

# **WATER SHORTAGE RESPONSE PLAN**

## **1. Purpose**

The purpose of this Water Shortage Response Plan (“Plan”) is to maintain and protect the public health, safety, and welfare of H2GO (“District”) residents by establishing short and long-term demand management strategies to effectively manage the water resource supplies in the District. This Plan aids in effectively managing the water supply in the District by requiring efficient and responsible use of water within the District and by establishing measures and procedures for reducing potable water use during times of water shortage resulting from drought, capacity limitations, and system emergencies.

The water demand management strategies set forth in this Plan reduce the rate of increase in overall water use through year-round water conservation practices that maximize the District’s existing and planned water supply sources and reduce seasonal peak day demands that result in the need for costly expansion of water treatment, storage, and transmission facilities. The implementation of voluntary and mandatory water reduction measures within the District water utility service area extends the available water supply with regard for domestic water use, sanitation, and fire protection, and minimizes the adverse impacts in the event a water shortage is declared.

## **2. Authorization**

As a publicly owned water system, the operation of the District’s water utility system is subject to N.C.G.S. § 143-355(l) and N.C.G.S. § 143-355.2, requiring an approved Water Shortage Response Plan as part of the Local Water Supply Plan. A Water Shortage Response Plan must include specific requirements as set forth in rules governing water use during droughts and water emergencies (15A NCAC § 02E.0607) and Article 38 of Chapter 143 of the North Carolina General Statutes.

This Water Shortage Response Plan is effective upon adoption by the H2GO Board of Commissioners.

## **3. Applicability**

The provisions of this Plan apply to all persons, customers, and property utilizing water supplied through the District’s water system; however, it does not apply to reuse or reclaimed water. This Plan also does not apply to private drinking water wells, as that term is defined in N.C.G.S. § 87-85, or ponds.

#### 4. Definitions

Bona Fide Farm Use means water uses for the production and activities relating or incidental to the production of crops, grains, fruits, vegetables, ornamental and flowering plants, dairy, livestock, poultry, and all other forms of agriculture, as defined in N.C.G.S. § 106-581.1.

District means Brunswick Regional Water & Sewer H2GO

Executive Director means, for the purposes of this Plan, the person currently occupying the position of Executive Director, or in the absence of such a person, the Assistant Director of Utility Operations.

Customer means a person, company, organization, or any other entity (individuals, corporations, partnerships, associations, and all other legal entities) using water supplied by the District's water utility, or in whose name an account for water utility service is maintained by the District.

Essential Water Use means the use of water necessary for firefighting, health, and safety, and sustaining human and animal life. Specifically, for certain types of water uses set forth below, the following is considered Essential Water Use:

- a) Domestic Use - Water use necessary to sustain human life and the lives of domestic pets, as well as to maintain minimum standards of hygiene and sanitation.
- b) Commercial Use - Water use integral to the production of goods and/or services by any establishment having profit as its primary aim, except as otherwise specifically prohibited by this Plan.
- c) Industrial Use - Water use in processes designed to convert materials of lower value into forms having greater usability and value, except as otherwise specifically prohibited by this Plan.
- d) Institutional Use - Water use by government; public and private educational institutions; churches and places of worship; water utilities; and other public organizations, except as otherwise specifically prohibited by this Plan.
- e) Health Care Facility Use - Water use in patient care and rehabilitation, including swimming pools used for patient care and rehabilitation, in nursing homes, and other care facilities.
- f) Public Use - Water use for firefighting, including testing and drills by a fire department if performed in the interest of public safety; water system operations; and water necessary to satisfy federal, state, and local public health, safety, or environmental protection requirements.
- g) Correctional Facility Use - Water use necessary to sustain human life and to maintain minimum standards of hygiene and sanitation.

H2GO means Brunswick Regional Water & Sewer

MGD means million gallons per day.

Non-Essential Water Use means any use of water that does not meet the definition of Essential Water Use.

