

DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN

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 Green Valley Special Utility District (GVSUD) hereby adopts the following regulations and restrictions on the delivery and consumption of water through a resolution (Formal Resolution, Appendix F).

Water uses regulated or prohibited under this Drought Contingency Plan are considered to be non-essential and continuation of such uses during times of water shortage or other emergency water supply conditions are deemed to constitute a waste of water which subjects the offender(s) to penalties as defined in Section J of this plan.

B. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Opportunity for the public to provide input into the preparation of the Drought Contingency Plan was provided by GVSUD by means of scheduling and providing public notice of a meeting to accept input on the plan.

C. PUBLIC EDUCATION

GVSUD will periodically provide the public with information about the Drought Contingency 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 the means of utility bill inserts, public notices, newsletters, and on the website (www.gvsud.org).

The single most effective means of educating the water consumer on the consequences of wasteful water usage is by informing the customer of the consequences of improper water usage and detailing the necessary means of curtailing such usage. An excellent source of educational literature is available through the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB). GVSUD works effectively with its related regulatory agencies in the distribution of beneficial water usage information.

1. Continuing programs will consist of five activities:

- a. A fact sheet explaining the Drought Contingency Plan will be developed and mailed to each customer once a year.
 - b. An article correlated with fact sheet distribution will be published in local newspapers.
 - c. New customers will be provided with "Homeowner's Guide to Water Use and Water Conservation" and specific information about drought stages.
 - d. A newspaper article will advise water customers that the Homeowner's Guide is available through GVSUD.
 - e. Conservation brochures will be mailed to district customers at least once a year, and more often during dry conditions.
2. Long-Term programs will consist of six activities each year after the first year:
- a. A brochure emphasizing new or innovative means of conserving water will be distributed to customers by mail.
 - b. A newspaper article will target one particular household, water using utility, or item and method for conserving water (dishwasher, shower, toilet, laundry).
 - c. A newspaper article correlated to conservation and seasonal outdoor water use will be published.
 - d. Distribution of Homeowner's Guide to customers will continue.
 - e. New customers will be advised of Conservation Programs and provided with a copy of Homeowner's Guide.
 - f. An information packet on water-wise landscaping will be given to home builders.

GVSUD will make resource materials available from the TWDB and other agencies or organizations that develop pertinent information or data.

D. AUTHORIZATION

The General Manager or his /her designee is hereby authorized and directed to implement the applicable provisions of this Drought Contingency 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.

E. APPLICATION

The provisions of this Drought Contingency Plan shall apply to all persons, customers, and property utilizing water provided by GVSUD. The terms "person" and "customer" as used in the plan include individuals, corporations, partnerships, associations, and all other legal entities.

F. DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this Drought Contingency 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 supply is conserved and made available for future or alternative uses.

Customer: any person, company, or organization using water supplied by GVSUD.

Domestic water use: water use for personal needs or for household or sanitary purposes such as drinking, bathing, heating, cooking, sanitation, or for 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: 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 not essential or not required for the protection of public, health, safety, and welfare, including:

- a. irrigation of landscape areas, including parks, athletic fields, and golf courses, except as 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 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;
- i. use of water from hydrants for construction purposes or any other purposes other than fire fighting or flushing.

Odd numbered address: street addresses, box numbers, or rural postal route numbers ending in 1, 3, 5, 7, or 9.

G. CRITERIA FOR INITIATION AND TERMINATION OF DROUGHT RESPONSE STAGES

GVSUD's General Manager or his/her designee shall monitor water supply and/or demand conditions on a daily basis and shall determine when

conditions warrant initiation or termination of each stage of the Drought Contingency Plan, and determine when the specified "triggers" are reached.

The triggering criteria described below are based on a statistical analysis of the vulnerability of the water source under drought of record conditions, or based on known system capacity limits.

Stage 1 Triggers - MILD Water Shortage Conditions

Requirements for Initiation of Stage 1

Customers shall be required to conserve water and adhere to the prescribed restrictions on certain water uses, as defined in this plan when:

1. The Edwards Aquifer Authority (EAA) announces the initiation of Stage 1 triggering conditions for Edwards Aquifer users.
2. The Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority (GBRA) announces the initiation of Stage 1 triggering conditions for Canyon Reservoir users.

Requirements for Termination of Stage 1

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 3 consecutive days as applicable.

Stage 2 Triggers - MODERATE Water Shortage Conditions

Requirements for Initiation of Stage 2

Customers shall be required to comply with the requirements and restrictions on certain non-essential water uses defined in this plan when:

1. Average daily water consumption reaches 100% of the contracted distribution capacity for three consecutive days.
2. Extremely hot weather conditions or water system delivery limitations exist for 5 consecutive days or more.
3. Equipment, such as non-redundant storage tanks or pumps, must be taken out of service for more than one day.
4. Part or all of the distribution system is disabled or compromised by damage from accident or weather but can be restored within 5 days.

