procedures by requesting a quasi-judicial hearing through the Town Board of Adjustment

**SECTION 8 – PLAN EFFECTIVENESS**

**A. Calculation to Measure Monthly Conservation Results During a Shortage**

During a declared water shortage, the effectiveness of water conservation efforts or imposed restrictions shall be measured by comparing the current month’s water usage PER metered connection against the same month’s water usage in the previous year PER metered connection (or against the closest comparable year that was NOT in a stage of water shortage). In other words, during a water shortage, the Town’s monthly meter readings (noting that meter-reading-periods do not match exactly with calendar month) shall be calculated on a PER METER basis by dividing the total recorded water usage for the meter-reading-period by the number of active meters. The monthly water usage PER METER calculated during the water shortage shall be compared with the same calculated value for the same usage period in the closest prior year in which there was NOT a water shortage. FURTHERMORE, to break down usages, the calculated evaluation will be broken down for each of the following user types.

* Irrigation or Outdoor Use Meters
	+ Residential Meters
	+ Commercial Meters
	+ Industrial Meters
	+ Institutional Meters

This monthly usage PER METER within each type (as compared between the current water shortage period and a prior year without a shortage) should yield comparable values for assessing the extent to which water usage has been reduced due to conservation; and in assessing which meter types, the conservation measures are most effective. (See Appendix C for a copy of the Calculation Form as developed for the Town).

**B. Other Measures of Effectiveness**

During a declared water shortage, other factors may also be used in assessing the overall effectiveness of water conservation measures. This includes, but is not limited to, the following data:

* + In recent months, how frequently have water shortage stages and responses been triggered or activated?
	+ Have there been recent or historic water shortages or problem periods worth mentioning that didn’t quite trigger responses?
	+ How many Warnings and Violations have been assessed in the current water shortage period?

**SECTION 9 – PLAN REVIEW & REVISIONS**

The Water Conservation and Shortage Response Plan will be reviewed and revised as needed to adapt to new circumstances affecting water supply and demand; and as relevant changes in the County’s system or response plans are made aware to the Town; and at a minimum every five years according to the provisions of G.S. 143-355(l). The Town Director of Water Resources is responsible for initiating all subsequent revision. +/-)

Appendix A:

ARTICLE II. - WATER SERVICE [27]

 (27) Cross reference—Design standards for water and sewer, § 14-359.

DIVISION 1. - GENERALLY

 Secs. 24-41—24-70. - Reserved.

Secs. 24-41—24-70. - Reserved.

DIVISION 2. - WATER CONSERVATION [28]

 (28) Editor's note—Amend. of 3-3-2008(2) amended div. 2 in its entirety and enacted similar provisions as set out herein. The former div. 2 derived from Ord. of 8-4-1997, §§ I—VII.

 Sec. 24-71. - Purpose.

 Sec. 24-72. - Definitions.

 Sec. 24-73. - Compliance and enforcement.

 Sec. 24-74. - Declaration of a water shortage advisory.

 Sec. 24-75. - Declaration of a water shortage alert.

 Sec. 24-76. - Declaration of a water shortage emergency.

 Sec. 24-77. - Declaration of a water distribution crisis.

 Sec. 24-78. - Shortage water rates.

 Sec. 24-79. - Substitute Officers.

 Sec. 24-80. - Adoption and amendment of water conservation ordinance.

 Secs. 24-81—24-100. - Reserved.

Sec. 24-71. - Purpose.

 The purpose of this division is to declare the official phases of a water supply shortage and to provide for the implementation of voluntary and mandatory water conservation measures throughout the service areas of the County Department of Public Utilities in the event a shortage is declared. The service area includes all areas within and outside the county which are served or supplied in whole or in part by the County water supply system.

(Amend. of 3-3-2008(2))

Sec. 24-72. - Definitions.

 The following words, terms, and phrases, when used in this division, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

 Administrative variance means a written exemption prior to the commission of a violation granted by the County Manager to a customer when a water shortage declaration as defined by this division is issued by the Board of Commissioners.

