

Town of Harrisburg Water Shortage Response Plan (WSRP)

AFFECTED PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES:

- Town of Harrisburg (PWSID# 01-13-025)
- Brookdale Development (PWSID# 20-13-008)
- Providence Manor S/D (PWSID# 20-13-008)

I. HARRISBURG WATER SHORTAGE RESPONSE PLAN PROCEDURE:

The Mayor, or an agent designated by the Mayor, shall declare a water shortage and institute the provisions of this plan. Upon the declaration of a water shortage, a press release will be forwarded to the following media outlets: The Independent Tribune (704-782-3155) and The Charlotte Observer (704-358-5040). The Town of Harrisburg's (PWSID# 01-13-025) water system will mirror the water use reduction measures enacted by the City of Concord. When Concord declares a water shortage Harrisburg will do so in a timely manner as well. The Brookdale Development's (PWSID# 20-13-008) and Farmington Ridge S/D's (PWSID# 20-13-017) water systems will mirror the water use reduction measures enacted by the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Utility. The Heatherstone S/D's (PWSID# 20-13-020) water system will reduce water use in accordance with Section IV of this plan.

II. HARRISBURG YEAR-ROUND WATER CONSERVATION POLICY:

The Town of Harrisburg's Council and Mayor encourage all municipally supplied water users to use water efficiently at all times. Public outreach and education consists of the following activities:

- Independent mailings to high volume users
- Billing inserts to all customers
- Flyers or handouts
- Newspaper ads
- Presentations or workshops
- Website

The Town's Public Works Department will monitor regional water resource conditions through the North Carolina Department of Natural Resources (NCDENR) Division of Water Resources (DWR) Drought Monitor (http://www.ncwater.org/Drought_Monitoring/). When the Drought Monitor indicates impending drought conditions the Public Works Department will increase monitoring of water demand and the available supply of water. The findings will be reported to the Mayor. In the event of a declaration of a water shortage by the Mayor, the Public Works Department will submit a weekly report to the Mayor.

III. HARRISBURG WATER USE CLASSIFICATION:

To aid the implementation of this plan the following classes of water use have been established:

CLASS I: ESSENTIAL POTABLE WATER USES

- Domestic – Water to sustain human and domestic pet life; maintain hygiene and sanitation standards.
- Patient Care – Patient care and rehabilitation, including swimming pools used for patient care and rehabilitation as prescribed by medical personnel.
- Public Use – Firefighting and approved flushing of sewers and hydrants to ensure public health and safety.

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CLASS II: SOCIALLY/ECONOMICALLY IMPORTANT POTABLE WATER USES

- Domestic – Minimal use for kitchen, bathroom and laundry; minimal watering of vegetable gardens and trees to preserve them.
- Public Use – Filling and operation of public swimming pools, which serve more than 25 residents.
- Commercial – Commercial vehicle washes and laundromats; restaurants and hotels, irrigation of golf course greens, watering by commercial nurseries at a minimum level to maintain stock, minimum amount required to maintain essential cooling operations.
- Agricultural – Minimum amount required to maintain crops, livestock and associated activities.
- Industrial – Minimum use necessary to operate production facilities and maintain jobs, minimum amount required to maintain essential cooling operations.
- Institutional – Efficient use by schools, churches and government facilities.

CLASS III: NON-ESSENTIAL POTABLE WATER USES

- All – Ornamental uses (fountains, reflecting pools, artificial waterfalls, etc.); Residential lawn irrigation; Non-commercial washing of motor vehicles; Wash-down of impervious surfaces; Filling and operation of recreational swimming pools serving less than 25 residents.
- Public Use – Gardens, lawns, parks, golf courses (except greens), town playing fields and recreational areas.
- Commercial – Serving water in restaurants except by request.

IV. DROUGHT RESPONSE TRIGGERS AND PHASED WATER USE REDUCTIONS: (Please see attached document referencing City of Concord's response triggers)

When the following water supply thresholds (TRIGGERS) are reached, the Mayor shall initiate the following PHASE reduction measures as outlined under the corresponding RESPONSE heading. Each PHASE shall last a minimum of 30 days.