5. Storage capacity does not return to normal levels within a 24 hour period.
6. The EAA announces the initiation of Stage 2 triggering conditions for Edwards Aquifer users.
7. The GBRA announces the initiation of Stage 2 triggering conditions for Canyon Reservoir users.

Requirements for Termination of Stage 2

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 3 consecutive days, or until the system has returned to normal operational levels following restoration of the distribution system or equipment after repairs or maintenance. Upon termination of Stage 2, Stage 1 becomes operative unless otherwise directed.

Stage 3 Triggers - SEVERE Water Shortage Conditions

Requirements for Initiation of Stage 3

Customers shall be required to comply with the requirements and restrictions on certain non-essential water uses for Stage 3 of this plan when:

1. Average daily water consumption will not allow storage levels to be maintained.
2. System demand exceeds available high service pump capacity.
3. Any two conditions listed in the moderate conditions classification occur in the same 24 hour period.
4. The EAA announces the initiation of Stage 3 triggering conditions for Edwards Aquifer users.
5. The GBRA announces the initiation of Stage 3 triggering conditions for Canyon Reservoir users.

Requirements for Termination of Stage 3

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 3 consecutive days.

Upon termination of Stage 3, Stage 2 becomes operative unless otherwise directed.

Stage 4 Triggers – EMERGENCY Water Shortage Conditions

Requirements for Initiation of Stage 4

Customers shall be required to comply with the requirements and restrictions on certain non-essential water uses for Stage 4 of this plan when:

1. Major water line breaks, or pump or system failures occur, which causes unprecedented loss of capability to provide water service.
2. Water system or source is contaminated either accidentally or intentionally. Severe emergency conditions will be declared immediately upon detection.
3. The EAA announces the initiation of Stage 4 triggering conditions for Edwards Aquifer users.
4. The GBRA announces the initiation of Stage 4 triggering conditions for Canyon Reservoir users.

Requirements for Termination of Stage 4

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 3 consecutive days, or until the system has returned to normal operational levels following restoration of the distribution system or equipment after repairs or maintenance. Upon termination of Stage 4, Stage 3 becomes operative unless otherwise directed.

H. ACTIONS REQUIRED FOR DROUGHT RESPONSE STAGES

GVSUD's General Manager, or his/her designee, shall monitor water supply and/or demand conditions on a daily basis and, in accordance with the triggering criteria set forth in Section G of this plan, shall determine that a mild, moderate, severe, or emergency condition exists and shall implement the following notification procedures:

Notification of the Public:

GVSUD's General Manager or his/her designee shall notify the public by means of the following methods as appropriate to each condition:

1. Publication in a newspaper of general circulation.
2. Direct mail to each customer, notes placed in billing envelopes.
3. Public service announcements on television or radio, or through signs posted in public places throughout the service area.
4. Notification through the use of telephone networks to neighborhood associations and other public entities.
5. Posting on the GVSUD website (www.gvsud.org).

Additional Notification:

GVSUD's General Manager or his/her designee shall notify directly, or cause to be notified directly, the following individuals and entities as required (Drought Assistance Directory for Public Officials and Drinking Water Utilities, Appendix G):

1. Members of the Board of Directors.
2. Fire Chief and/or County Emergency Management Coordinator(s).
3. State Disaster District/Department of Public Safety.
4. TCEQ (required when mandatory restrictions are imposed).
5. Major water users.
6. Critical water users (i.e., hospitals).
7. Parks / street superintendents & public facilities managers.

A chart explaining each stages trigger and response has been supplied for reference (GVSUD Drought Contingency Plan Triggers and Response Stages, Appendix H).

Stage 1 Response – MILD Water Shortage Conditions

Target: Achieve a 20% reduction in total water use.

Best Management Practices for Supply Management:

GVSUD shall:

1. Reduce or discontinue flushing of water mains.
2. Notification of customers by mail with suggestions for ways to reduce usage.
3. Field personnel to monitor and report excessive usage.
4. Initiate water use restrictions.
5. Issue warnings as necessary.

Water Use Restrictions for Reducing Demand:

1. Water customers will be required to limit the irrigation of landscaped areas and non essential water use as defined in this Drought Contingency Plan to Sundays and Thursdays for water customers with a street address ending in an even number (0, 2, 4, 6, 8), and Saturdays and Wednesdays for water customers with a street address ending in an odd number (1, 3, 5, 7, 9), and to irrigate landscapes only between the hours of 12:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. to midnight on designated watering days.
2. All operations of GVSUD shall adhere to water use restrictions prescribed for Stage 1 of this plan.
3. Water customers will be requested to practice water conservation and to minimize or discontinue water use for non-essential purposes.