 Customer means any person, government, or entity using water directly or indirectly for any purpose from the County Department of Public Utilities water supply system, and for which a regular charge is made.

 JCDPU means the Johnston County Department of Public Utilities acting through the Utilities Director or the County Manager.

 Penalty(ies) means a monetary assessment charged to the customer's water bill after first receiving a written warning that a violation as defined in this division has been committed or the time-limited period of an acquired permit or administrative variance has expired.

 Waste of water means, but is not limited to, the failure to repair a controllable leak of water due to defective plumbing or deliberate nonessential use of water.

 Water means water available to JCDPU for treatment and supply or any source of purchased water introduced by JCDPU into its transmission facilities.

 Water restriction(s) means a declared deviation from unlimited demand on the available water supply as established in this division and imposed from time to time by the Board of Commissioners through administrative policy adoption or public notice that is subject to enforcement and/or permitting by the Director of JCDPU.

 Water shortage advisory means the conditions exist which indicate the potential for water supply shortages:

 (1) The raw water supply (streamflow) is consistently below seasonal averages. If the raw water supply continues to decline, the supply may not be adequate to meet normal needs; or

 (2) Due to mechanical failure or capacity limitations of water treatment and/or pumping facilities, adequate water supplies cannot be maintained, and the conditions may be sufficient to cause a water shortage; or

 (3) Due to circumstances outside the control of the County, purchased bulk water supply(ies) are reduced for curtailed possibly resulting in a water shortage.

 Water shortage alert means conditions exist which, if continued, will result in insufficient supply of water:

 (1) The raw water supply is below the level necessary to meet normal needs; or

 (2) Due to mechanical failure or capacity limitations of water treatment and/or pumping facilities, a water shortage is subject to occur; or

 (3) Due to reduction or curtailment of purchased bulk supply(ies), a water shortage is subject to occur.

 Water shortage emergency means available water supply is insufficient to meet normal water usage demand:

 (1) The raw water supply is below the level necessary to meet normal needs and serious water shortages exist; or

 (2) Due to mechanical failure or capacity limitations of water treatment and/or pumping facilities, a water shortage exists; or

 (3) Due to reduction or curtailment of purchased supply(ies), a water shortage exists.

 Water use class means and shall be established as follows:

 (1) Class 1, essential water uses.

 •Domestic use: Water necessary to sustain human life and animal life, and to maintain minimum standards of hygiene and sanitation.

 •Health care use: Patient care and rehabilitation.

 •Public use: Firefighting, health, safety, and public protection purposes; and water necessary to satisfy federal, state, and local health, safety, and environmental protection requirements.

 (2) Class 2, socially or economically important uses of water.

 •Domestic use: All uses other than those included in Class 1 and Class 3. Residential water use includes kitchen, bathroom, and laundry use.

 •Outdoor noncommercial watering (public or private):

 •Industrial water use including water for product manufacturing, environmental control, and domestic needs of employees and personnel.

 •Agricultural irrigation for the production of food, fiber, and fuel or maintenance of livestock.

 •Watering by commercial nurseries at a minimum level necessary to maintain stock, to the extent that sources other than JCDPU are not available or feasible to use.

 •Watering of golf course greens and tees.

 •Uses of water at a minimum rate necessary to implement revegetation following earthmoving, where such vegetation is required by an erosion and sedimentation control plan adopted pursuant to law or regulation to the extent that sources of water other than JCDPU are not available or feasible to use.

 •Water use by public gardens of national, state, or regional significance where necessary to preserve specimens, to the extent sources other than JCDPU are not available or feasible to use.

 •Operating and filling of swimming pools:

 •Municipal pools and private pools.

 •Health care facility pools used for patient care and rehabilitation.

 •Washing of motor vehicles:

 •Commercial impervious surface washing.

 •Commercial car and truck washes, unrestricted hours of operation.

 •Commercial Laundromats:

 •Unrestricted hours of operation.

 •Restaurants, clubs, and eating establishments:

 •Unrestricted hours of operation.

