

# **WATER SHORTAGE RESPONSE PLAN ORDINANCE**

## **TOWN OF DUBLIN**

### **Section 1. Authority to Implement**

When conditions dictate, the Town of Dublin's Public Works Director, under the Direction of the Town's mayor, will implement a Water Shortage Response Plan (WSRP). Conditions, which require the WSRP to be enacted, are outlined in Section 2.

### **Section 2. Factors Requiring Implementation of the Water Shortage Response Plan**

Several parameters or conditions may require the Town of Dublin to begin the WSRP. These include but may not be limited to significant reductions in well water levels, a significant increase in pump run times for the predetermined total flow at the well(s), contaminants in the water system, act of terrorism, vandalism, main breaks and natural disasters.

If the factors listed above reduce well water levels or pump run times or by any event or combination of events prevent the water system from delivering water, WSRP phases will be enacted in the following order:

Phase I will be enacted if a 20% reduction in normal well water levels is noted or if pump run times increase 20% in order to maintain previous rates or any other event which causes a 20% reduction in the water system's capacity.

Phase II will be enacted if a 40% reduction in normal well water levels is noted or if the pump run times increase 40% in order to maintain previous rates or any other event which causes a 40% reduction in the system's capacity.

Phase III will be enacted if a 60% reduction in normal well water levels is noted or if pump run times increase 60% in order to maintain previous rates or any other event which causes a 60% reduction in the system's capacity.

### **Section 3. Water Use Classification**

In order to facilitate a fair and equitable WSRP, every water use will be grouped into one of three classifications.

## **Class I – Essential Water Uses**

These uses include but may not be limited to water use required to/for:

- Sustain human life and the lives of domestic pets
- Maintain minimum standards of hygiene and sanitation
- Health care uses necessary for patient care and rehabilitation
- Firefighting, including training and drills as approved by the Town's Mayor

## **Class II – Socially or Economically Important Water Uses**

These uses include but may not be limited to water use required to/for:

- Preserve commercial vegetable gardens, fruit orchards, nursery stock and livestock maintenance
- Outdoor commercial water, public or private
- Establishing vegetation, after construction/earth moving activities
- Filling and operation of municipal or private swimming pools provided that these swimming pools serve 25 or more residents
- Operation of commercial car washes, restaurants, laundromats, clubs, schools, churches and other similar establishments

## **Class III – Non-Essential Water Uses**

These uses include but may not be limited to:

- Operation of water fountains, ornamental pools and recreational swimming pools that server fewer than 25 persons
- Non-commercial washing of motor vehicles, sidewalks, houses, etc.
- Non-commercial watering of gardens, lawns, parks, playing fields, and other recreational areas

## **Section 4. Phased WSRP and Water Use Reduction Goals**

When the WSRP is implemented, the following phased approach will be utilized:

### **Phase I – Voluntary Conservation**

This Phase will be enacted when it is determined that one or more of the parameters Outlined in Section 2 is met. If this occurs, the consumers will be notified promptly, by any or all of the following: mailers, door hangers, public postings at the Town Hall, Post Offices, etc. the public will be asked to begin voluntary conservation measures and Class III Non-Essential uses will be halted. Specific conservation measures and tips can be seen on Attachment I.

Continued water consumption by Class III, non-essential users will result in a written notice of violation for the first offense and a \$25.00 fine for each subsequent offense.

If the determining parameter(s) returns to seasonal norms, the measures will be lifted. However, failure of the determining parameter(s) to return to a state of seasonal normalcy may require the initiation of Phase II.

#### Phase II – Mandatory

This phase will begin when the Town Public Works Director issues a water shortage advisory. The consumers will be notified by one of the methods noted in Phase I. All users will be required to adhere to the voluntary conservation measures as noted in Attachment I. Class III uses will be banned. Class II uses will be allowed although outdoor vegetative water will be limited according to the resident's street address. Even numbered addresses will be allowed to water on even days of the month. Odd numbered addresses will be allowed to water on odd days of the month.

During Phase II, industrial facilities will be required to develop and demonstrate to the Public Works Director a water shortage response program. This program should show, at least, a 25% reduction in water usage.

Failure to adhere to the Phase II (Mandatory) required conditions will result in a written notice of violation for the first offense and/or a \$50.00 fine. Thereafter, each violation increases by a factor of \$50.00. Any violation past a fourth offense shall result in a disruption of water service to the offending party until Phase II has been rescinded.

#### Phase III – Emergency

This phase will commence with the issuance of a water shortage emergency declaration for the Town's Public Works Director. Users will be notified by any or all methods noted in Phase I. All users will be required to use voluntary conservation measures outlined in "Attachment I". Class III uses will be banned and Class II uses will be allowed with the exception of vegetative water. Industrial users will be required to implement their water reduction program, immediately.

Failure to comply with the mandates during Phase III will require the offending part to pay \$100.00 fire for the first offense, \$350.00

fine for the second offense and disruption of service for the third offense.

In addition, residential users will be allotted 1000 gallons per month per person per connection. If the user uses 1001 – 1250 gallons per month per person per connection, a surcharge of 25% will be added to the monthly bill. If the user uses 1251 – 1500 gallons per month per person per connection, a surcharge of 75% will be added to the monthly water bill. If the user uses 1501 or more gallons per month person per connection, a surcharge of 150% will be added to the monthly bill.

Commercial, industrial and institutional facilities will be required to reduce their monthly consumption by 25% of the previous 12 – month water consumption average to maintain the current water rate for that month. The average water use can be evaluated on an individual basis for facilities with seasonal demand fluctuations. A 10 – 24% water use reduction from the previous 12 – month water use average will require the Town to impose a 25% surcharge on the monthly water bill. A 0 – 9% water use reduction from the previous 12 – month water use average will require the Town to impose a 50% surcharge on the monthly water bill. An increase of 1 – 25% above the previous 12 – month water use average will result in surcharge of 100% added to the next monthly bill. Any amount used above 25% of the previous 12 – month average water use will require the Town to add a surcharge of 150% to the monthly bill.

## **Section 5. Enforcement**

Enforcement of mandatory conservation and associated fines will be the responsibility of the Public Works Director under the direction of the Town's Mayor.

## **Section 6. Public Comment**

Customers will have an opportunity to comment on the provisions of the water shortage response plan. A copy of the draft plan will be available for reviewing in the town hall. A public hearing will be scheduled at the Regular Town Board Meeting so that comments may be made. Revisions to the draft plan will be made available at least 30 days prior to an adoption vote by the Town Board.

## **Section 7. Variance Protocols**

Written request for water use variance may be submitted to the Town Mayor at 7386 Albert St. All written requests will be reviewed by the Town Mayor and Commissioners and a decision to approve or deny individual variance requests

will be determined within two weeks of submittal after careful consideration of the following criteria: impact on water demand, expected duration, alternative source options, social and economic importance, purpose (i.e. necessary use of drinking water) and the prevention of structural damage.

### **Section 8. Effectiveness**

The effectiveness of the Town of Dublin Water Shortage Management Plan will be determined by comparing the stated water conservation goals with observed water use reduction data. Other factors to be considered include frequency of plan activation, any problem periods without activation, total number of violation citations, desired reductions attained and evaluation of demand reductions compared to the previous year's seasonal data.

### **Section 9. Revision**

The Water Shortage Management Plan will be reviewed and revised as need to adapt to new circumstances affecting water supply and demand following implementation of emergency restrictions, and at a minimum of every five years.