Stage 2 Response - MODERATE Water Shortage Conditions

Target: Achieve a 30% reduction in total water use.

Best Management Practices for Supply Management:

GVSUD shall:

1. Reduce or discontinue flushing of water mains.
2. Reduce or discontinue irrigation of public landscaped areas; use of reclaimed water for non-potable purposes will be allowed.

3. Notification of customers by mail with suggestions for ways to reduce usage.
4. Field personnel to monitor and report excessive usage.
5. Initiate mandatory water use restrictions.
6. Issue warnings and fines as necessary.
7. Ensure all production equipment is operating at maximum capacity.
8. Activate interconnects and purchase water from neighboring utilities if available.

Water Use Restrictions for Demand Reduction:

Under threat of penalty for violation, the following water use restrictions shall apply to all persons:

1. Irrigation of landscaped areas with a hand-held hose, a faucet filled bucket, a watering can of five (5) gallons or less, a drip irrigation system, a hose-end sprinkler or an automatic irrigation system shall be between the hours of 12:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. to midnight on designated watering days as follows:

<u>Last Digit of Street Address</u>	<u>Irrigation Day</u>
0 or 1	Monday
2 or 3	Tuesday
4 or 5	Wednesday
6 or 7	Thursday
8 or 9	Friday

If there is no street address associated with the property, such as a parkway, or if there is more than one street address associated with a single contiguous property, the irrigation day is Wednesday.

2. Use of water to wash any motor vehicle, motorbike, boat, trailer, airplane or other vehicle is prohibited except on designated watering days between the hours of 12:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. to midnight. Such washing, when allowed, shall be done with a hand-held bucket or a hand-held hose equipped with a positive shutoff nozzle for quick rinses. Vehicle washing may be done at any time on the

immediate premises of a commercial car wash or commercial service station. Further, such washing may be exempted from these regulations if the health, safety, and welfare of the public are contingent upon frequent vehicle cleansing, such as garbage trucks and vehicles used to transport food and perishables.

3. Use of water to fill, refill, or add to any indoor or outdoor swimming pools, wading pools, or spas is prohibited except on designated watering days between the hours of 12:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. to midnight.
4. Operation of any ornamental fountain or pond for aesthetic or scenic purposes is prohibited except where necessary to support aquatic life or where such fountains or ponds are equipped with a recirculation system.
5. Use of water from hydrants shall be limited to fire fighting related activities necessary to maintain public health, safety and welfare, except that use of water from designated fire hydrants for construction purposes may be allowed under special approval from the GVSUD.
6. Use of potable water for irrigation of golf course greens, tees, and fairways is prohibited except on designated watering days between the hours of 12:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. to midnight. However, if the golf course utilizes a water source other than that provided by GVSUD, the facility shall not be subject to these regulations.
7. All restaurants are prohibited from serving water to patrons except upon request of the patron.
8. The following uses of water are defined as non-essential and are prohibited:
 - a. wash down of any sidewalks, walkways, driveways, parking lots, tennis courts, or other hard-surfaced areas;
 - b. use of water to wash down buildings or structures for purposes other than immediate fire protection;
 - c. use of water for dust control;
 - d. flushing gutters or permitting water to run or accumulate on any gutter or street; and

- e. failure to repair a controllable leak(s) within a reasonable period after having been given notice directing the repair of such leak(s).

Stage 3 Response - SEVERE Water Shortage Conditions

Target: Achieve a 35% reduction in daily water demand.

Best Management Practices for Supply Management:

GVSUD shall:

1. Reduce or discontinue flushing of water mains.
2. Reduce or discontinue irrigation of public landscaped areas; used of reclaimed water for non-potable purposes will be allowed.
3. Notification of customers by mail with suggestions for ways to reduce usage.
4. Field personnel to monitor and report excessive usage.
5. Initiate severe mandatory water use restrictions.
6. Issue warnings and fines as necessary.
7. Prohibit nearly all outside watering unless using recycled water.
8. Prohibit non-essential uses.
9. Ensure all production equipment is operating at maximum capacity.
10. Activate interconnects and purchase water from neighboring utilities if available.

Mandatory Water Use Restrictions

Under threat of penalty for violation, all requirements of Stage 2 shall remain in effect during Stage 3 except:

1. Irrigation of landscaped areas shall be limited to designated watering days, as defined in Stage 2, every other week beginning on the second Monday after Stage 3 has been declared. Irrigation will occur on the designated watering day between the hours of 12:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. to midnight, and shall be by means of hand-held hoses,

hand-held buckets, or drip irrigation. The use of hose-end sprinklers or permanently installed automatic sprinkler systems are prohibited at all times.