 •Common uses:

 •Unrestricted hours of operation.

 •Institutional uses:

 •Unrestricted hours of operation.

 (3) Class 3, nonessential uses of water.

 •Ornamental purposes: Fountains, reflecting pools, and artificial waterfalls.

 •Outdoor noncommercial watering, private impervious surface washing, watering, or irrigation: gardens, lawns, golf courses, parks, playing fields, and other recreational areas.

 - EXCEPTIONS:

 º Agricultural irrigation for the production of food, feed, fiber, or fuel and the maintenance of livestock.

 º Water used by commercial nurseries at a minimum level necessary to maintain stock to the extent other sources of water (other than JCDPU) are not available or feasible to use.

 º Water used by golf courses at a minimum level as necessary to maintain tees and greens to the extent other sources of water (other than JCDPU) are not available or feasible to use.

 º Use of JCDPU water at a minimum rate necessary to implement revegetation following earthmoving, where such vegetation is required pursuant to an erosion and sedimentation control plan adopted pursuant to law or regulation (to the extent that sources of water other than JCDPU are not available or feasible to use).

 º Water used by public gardens of national, state, or regional significance where necessary to preserve specimens, to the extent sources other than JCDPU are not available or feasible to use.

 •Operating and filling of public swimming pools:

 - EXCEPTIONS: Health care facility pools used for patient care and rehabilitation and municipal pools.

 •Washing of motor vehicles: Automobiles, trucks, boats, and trailers.

 - EXCEPTIONS: Commercial car and truck washes.

 •Serving water in restaurants, clubs, or eating establishments:

 - EXCEPTIONS: Specific requests by customers.

 •Fire hydrants: Any purpose including the use of sprinkler system tests, testing of fire equipment, and fire department drills.

 - EXCEPTIONS: Firefighting.

 •Health protection purposes if specifically approved by the health officials of the county.

 •Testing and drills by fire departments, if in the interest of imminent public safety and approved by JCDPU.

 •Hydrant and sanitary sewer flushing:

 - EXCEPTIONS: As needed to ensure public safety and health with the approval of JCDPU.

(Amend. of 3-3-2008(2); Amend. of 4-5-2010)

 Cross reference—Definitions, § 1-2.

Sec. 24-73. - Compliance and enforcement.

 (a) The direct or indirect use of water from the JCDPU distribution system in violation of this division or any water restriction policy adopted from time to time by the Board of Commissioners is prohibited. Any customer that violates or permits the violation of these rules and regulations after first receiving a written warning shall be subject to the penalties established by the Board of Commissioners. Following are penalties effective as of April 1, 2008:

First Violation:

Meter Size

¾"—1" $100.00

1½"—2" $250.00

3"—4" $500.00

> 4" $750.00

Second Violation:

Meter Size

¾"—1" $250.00

1½—2" $500.00

3"—4" $1,000.00

> 4" $1,500.00

 (b) Assessed penalties shall be added to the customer's water bill and paid and collected in the same manner as usage payments to the JCDPU. Each day a violation occurs shall be considered a separate violation.

 (c) The Director of JCDPU shall be responsible for the implementation of these rules and enforcing any restrictions imposed by this division or any water restriction policy adopted by the Board of Commissioners. If a violation is known to have occurred, a written violation shall be affixed to the property where the violation occurred and mailed to the customer of record and any other person known to the JCDPU who is responsible for the violation and its correction. The written notice shall describe the violation and order an immediate compliance with the restrictions within a specified time as determined reasonable by JCDPU under the circumstances.

 (d) In event of a third violation or if penalties for previous violations are not paid, the JCDPU may restrict or terminate water service subject to the following procedures:

 (1) The JCDPU shall give the customer notice by mail or by a county representative that due to reoccurring violations or failure to pay for previous violations, the water service will be restricted or terminated within a specific time. The customer will have an opportunity to appeal restriction or termination by requesting a hearing before an official designated as a hearing officer by the County Manager. The request for the hearing shall be made to the County Manager before the cutoff date.