Plan means this Water Shortage Response Plan.

Rate and Fee Schedule means the Schedule Setting Charges, Fees, Rates and Deposits for customers Served by the District's Water and Sewer System.

Spray Irrigation System means a system of application of water to landscaping by means of a device, other than a hand-held hose or watering container, which projects water through the air in the form of particles or droplets.

US Drought Monitor means a website hosted and maintained by the National Drought Mitigation Center that indicates what parts of the country are in a drought and the severity of such droughts.

## 5. Declaration and Implementation

The H2GO Director is authorized by the District's "Rules and Regulations For Operation of Water System" to declare a water shortage, designate a water shortage stage, and implement the water use reduction measures or restrictions corresponding with such a stage, as such measures and restrictions are outlined in the Plan. The Executive Director is responsible for the implementation of this Plan. In his/her absence, the Assistant Director of Utility Operations will assume this role, and in his/her absence, the Water Resources Manager will assume this role.

### Current Contact Information:

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## 6. Notification

When a water shortage has been declared, and whenever the water shortage stage changes, the Executive Director will notify the Board of Commissioners via Email. At a minimum, the following notification options will be used to notify customers of required response measures when a water shortage stage is declared or changed (based upon the new stage):

### Stages 0 thru 3

- H2GO website ([www.H2GOonline.com](http://www.H2GOonline.com))
- Employee email announcements
- Social media
- Direct contact with various HOAs
- Press releases to local media outlets

### Stage 4

- H2GO website ([www.H2GOonline.com](http://www.H2GOonline.com))
- Employee email announcements
- Social media
- Direct contact with various HOAs
- Utility bill inserts
- Press releases to local media outlets
- Independent mailings to customers outside of utility bills
- Notices at municipal buildings
- H2GO vehicle magnet

## 7. Determination of a Water Shortage

A water shortage is a condition that exists when the demands and requirements of water customers served by the District's water system cannot be satisfied without depleting the available supply of treated water or the available water supply to or below a critical level; i.e., the level at which water is available for Essential Water Use.

Providing a reliable supply of water requires being prepared for water shortages of varying severity and duration, which may be caused by conditions such as drought, exceeding plant capacity, water quality problems, or disruptions in facility operations. For this Plan, water shortage conditions specific to the District have been categorized into three types: Resource Limitations, Capacity Limitations, and System Emergencies.

Prescribed indicators determine the severity or stage of a water shortage. These indicators are based on the ability of the District to meet water demands and are influenced by several components of the District's water supply system: well-field aquifer sources, treatment plant,

storage tanks and distribution system. When a specific indicator's criterion is met, the corresponding water shortage stage is recommended and declared.

In determining a water shortage stage and the corresponding restrictions, consideration will be given, as applicable, to water shortage levels and available sources of supply, available usable storage on hand, draw-down rates, the projected supply capability, outlook for precipitation, daily water use patterns, and availability of water from other sources.

A summary of indicators for five water shortage stages, from a Stage 0 Water Shortage (year-round water conservation) to a Stage 4 Water Shortage (exceptional water shortage emergency), are summarized for each type of water shortage in the following sections. These water shortage stages are intended to achieve system-wide water use reductions. If multiple indicators are met for more than one type of water shortage stage, the more severe of the indicators provided will determine the stage to be declared.

It is possible that water shortage stages may not necessarily be implemented sequentially if water supply and/or demand conditions worsen rapidly. Likewise, recovery of water shortage stages may not always occur sequentially, depending on how quickly supply and/or demand conditions improve.

#### 7a) Aquifer Resource Limitations

The District will define aquifer resource limitations based on water supply and groundwater conditions. In the event well-field static water levels and drawdown recoveries do not conform to expectations as determined by the Water Resources Manager and as advised to the Executive Director, a Stage 1 water shortage alert may be declared. In the event well-water static levels continue to drop below expected levels, a Stage 2 or Stage 3 water shortage alert may be declared. In the event previous restrictions are not sufficient to improve well-field static water levels, and drawdown recoveries are significantly impacted, a Stage 4 water shortage alert may be declared. Upon such declaration, the District shall be deemed in a state of emergency with respect to its aquifer supplies.