2. The filling, refilling, or adding of water to swimming pools, wading pools, and spas is prohibited.
3. The use of water for construction purposes from designated fire hydrants under special approval will be discontinued.
4. The watering of golf course tees is prohibited unless the golf course utilizes a water source other than water from GVSUD.

Stage 4 Response - EMERGENCY Water Shortage Conditions

Target: Achieve a 40% reduction in daily water demand.

Best Management Practices for Supply Management:

GVSUD shall:

1. Discontinue flushing water mains.
2. Discontinue irrigation of public landscaped areas unless area is using recycled water.
3. Activate inter-connections and purchase water from neighboring utilities if available.

Water Use Restrictions for Reducing Demand:

Under threat of penalty for violation, all requirements of Stage 2 and 3 shall remain in effect during Stage 4 except:

1. Irrigation of landscaped areas is absolutely prohibited.
2. Use of water to wash any motor vehicle, motorbike, boat, trailer, airplane, or other vehicle is absolutely prohibited.
3. No application for new, additional, expanded, or increased-in-size water service connections, meters, service lines, pipeline extensions, mains, or water service facilities of any kind shall be approved, and time limits for approval of such applications are hereby suspended for such time as this drought response stage or a higher-numbered stage shall be in effect.

Water Allocation

In the event that the triggering criteria specified in Section G of the Drought Contingency Plan for Stage 4 have been met, GVSUD adopts the following priorities in the allocation of available water resources:

1. Domestic indoor water usage only for drinking, bathing, cooking, hygiene, etc.
2. Domestic indoors water usage plus livestock and domesticated animals.
3. Domestic indoors water usage plus livestock and domesticated animals plus a reasonable amount of outdoor usage, i.e. car washing, watering house foundations, flower beds with drip or leaky pipe irrigation.
4. Domestic indoors water usage plus livestock and domesticated animals plus a reasonable amount of outdoor usage defined above plus spray irrigation of lawns and residential yards not to exceed one-third acre.
5. Domestic indoors water usage plus livestock and domesticated animals plus a reasonable amount of outdoor usage defined above plus spray irrigation of commercial properties, ball fields, parks and residential yards exceeding one-third acre.

Water rationing restrictions are automatically waived during emergencies such as fire fighting or a situation endangering human life.

I. ENFORCEMENT

For the first violation of a rationing provision a written warning shall be issued. GVSUD may install a flow restrictor in the customer's service line for the second violation. The cost of this shall be the actual cost to do the work and not exceed \$100.00.

For subsequent violations, GVSUD may terminate service for up to 7 days and charge for the service call to restore service. These provisions apply to all customers of GVSUD.

Additional Penalties for Violation of Water Conservation Practices

GVSUD adopts the following additional penalties for violations of noticed water conservation practices and water rationing restrictions:

All penalties are based upon each noticed drought or water conservation-causing event. Each time all involuntary water use restrictions are lifted, a new cycle begins and each customer/member has a violation count of zero.

For violations of Outside Watering Usages:

First Offense:	Written Notice
Second Offense:	\$10.00
Third Offense:	\$25.00
Subsequent Offenses:	\$50.00

For violations of directive to reduce percentage usage up to 20,000 gallons consumption (residential):

First Offense:	Written Notice
Second Offense:	\$10.00
Third Offense:	\$15.00
Subsequent Offenses:	\$20.00

For violations of directive to reduce percentage usage over 20,000 gallons consumption (residential):

First Offense:	Written Notice
Second Offense:	\$20.00
Third Offense:	\$50.00
Subsequent Offenses:	\$70.00

For violations of directive to reduce percentage usage (non-residential):

First Offense:	Written Notice
Second Offense:	\$20.00
Third Offense:	\$50.00
Subsequent Offenses:	\$70.00

J. VARIANCES

The General Manager may, in writing, grant temporary variance for existing water uses otherwise prohibited under this Drought Contingency 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 or if one or more of the following conditions are met:

1. 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.
2. 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 GVSUD within five days after the plan or a particular drought response stage has been invoked. The GVSUD staff will make every effort to work with customers to establish a satisfactory solution to water use problems. All petitions for variances shall be reviewed by the General Manager or his/her designee, and shall include the following:

1. Name and address of the petitioner(s).
2. Purpose of water use.
3. Specific provision(s) of the plan from which the petitioner is requesting relief.
4. Detailed statement as to how the specific provision of the Drought Contingency Plan adversely affects the petitioner or what damage or harm will occur to the petitioner or others if petitioner complies with this Ordinance.
5. Description of the relief requested.
6. Period of time for which the variance is sought.
7. 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.
8. Other pertinent information.

Variances granted by GVSUD shall be subject to the following conditions, unless waived or modified by the General Manager or his/her designee:

1. Variances granted shall include a timetable for compliance.
2. Variances granted shall expire when the Drought Contingency 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.