 (2) If a hearing is requested by the customer charged with the violation, he/she will be given the opportunity to be heard before service is restricted or terminated.

 (3) The hearing officer, after hearing evidence presented, shall order the water service continued, restricted, or terminated.

 (e) A fee, in an amount set from time to time by the Board of Commissioners and contained in the schedule of fees and charges on file in the County Clerk's office, shall be paid for the reconnection of any water service restricted or terminated pursuant to subsection (d). In the event of multiple violations, the reconnection fee shall be in an amount set from time to time by the Board of Commissioners and contained in the schedule of fees and charges on file in the County Clerk's office for the second violation and in an amount set from time to time by the Board of Commissioners and contained in the schedule of fees and charges on file in the County Clerk's office for each additional violation.

 (f) Upon declaration of a water restriction by the Board of Commissioners, an administrative variance of the restriction may be issued by the County Manager to an individual, a business or an institution within the affected water use class(es) prior to the commission of a violation, provided that the general intent of the water shortage response measure is met, compliance is proven to cause practical difficulties and unnecessary hardship, and all reasonable options for abatement through modified water management have been exhausted. The criteria to determine hardship shall include but not be limited to the level of capital outlay and time required to achieve compliance.

 (g) An administrative variance may be issued for a time-limited period and shall stipulate both short-term corrective measures and a schedule of completion of long-term corrective measures. An administrative variance may be renewed for good cause shown. A decision to approve or deny an administrative variance will be based up on consideration of criteria including but not limited to impact on water demand, expected duration of water shortage, alternative source options, social and economic importance, purpose of water use, and the prevention of structural damage.

 (h) An administrative variance must be executed in writing and filed with the JCDPU's retail services office within 24 hours of issuance by the County Manager.

(Amend. of 3-3-2008(2); Amend. of 4-5-2010)

Sec. 24-74. - Declaration of a water shortage advisory.

 If JCDPU determines a potential shortage of water supply is indicated, such that adequate potable water supplies cannot be maintained, whether the shortage is caused by drought, mechanical failure, limitations of the water treatment and/or pumping facilities or curtailment or interruption of purchased bulk supplies, the County Manager shall be empowered to declare a water shortage advisory. The director of JCDPU shall monitor the supply and demands on the system on a daily basis. The County Manager shall call upon all water customers of JCDPU to employ voluntary water conservation measures to limit water use (especially Class 3 uses) and to eliminate waste of water. The declaration of a water shortage advisory and statement by the County Manager shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the county or may be publicized by any other appropriate method including audio and visual broadcast media. The effectiveness of water demand reduction from voluntary water conservation measures will be based on the analysis of daily demand during the advisory period compared to the most current normal period of daily demand as well as historical usage trends.

(Amend. of 3-3-2008(2); Amend. of 4-5-2010)

Sec. 24-75. - Declaration of a water shortage alert.

 If JCDPU determines the raw water supply is below the level necessary to meet normal demands and if the supply continues to decline such that there may not be sufficient water supply to meet normal demands, there are water treatment and/or pumping facility limitations, or purchased bulk supply(ies) are curtailed or interrupted resulting in inadequate supplies of potable water, the County Manager shall advise the Board of Commissioners and the Board of Commissioners may declare a water shortage alert. JCDPU shall continue to encourage voluntary water conservation measures as defined in the advisory declaration. In the event of such declaration, the Board of Commissioners shall impose a ban on all Class 3 water uses for the duration of the shortage until the water shortage has ended as advised by the director. Further, the Board of Commissioners may direct the County Manager to expand the ban on water uses beyond Class 3 uses if deemed appropriate, or the Board of Commissioners may issue an administrative variance as defined in section 24-73 on selected uses, if deemed essential for economic welfare of the service area. JCDPU shall continue to encourage voluntary water conservation measures as defined in the advisory declaration. The effectiveness of water demand reduction from the imposed ban on all Class 3 water uses will be based on the analysis of daily demand during the alert period compared to the most recent normal period of daily demand as well as historical usage trends.