#### 7b) Treatment Capacity Limitations

A water treatment plant's capacity is designed to meet the distribution system's anticipated maximum daily demand at a relatively constant flow rate with storage tanks in the distribution system intended to handle fluctuations in demand throughout the day. Customer demand for potable water will also fluctuate seasonally, often using more water in the spring and summer to promote lawn and other plant growth. Sometimes a combination of dry weather and high temperatures occurring during the summer can lead to unexpectedly high customer demand.

The District continues to grow and connect new customers to the water distribution system; however, adding additional capacity to a water treatment plant is a slow and expensive process. To ensure the District’s ability to meet customer demand for both Essential Water Use and Non-Essential Water Use, the District may declare water shortage stages if the water demand is nearing available treatment capacity on a regular basis.

The water shortage stage, and duration of such a stage, will depend on the extent to which customer water demands approach or exceed the District’s capacity to meet those demands and how much the water use restrictions successfully reduce short-term demands. If the daily demands of the water system exceed a specified percentage of total available capacity for a specified period of time as described in the table below, the corresponding water shortage stage shall be declared.

### Treatment Capacity Limitations

Stage	H2GO Designation	Daily Demand Trigger
0	Year-Round Water Conservation	
1	Moderate Water Shortage	Demand > 80% of available capacity for the average of a 7 day period
2	Severe Water Shortage	Demand > 90% of available capacity for the average of a 7 day period
3	Extreme Water Shortage	Demand $\geq$ 95% of available capacity for the average of a 7 day period
4	Exceptional Water Shortage	If demand continues to exceed available capacity such that an Extreme Water Shortage (Stage 3) is in effect due to such capacity limitations for five (5) consecutive days

When the recovery criteria shown in the table below for that water shortage stage have been met, the Water Resources Manager will advise that the Executive Director declare a reduced stage with the corresponding water use restrictions. It may be possible to reduce by more than one water shortage stage if the necessary recovery criteria have been met for intermediate stages.

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## Recovery from Treatment Capacity Limitations

Stage	H2GO Designation	Recovery
0	Year-Round Water Conservation	
1	Moderate Water Shortage	Below 80% of available capacity for 75 consecutive days
2	Severe Water Shortage	Below 85% of available capacity for 60 consecutive days
3	Extreme Water Shortage	Below 90% of available capacity for 45 consecutive days
4	Exceptional Water Shortage	Below 95% of available capacity for 30 consecutive days

### 7c) System Emergencies

The integrity of the water supply, treatment facilities, and distribution system are critical to meeting the potable water demands of the District. If there are major disruptions to any of these components, it may be necessary to initiate water restrictions to ensure that basic needs are met. Such events include, but are not limited to:

- Aquifer contamination
- Well-field equipment disruptions
- Water treatment plant disruptions
- Water distribution system disruptions

System emergencies typically require an immediate response and may require a major reduction of water use in a short period of time. Because each emergency event is different and varies in degree of severity and duration, no pre-determined water shortage stage can be identified for every event.

If the Executive Director determines a system emergency condition exists that warrants the need to implement a water shortage stage, he/she will declare a stage and associated water use restrictions that are deemed necessary and appropriate given the nature, extent, and expected duration of the emergency condition.

As additional information becomes available regarding the system emergency, the water shortage stage initially declared may be quickly modified or resolved. When the factors determining the water shortage conditions have improved, the Executive Director may then declare a reduced water shortage stage and

associated water use restrictions that are deemed necessary and appropriate for the changed conditions.

## 8. Water Shortage Stage Measures and Restrictions

To ensure that water demand is reduced to a sustainable level after the declaration of a water shortage stage, water use measures and restrictions need to be enforced. Regardless of the type of water shortage, each stage requires the same estimated reduction in demand so each stage has one set of corresponding actions that will be taken to conserve water. The water use measures and restrictions corresponding to each water shortage stage are set forth in the sections below.

