

DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN
FOR THE
Bethel-Ash Water Supply Corporation

A: 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 Bethel-Ash WSC hereby adopts the following regulations and restrictions on the delivery and consumption of water.

B: Public Involvement

Opportunity for the public to provide input into the preparation of the Plan was provided by the Bethel-Ash WSC by means of utility bill insert to each customer.

C: Public Education

The Bethel-Ash WSC 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 utility bill inserts and/or press releases.

D: Coordination with Regional Water Planning Groups

The service area of the Bethel-Ash WSC is located within the Regional Planning Area C and Bethel-Ash WSC has provided a copy of this Plan to the Regional Planning Area C.

E: 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.

F: Application

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

G: 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 Bethel-Ash WSC.

Domestic water use: water use for personal needs, household or sanitary purposes such as drinking, bathing, heating, cooking, sanitation, or 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.

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 neither 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 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.

H: Triggering 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. Public notification of the initiation or termination of drought response stages shall be by means of direct mail to each customer.

The triggering criteria described below are based on the amount of water pumped in the proceeding thirty (30) days. As used in this Plan, millions of gallons pumped per month, shall be defined as the number of gallons pumped thirty (30) days prior to any date of review.

(a) Stage 1 - Moderate 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 VII – Definitions, when the gallons pumped per month exceeds 24,000,000 gallons.

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 fourteen (14) consecutive days.

(b) Stage 2 - 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 2 of this Plan when the gallons pumped per month exceeds 28,500,000.

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 fourteen (14) consecutive days. Upon termination of Stage 2, Stage 1 becomes operative.

(c) Stage 3 - Critical 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 gallons pumped per month exceeds 29,500,000.

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 fourteen (14) consecutive days. Upon termination of Stage 3, Stage 2 becomes operative.

(d) Stage 4 - Emergency Water Shortage Conditions

Requirements for initiation - Customers shall be required to comply with the requirements and restrictions for Stage 4 of this Plan when general manager determines that a water supply emergency exists based on:

1. Major water line breaks, or pump or system failures occur, which cause unprecedented loss of capability to provide water service; or
2. Natural or man-made contamination of the water supply source(s).

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 seven (7) consecutive days.

I: 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 VIII of the Plan, shall determine that a moderate, severe, critical, or emergency condition exists and shall implement the following actions by direct mailing of notice to each customer:

Stage 1 - Moderate Water Shortage Conditions

Goal: Achieve a voluntary eight- (8) percent reduction in gallons pumped per month.

Voluntary Water Use Restrictions:

- (a) Water customers are requested to voluntarily limit the irrigation of landscaped areas to Sundays and Thursdays for customers with a street address ending in an even number (0, 2, 4, 6 or 8), and Saturdays and Wednesdays for water customers with a street address ending in an odd number (1, 3, 5, 7 or 9), and to irrigate landscapes only between the hours of midnight and 10:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m to midnight on designated watering days. The washing of vehicles, use of water to refill swimming pools, wading pools and etc is prohibited.
- (b) Water customers are requested to practice water conservation and to minimize or discontinue water use for non-essential purposes.

Stage 2 - Severe Water Shortage Conditions

Goal: Achieve a twenty- (20) percent reduction in gallons pumped per month.

Water Use Restrictions . Bethel-Ash WSC's rate structure shall be modified during Stage 2 to charge \$10.00 per 1,000 gallons for water usage over 10,000 gallons per month. Month is defined as Bethel-Ash WSC's monthly billing cycle.

Stage 3 - Critical Water Shortage Conditions

Goal: Achieve a twenty-five (25) percent reduction in gallons pumped per month.

Water Use Restriction. Bethel-Ash WSC's rate structure shall be modified during Stage 3 to charge \$20.00 per 1000 gallons for water usage over 8,000 gallons per month. Month is defined as Bethel-Ash WSC's monthly billing cycle.

Stage 4 - Emergency Water Shortage Conditions

Goal: Achieve a reduction in water usage to offset the loss of available water caused by the condition triggering the emergency.

Water Use Restrictions. All requirements of Stage 1, 2, and 3 shall remain in effect during Stage 4 except:

- (a) Irrigation of landscaped areas is absolutely prohibited.
- (b) Use of water to wash any motor vehicle, motorbike, boat, trailer, airplane or other vehicle is absolutely prohibited.

J: Variances

The general manager or his/her designee, may, in writing, grant 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 Ordinance shall file a petition for variance with the Bethel-Ash WSC within 5 days after the Plan or a particular drought response stage has been invoked. All petitions for variances 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 this Ordinance.
- (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 proposes to take to meet the intent of this Plan and the compliance date.
- (h) Other pertinent information.

Variances granted by the Bethel-Ash WSC shall be subject to the following conditions, unless waived or modified by the general manager or his/her designee:

- (a) Variances granted shall include a timetable for compliance.
- (b) Variances granted shall expire when the Plan is no longer in effect, unless the petitioner has failed to meet specified requirements.

No variance shall be retroactive or otherwise justify any violation of this Plan occurring prior to the issuance of the variance.