(Amend. of 3-3-2008(2); Amend. of 4-5-2010)

Sec. 24-76. - Declaration of a water shortage emergency.

 If JCDPU determines the raw water supply is below the level necessary to meet normal demands and serious shortages exist and/or there are water treatment and/or pumping facility limitations or purchased bulk supplies are curtailed or interrupted resulting in inadequate supplies of potable water, the County Manager shall advise the Board of Commissioners and the Board of Commissioner may declare a water shortage emergency. In such event, Class I essential uses shall be targeted for voluntary conservation initiatives. Class 2 socially or economically important uses and Class 3 nonessential uses shall be banned. These restrictions shall be enforced until the emergency is declared ended by the director. However, the Board of Commissioners may issue an administrative variance according to section 24-73 on selected uses, if deemed essential, for economic welfare of the service area. The effectiveness of water demand reduction from the imposed ban on all Class 2 and Class 3 water uses will be based on the analysis of daily demand during the emergency period compared to the most recent normal period of daily demand as well as historical usage trends.

(Amend. of 3-3-2008(2); Amend. of 4-5-2010)

Sec. 24-77. - Declaration of a water distribution crisis.

 (a) In event of mechanical, structural, or other type of failure or hydraulic limitation of any part of the county water transmission and distribution system, upon notification by the JCDPU, the County Manager may declare a water distribution crisis. These restrictions may be imposed by the County Manager after consideration of all the following factors:

 (1) Water pressure at monitoring locations of the JCDPU water distribution system.

 (2) Ability to fill elevated water tanks of the JCDPU water distribution system and/or bulk user tanks.

 (3) Ability to maintain minimum safe water pressure levels in any portion of the JCDPU water distribution system.

 (b) A water distribution crisis for any part or the entire distribution system may be implemented by the County Manager by issuing a notice of declared water distribution crisis. The notice shall be in effect beginning with the date and time specified in the notice and the restrictions imposed shall apply during the times specified in the notice.

 (c) During a declared water distribution crisis, the County Manager may impose the restrictions as for a water shortage alert (see section 24-74) or a water shortage emergency (see section 24-75) at all times or during such limited times as the County Manager upon advice of the Director of JCDPU, determines to be appropriate. The restrictions on water use may be limited to a portion(s) of the distribution system or the entire system as deemed appropriate by the JCDPU and County Manager.

(Amend. of 3-3-2008(2); Amend. of 4-5-2010)

Sec. 24-78. - Shortage water rates.

 Upon the declaration of any level of water supply shortage, as provided in sections 24-74 through 24-77, the Board of Commissioners shall have the authority to adopt shortage water rates designed to conserve water supplies. Such rates may provide for:

 (1) Increasing commodity rates, that is, higher charges per unit for increasing usage.

 (2) Surcharges on the (minimum) monthly availability fee.

 (3) Excess demand surcharge, charges for use in excess of a specific level.

 (4) Good citizen rate, discounts for conserving water beyond specified levels.

 The effectiveness of water demand reduction from the adoption of shortage water rates will be based on the analysis of daily demand during the declaration period compared to the most recent normal period of daily demand as well as historical usage trends.

(Amend. of 3-3-2008(2); Amend. of 4-5-2010)

Sec. 24-79. - Substitute Officers.

 In event the County Manager or the Director of Public Utilities are absent during a water crisis, their designated surrogates shall be the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners and the Assistant Director of Public Utilities, respectively.

(Amend. of 3-3-2008(2))

Sec. 24-80. - Adoption and amendment of water conservation ordinance.

 The water conservation ordinance is filed under the county's Code of Ordinances which requires the Board of Commissioners to give notice of and hold a public hearing for any adoption or amendment of ordinances. The water conservation ordinance is subject to review for amendment at least every five years, to adapt to new circumstances (e.g., new water sources, etc.), and after implementation of any declaration of water shortage requiring mandatory restrictions as defined in section 24-76 (Declaration of a water shortage emergency) and section 24-77 (Declaration of a water distribution crisis) of this division.