### 8a) Year-Round Water Conservation (Stage 0)

This water shortage stage is intended to manage the District's long-term water resources by promoting water use efficiency. In the past, the District water system has experienced a high water demand peaking factor, measured as a ratio between the highest demand day of the year and the average demand over the entire year. This is reflective of the District's above average proportion of residential users and high irrigation use when compared with other utilities. Without water use restrictions, the District's water system may have days where the maximum day demand exceeds the water treatment plant capacity, especially during periods of hot and dry weather. Additionally, these high demands place stress on the distribution system.

Therefore, this Plan establishes the implementation of mandatory year-round water use restrictions and voluntary water conservation measures. These water use restrictions and water conservation measures are in effect under normal conditions and will serve as Stage 0 Water Shortage restrictions (Stage 0 Water Shortage is the minimum water shortage stage that will always be in effect in the District if there is no declaration of a heightened stage). When a Stage 0 Water Shortage is in place, all customers shall be required to adhere to the following mandatory water use restrictions:

#### **Stage 0 Mandatory Water Use Restrictions**

Customer spray irrigation use shall be limited to three (3) days per week. Limiting Spray Irrigation System use to 3 days per week is sufficient to meet the irrigation needs of lawns and other plants and reduces the likelihood of accidental over-watering. Customers shall at all times comply with the spray irrigation system schedule: Even numbered property addresses shall limit irrigation to Wednesdays, Fridays, and Sundays; odd numbered property addresses shall limit irrigation to Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. The

use of pond water, rainwater and well water is not governed by this stage, nor is the watering of plant material and lawns by use of drip irrigation, watering cans, hand-held hoses, and other hand-held watering tools. Customers regularly engaged in the sale of plants, shrubbery, trees, and flowers are permitted to use water by any method at any time for irrigation of their commercial stock.

### **Stage 0 Voluntary Water Conservation Measures**

- Install rain and soil moisture sensors on irrigation controls to help conserve water and reduce unnecessary irrigation usage.
- Use flow-restrictive, water-saving devices and methods. Faucets should not be left running while shaving, brushing teeth, or washing dishes. Showers should be limited to no more than five (5) minutes and baths should be avoided if not medically necessary. Toilets should be flushed after multiple usages.
- Limit the use of clothes and dish washing machines to running only full loads.
- Inspect and repair all leaks and defective components of water delivery systems in any structures (faucets, toilets, equipment, etc.) in a timely manner.
- Reuse household water to water plants.

#### 8b) Moderate Water Shortage (Stage 1 Water Shortage)

At this water shortage stage, the District has concerns about the available water supply and customers are encouraged to adopt water saving measures intended to reduce overall water use. The primary purpose of this water shortage stage is to increase education and awareness of the limited water resources and to encourage additional voluntary water conservation measures to reduce the need for further mandatory restrictions. In the event a Stage 1 Water Shortage is declared, all customers shall comply with the following mandatory water use restrictions:

### **Stage 1 Mandatory Water Use Restrictions**

- Comply with all Stage 0 Water Shortage Mandatory Water Use Restrictions.
- Limit spray irrigation use to no more than two (2) days per week: Even numbered property addresses shall limit irrigation to Wednesdays, and Sundays; odd numbered property addresses shall limit irrigation to Tuesdays, and Saturdays.
- In addition to the mandatory water use restrictions, additional voluntary water conservation measures are also encouraged at this water

shortage stage. These voluntary measures, which are encouraged, but not required, are described below:

### **Stage 1 Voluntary Water Conservation Measures**

- Implement all Voluntary Water Conservation Measures set forth for a Stage 0 Water Shortage.
- Use spring-activated nozzles when watering lawns and gardens by hand with a hose.
- Limit residential vehicle, or any other type of mobile equipment, washing to the designated Spray Irrigation System use days set forth above.