PHASE I: VOLUNTARY WATER USE REDUCTION MEASURES

TRIGGERS:

- Drought Monitor indicates abnormally dry or moderate drought in the area.
- Static water levels drop more than 20% below normal.
- When Concord declares a water shortage.

RESPONSE:

- The Mayor shall declare a Water Shortage Advisory.
- Discretionary public notification and distribution of water conservation tips.
- Request voluntary conservation for all users in the system.
- Request CLASS III use be reevaluated.
- Commercial and Industrial water customers shall prepare a 25% Water Use Reduction Plan within 30-days of a Water Shortage Advisory declaration.

PHASE II: MANDATORY WATER USE REDUCTION MEASURES

TRIGGERS:

- Drought Monitor indicates moderate or severe drought in the area.
- Static water levels drop more than 40% below normal.

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RESPONSE (in addition to previous measures):

- The Mayor shall declare a Water Shortage Alert.
- Enforce a system-wide 25% water use reduction goal (including Industrial and Commercial plans).
- Mandatory public notification.
- Restrict non-commercial car washing & residential lawn irrigation to two days per week between 6 pm – 8 am.
- Ban all non-commercial pressure washing and wash-down of impervious surfaces.
- Ban the filling of newly constructed or recently drained pools.
- Restrict watering of public recreational areas to one day per week between 6 pm – 8 am.
- All non-public hydrant use by permit only.
- Ban ornamental uses.

PHASE III: EMERGENCY WATER USE REDUCTION MEASURES

TRIGGERS:

- Drought Monitor indicates severe or extreme drought in the area.
- Static water levels drop more than 40% below normal.
- Failure of PHASE II measures to result in a 25% reduction in demand.

RESPONSE (in addition to previous measures):

- The Mayor shall declare a Water Shortage Emergency.
- Mandatory public notification.
- Ban all CLASS III uses.
- Request additional conservation from CLASS I users.
- Enact advanced restriction pricing with fines for overuse.
- Restrict personal vegetable garden irrigation to two days per week between 6 pm-8 am.
- Ban all landscape irrigation (including golf course greens, school grounds, residential).
- Ban all recreational use.

V. HARRISBURG ENFORCEMENT PENALTIES:

FIRST OFFENSE (One week minimum correction period):

- PHASE I: Notice of Violation (NOV)
- PHASE II: NOV and \$50 fine
- PHASE III: \$100 fine

SECOND OFFENSE (One week minimum correction period):

- PHASE I: NOV
- PHASE II: \$100 fine
- PHASE III: \$350 fine

THIRD OR MORE OFFENSE (One week minimum correction period):

- PHASE I: NOV
- PHASE II: \$250 fine

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- PHASE III: Water service disconnection + associated reconnection fees

VI. HARRISBURG RESIDENTIAL & NON-RESIDENTIAL CONSERVATION RATES:

- PHASE I: Normal water billing rates apply.
- PHASE II: All connections that fail to meet reduction goals will be charged 2 times the normal water billing rate.
- PHASE III: All connections that fail to meet reduction goals will be charged 4 times the normal water billing rate.

VII. HARRISBURG STRATEGY FOR RETURN TO NORMAL OPERATIONS:

PHASE reduction measures will expire in reverse order once the water supply has returned to normal. Each PHASE shall last a minimum of 30 days.

VIII. HARRISBURG PROCEDURE FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

The Town Council will review the WSRP and approve. The Council meets every month and the Council meetings are open to the public and the location and time are displayed publicly.

IX. HARRISBURG WSRP VARIANCE PROTOCOLS

There are no variations to the plan.

X. HARRISBURG WSRP EFFECTIVENES:

The effectiveness of the Town's WSRP will be determined by comparing the stated water conservation goals with the observed water use reduction data. Other factors to be considered include frequency of the plans implementation, total number of violation citations, desired reductions attained and the evaluation of demand reductions compared to the previous year's seasonal data.

XI. HARRISBURG WSRP REVISION POLICY:

The WSRP will be reviewed and revised as needed to adapt to new circumstances affecting water supply and demand, following implementation of emergency restrictions, and at a minimum of every five years in conjunction with the updating of the Town's Local Water Supply Plan. The Town's Public Works Director or designee is responsible for initiating all subsequent revisions.