(Amend. of 4-5-2010)

Secs. 24-81—24-100. - Reserved.

Appendix B

**WATER RESTRICTION VARIANCE APPLICATION**

APPLICANT:

 DATE:

Please answer the following questions completely and truthfully: (Use Page 2 if necessary for additional information)

 The requested water usage is:

 Household Residential □ Business/Commercial □ Business/Industrial □ Recreation□

 Landscaping (Other than Professional Business) □ Other □ Describe:

Describe and state the purpose of the requested water usage; and why, in your opinion, the declared water conservation measures should be relaxed or waived for your particular use?

Is the requested water usage necessary for drinking water?

 Yes□ No□

In your opinion, is the requested water usage socially or economically important?

 Yes□ No□

If yes, why is it important?

Town Action:

Approved □ Denied □ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Special Terms/Period of Usage/Comments: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Page 2 for Additional or Supplemental Information:

2

**To Evaluate Water Usage During Shortage and for Comparison with Regular Usage**

STAGE OF CURRENT WATER SHORTAGE:

DATE THAT CURRENT STAGE WAS DECLARED:

**CURRENT MONTHLY USAGE DATA (During current water Shortage)**

Month: Year:

Meter-Reading Period: From To

TOTAL WATER USAGE:

Total Usage: Gallons

Total No. of Meters:

Total Usage Per Meter: Gal/Meter

WATER USAGE BY TYPE:

Irrigation/Outdoors:

Usage: Gallons

No. of Meters:

Usage Per Meter: Gal/Meter

Residential:

Usage: Gallons

No. of Meters:

Usage Per Meter: Gal/Meter

Commercial:

Usage: Gallons

No. of Meters:

Usage Per Meter: Gal/Meter

Industrial:

Usage: Gallons

No. of Meters:

Usage Per Meter: Gal/Meter

1

**To Evaluate Water Usage During Shortage and for Comparison with Regular Usage**

STAGE OF CURRENT WATER SHORTAGE:

DATE THAT CURRENT STAGE WAS DECLARED:

**Previous Year, MONTHLY USAGE DATA (Comparable Month Not During Water Shortage)**

Month: Year:

Meter-Reading Period: From To

TOTAL WATER USAGE:

Total Usage: Gallons

Total No. of Meters:

Total Usage Per Meter: Gal/Meter

WATER USAGE BY TYPE:

Irrigation/Outdoors:

Usage: Gallons

No. of Meters:

Usage Per Meter: Gal/Meter

Residential:

Usage: Gallons

No. of Meters:

Usage Per Meter: Gal/Meter

Commercial:

Usage: Gallons

No. of Meters:

Usage Per Meter: Gal/Meter

Industrial:

Usage: Gallons

No. of Meters:

Usage Per Meter: Gal/Meter

2

**To Evaluate Water Usage During Shortage and for Comparison with Regular Usage**

**Summary Comparison**

Current Month: Year:

Previous Comparable Month: Year:

Comparison of TOTAL WATER USAGE:

Current Total Usage: Gallons/Meter

Previous Total Usage: Gallons/Meter

 Change (+/-) Gallons/Meter

% Change (+/-)

WATER USAGE BY TYPE:

Irrigation/Outdoors:

Current Total Usage: Gallons/Meter

Previous Total Usage: Gallons/Meter

 Change (+/-) Gallons/Meter

% Change (+/-)

Residential:

Current Total Usage: Gallons/Meter

Previous Total Usage: Gallons/Meter

 Change (+/-) Gallons/Meter

% Change (+/-)

Commercial:

Current Total Usage: Gallons/Meter

Previous Total Usage: Gallons/Meter

 Change (+/-) Gallons/Meter

% Change (+/-)

Industrial:

Current Total Usage: Gallons/Meter

Previous Total Usage: Gallons/Meter

 Change (+/-) Gallons/Meter

% Change (+/-) 3