#### 8c) Severe Water Shortage (Stage 2 Water Shortage)

This water shortage stage reflects an increase in concern over water supply leading to additional mandatory restrictions. Moving to this water shortage stage is intended to bring customers' and H2GO employees' attention to the increasing severity of the water shortage. Additional mandatory restrictions are necessary when voluntary measures are not effective in the previous water shortage stages in reducing water system demand. In the event a Stage 2 Water Shortage is declared, all customers shall comply with the following mandatory water use restrictions:

### **Stage 2 Mandatory Water Use Restrictions**

- Comply with all Stage 1 Water Shortage Mandatory Water Use Restrictions.
- Limit spray irrigation use to no more than two (2) days per week and only between the hours of 12:00 a.m. until 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. until 12:00 a.m.: Even numbered property addresses shall limit irrigation to Wednesdays, and Sundays; odd numbered property addresses shall limit irrigation to Tuesdays, and Saturdays.
- Eliminate personal vehicle washing unless using a commercial carwash.
- Eliminate the filling of new swimming pools and fountains (unless considered Essential Water Use as defined herein).
- Eliminate public building, sidewalk, and street washing activities (unless considered Essential Water Use as defined herein).
- Limit construction uses of water (e.g., dust control).
- Limit flushing and hydrant testing programs, except as necessary to maintain water quality or in other special circumstances.

Customers using drip irrigation or any handheld watering methods are still allowed to water any day and time. Customers regularly engaged in the sale

of plants, shrubbery, trees, and flowers are permitted to use water by any method at any time for irrigation of their commercial stock. Unless otherwise declared as mandatory at this stage, customers are encouraged, but not required, to implement voluntary water conservation measures set forth in this Plan for a Stage 1 Water Shortage.

8d) Exceptional Water Shortage (Stage 3 Water Shortage)

This water shortage stage is a point at which the District is greatly concerned about the current and future supply of water. Immediate additional water conservation measures and water use restrictions are essential to avoid major restrictions or water rationing. This can be of particular concern during a severe drought with no significant predicted rainfall. It is important for H2GO employees and customers to understand the rare nature of the situation and to react accordingly. At this water shortage stage, mandatory requirements become more restrictive in an effort to lessen the impacts of worsening conditions and delay or prevent a water shortage emergency. In the event a Stage 3 Water Shortage is declared, all customers shall comply with the following mandatory water use restrictions:

**Stage 3 Mandatory Water Use Restrictions**

- Comply with all Stage 2 Water Shortage Mandatory Water Use Restrictions, unless a more stringent requirement is imposed below.
- Limit Spray Irrigation System use to no more than one (1) day per week and only between the hours of 12:00 a.m. until 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. until 12:00 a.m.: Even numbered property addresses shall limit irrigation to Wednesdays odd numbered property addresses shall limit irrigation to Tuesdays.
- Eliminate the filling of all swimming pools, hot tubs, fountains, and decorative ponds (except when necessary to support aquatic life or considered Essential Water use as defined herein).
- Eliminate construction uses of water (e.g., dust control).
- Eliminate flushing and hydrant testing programs, except as necessary to maintain water quality or in other special circumstances.
- Eliminate the serving of drinking water from the District's water system in restaurants, cafeterias, and other food establishments (except upon patron request).
- Eliminate variances for landscape irrigation.
- Implement all Voluntary Water Conservation Measures set forth for a Stage 1 Water Shortage as Mandatory for the Stage 3 Water Shortage.

8e) Exceptional Water Shortage (Stage 4 Water Shortage)

This water shortage stage involves severe water use restrictions and is reserved for

situations where the public water supply is threatened and the District must act to ensure there is an adequate supply for Essential Water Use. This water shortage stage brings attention to the exceptionally serious nature of the water shortage and includes rapid notifications listed in Section 6 of this Plan. H2GO staff will prepare to implement emergency plans to respond to water outages according to the District’s Emergency Response Plan. In the event a Stage 4 Water Shortage is declared, all customers shall comply with the following mandatory water use restrictions:

**Stage 4 Mandatory Water Use Restrictions**

- Comply with all Stage 3 Water Shortage Mandatory Water Use Restrictions, unless a more stringent requirement is imposed below.
- Prohibit all Non-Essential Water Use (including the prohibition of all residential irrigation, irrigation of commercial stock, and filling of ponds to sustain aquatic life).
- Prohibit the use of water outside a structure for any use other than a fire emergency.
- Require the use of disposable utensils and plates at all restaurants, cafeterias, and other food establishments.

8f) Additional Water Use Regulation Authority

The Executive Director, acting in the best interests of the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the District, may further regulate water usage on the following bases: (i) time of day; (ii) day of week; (iii) customer type, including, without limitation, residential, commercial, industrial, and institutional uses; and (iv) physical attribute, such as address.

8g) Irrigation Schedules

A customer is only permitted to use a Spray Irrigation System on the designated irrigation day(s) assigned to them as set forth in the table below.

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Water Shortage Stage	Even Numbered Addresses	Odd Numbered Addresses
Stage 0	Wednesday, Friday, Sunday	Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday
Stage 1	Wednesday, Sunday	Tuesday, Saturday
Stage 2	Wednesday, Sunday 12am to 8am or 8pm to 12am	Tuesday, Saturday 12am to 8am or 8pm to 12am
Stage 3	Wednesday 12am to 8am or 8pm to 12am	Tuesday 12am to 8am or 8pm to 12am
Stage 4	Irrigation Prohibited	Irrigation Prohibited

## 9. Enforcement and Penalties

Compliance with the provisions of this Plan is required and authorized by the District’s “Rules and Regulations For Operation of Water System” and enforced by H2GO personnel, independent contractors engaged by H2GO for such purpose, and such other personnel as designated by the Executive Director. Enforcement measures and procedures, issuance of violations, and penalties for violation of the water restrictions put in place are further prescribed in the District’s “Rules and Regulations For Operation of Water System”. Customers are responsible for any use of water that passes through their service connection. Knowledge of the prevailing restrictions and proper functioning of an automatic Spray irrigation System is the responsibility of the property owner and resident. Any customer who violates, or permits the violation of, any mandatory water restriction set forth in this Plan is subject to civil penalties and/or termination of service. Civil penalties for such violations are set forth in the table below.

Stage	H2GO Designation	1st Violation	2nd Violation	3rd Violation	4th Violation	5th + Violation
0	Year-Round Water Conservation	Warning	Warning	\$100	\$250	\$250
1	Moderate Water Shortage	Warning	\$100	\$250	\$500*	\$1000*
2	Severe Water Shortage	Warning	\$250	\$500	\$750*	\$1,000*
3	Extreme Water Shortage	\$250	\$500	\$750	\$1000*	\$1,500*
4	Exceptional Water Shortage	\$250	\$500	\$1,000	\$1,500*	\$2,000*

\* Includes possible termination of service

Each day that a violation of a mandatory water restriction occurs or continues to occur after delivery of notice will be considered a separate and distinct violation. Violations will be accumulated by customers on a calendar year basis for purposes of accrual of civil penalties. The customer shall remain liable for payment of all civil penalties regardless of when accrued. Violations of any mandatory water use restrictions of any water shortage stage shall accumulate with violations of other stages. Should a customer move, or cease and renew service, during a calendar year, the customer's violations shall continue to accumulate as if such move or cessation had not occurred.

## 10. Appeals

A customer who receives a notice of violation indicating that the customer is subject to a civil penalty or the customer's water service is subject to termination may appeal the violation or pending termination by filing a written notice of appeal in accordance with the procedures and requirements set forth in the District's "Rules and Regulations For Operation of Water System".

## 11. Variances

H2GO is authorized to issue variances in accordance with this Plan and the District's "Rules and Regulations For Operation of Water System", permitting any customer satisfying the requirements of this Plan to use water for a purpose that would otherwise be prohibited by water use restrictions then in effect.

H2GO may issue variances during Stage 0, Stage 1 and Stage 2 provided that each of the following conditions is satisfied: (i) the customer applies for a variance using forms provided by H2GO; (ii) the application pertains to a new lawn and/or landscape installed incident to new construction, or to newly installed replacement sod, complete reseeding, or natural ground cover within the parameters of an established lawn; (iii) if pertaining to new lawn and/or landscape installed incident to new construction, the customer applies for a variance either before issuance of a certificate of occupancy or within thirty (30) days after issuance of a certificate of occupancy relative to this new construction; and (iv) the customer submits with the application such supporting documentation as required by H2GO to substantiate that these conditions have been satisfied.

Upon receipt of a variance from H2GO, the customer may be permitted to water such newly installed lawn and/or landscape, or such newly installed replacement sod, complete reseeding, or natural ground cover, for a period not to exceed ninety (90) days from the date of issuance of the variance. In any variance issued, H2GO may impose such conditions and restrictions as are appropriate to require that water used from the water system be minimized to the extent practical.

Variances issued shall terminate upon the earlier occurrence of the following: (i) ninety (90) days from the date of issuance; or (ii) declaration by the Executive Director of a Stage 3 or State 4 Water Shortage. In addition, the Executive Director may direct that H2GO cease issuance of new variances in the event it is determined that further issuance will likely result in increased demand that will equal or exceed the treatment and/or transmission capacity of the system or portions thereof.

Any customer receiving a variance who violates the terms thereof shall be subject to a civil penalty set forth in this Plan and revocation of the variance.

## **12. Maintenance of Spray Irrigation Systems**

H2GO recognizes that irrigation systems utilizing water from the District's water system should be properly maintained in order to maximize efficiency and prevent waste. Additionally, H2GO recognizes that such maintenance may occur on days and at such times as would otherwise be prohibited under this Plan. However, during the period that a Stage 2 or Stage 3 Water Shortage is in effect, an existing Spray Irrigation System may be operated on such days and at such times as would otherwise be prohibited, provided that the requirements for such irrigation system maintenance set forth in District's "Rules and Regulations For Operation of Water System" are met.

## **13. Plan Evaluation and Effectiveness**

The effectiveness of this Plan will be determined by measuring system-wide water use reductions during declared water shortage stages. In addition to water supply and usage, the frequency of implementing water shortage stages within the parameters set forth in the Plan will also be evaluated. If the frequency of implementation of water shortage stages is found to be too great, or if the duration is found to be excessive, then modifications to the Plan, or adjustments to the water supply infrastructure will be considered and proposed. The number of citations issued during a water shortage may also be used to determine if the level and severity of citations is sufficient to achieve the water usage reductions necessary.

## **14. Public Review and Revisions of Plan**

This Plan will be reviewed and revised as needed to adapt to new circumstances affecting water supply and demand, following implementation of emergency restrictions. Plan review will be conducted at a minimum of every five years in conjunction with updating the District's Local Water Supply Plan.

Adoption of this Plan, or revisions thereto, will follow the normal processes for approval at a meeting of the H2GO Board of Commissioners. The proposed Plan, or revisions thereto, will be publicized in advance on H2GO's website, as well as be publicized online as part of the meeting agenda at which adoption of this Plan, or revisions thereto, will be considered for adoption. The public will then have the opportunity to comment on revisions to the Plan through written comment submitted to H2GO or during the public comment period at the Board of Commissioners' regular monthly meeting.

The public will also have the option to review and comment on the provisions of the Plan at any time. The Plan will be available online through H2GO's website for the public to view, as well as on file in the Clerk to the Board of Commissioners' office. The public may send comments to the contact person as set forth on H2GO's website along with this Plan.