



BDWSC

Drought Contingency Plan for a Retail Public Water Supplier

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Bluff Dale Water Supply Corporation (BDWSC)
639 FM 2481, Box 232, Bluff Dale, Texas 76433
32736-C (CCN#)
720036 (PWS #s)
Approved on April 11, 2009
Amended September 22, 2020

Section I: 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 BDWSC hereby adopts the following regulations and restrictions on the delivery and consumption of water through an ordinance/or resolution.

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

Section II: Public Involvement

Opportunity for the public to provide input into the preparation of the Plan was provided by the BDWSC by means of a public meeting held Saturday, April 11, 2009 at the Bluff Dale Fire Department community room. It was amended on September 22, 2020.

Section III: Public Education

The BDWSC 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 BDWSC Drought Plan 9-22-2020

provided by means of a sign posted at the Bluff Dale convenience store, US Post Office, texts, or mail-outs with the monthly billing, Bluff Dale School marquee, and the Bluff Dale Village marquee.

Section IV: Coordination with Regional Water Planning Groups

The service area of the BDWSC is located within the Middle Trinity Groundwater Conservation District, Brazos G Regional Water Planning Group, and BDWSC has a copy of this Plan on file with the BDWSC Secretary.

Section V: Authorization

The BDWSC Board 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 BDWSC Board shall have the authority to initiate or terminate drought or other water supply emergency response measures as described in this Plan.

Section VI: Application

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

Section VII: 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 and schools.

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 BDWSC.

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 or business.

Landscape irrigation use: water used for the irrigation and maintenance of landscaped areas, whether publicly or privately owned, including residential and commercial lawns, gardens, 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, and athletic fields, except otherwise provided under this Plan;

(b) use of water to wash any motor vehicle, motorbike, boat, trailer, 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.

Section VIII: Criteria for Initiation and Termination of Drought Response Stages

The BDWSC Operator or his/her designee shall monitor water supply and/or demand conditions on a weekly basis and shall inform the board when conditions warrant initiation or termination of each stage of the Plan, that is, when the specified triggers are reached. Additionally, the President or his/her designee shall monitor the U.S. Drought Monitor and will notify the board when conditions warrant a declaration for stages in the drought plan.

The triggering criteria described below are based on known system capacity limits.

Stage 1 Triggers -- MILD Water Shortage Conditions

Requirements for initiation

Customers may be requested to voluntarily conserve water and adhere to the prescribed restrictions on certain water uses, defined in Section VII Definitions, when the specific capacity of the BDWSC well is equal to or less than 75% of the well's original capacity or when the U.S. Drought monitor indicates D1 Moderate drought.

Requirements for termination

Stage 1 of the Plan may be rescinded when all the conditions listed as triggering events have ceased to exist for a period of 3 consecutive weeks.

Stage 2 Triggers -- MODERATE Water Shortage Conditions

Requirements for initiation

Customers shall be required to comply with the requirements and restrictions on certain non-essential water uses provided in Section IX of this Plan when the specific capacity of the BDWSC well is equal to or less than 50% of the well's original capacity or when the U.S. Drought monitor indicates D2 Severe drought.

Requirements for termination

Stage 2 of the Plan may be rescinded when all the conditions listed as triggering events have ceased to exist for a period of 2 consecutive weeks. Upon termination of Stage 2, Stage 1 becomes operative.

Stage 3 Triggers – CRITICAL Water Shortage Conditions/Water Allocation

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 1) the specific capacity of the BDWSC well is equal to or less than 25% of the well's original capacity, 2) during major water line breaks, or 3) pump or system failures occur, which cause unprecedented loss of capability to provide water service, or 4) natural or man-made contamination of the water supply source(s), 5) when the U.S. Drought monitor indicates D3 or D4.

Customers shall be required to comply with the water allocation plan prescribed in Section IX of this Plan when Stage 3 is implemented.

Requirements for termination

Stage 3 of the Plan may be rescinded when all the conditions listed as triggering events have ceased to exist for a period of 2 consecutive weeks. Upon termination of Stage 3, Stage 2 becomes operative.

Section IX: Drought Response Stages

The BDWSC Operator, 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 this Plan, shall determine that a mild, moderate, or critical condition exists and shall implement the following notification procedures. The President shall monitor the U. S. Drought monitor for delineation of drought conditions.

Notification

Notification of the Public:

The BDWSC President or his/ her designee shall notify the public by means of one or more of the following:

- Sign(s) posted in public place
- school marquee
- Bluff Dale Village sign marquee
- Texts
- Notice on water bill/mail out

Additional Notification:

The BDWSC President or his/ her designee shall notify directly, or cause to be notified directly, the following individuals and entities:

TCEQ (required when mandatory restrictions are imposed)

Stage 1 Response -- MILD Water Shortage Conditions

Target: Achieve a voluntary 25 percent reduction in total water use.

Best Management Practices for Supply Management:

Additional measures to be implemented directly by BDWSC to manage limited water supply include reduced or discontinued flushing of water mains.

Voluntary Water Use Restrictions for Reducing Demand:

- (a) Water customers are requested to voluntarily limit the irrigation of landscaped areas to Monday, Wednesday, and Friday between the hours of midnight to 10:00am and 8:00pm to midnight. However, irrigation of landscaped areas is permitted at anytime if it is by means of a hand-held hose, a faucet filled bucket or watering can of five (5) gallons or less, or drip irrigation system.
- (b) All operations of the BDWSC shall adhere to water use restrictions prescribed for Stage 1 of the Plan.
- (c) Water customers are 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 50 percent reduction in total water use.

Best Management Practices for Supply Management:

Additional measures to be implemented directly by BDWSC to manage limited water supply include reduced or discontinued flushing of water mains.

Water Use Restrictions for Demand Reduction:

- (a) Water customers are required to voluntarily limit the irrigation of landscaped areas to Monday, Wednesday, and Friday between the hours of 12:00 midnight to 10:00am and 8:00pm to midnight. However, irrigation of landscaped areas is permitted at anytime if it is by means of a hand-held hose, a faucet filled bucket or watering can of five (5) gallons or less, or drip irrigation system.
- (b) Use of water to wash any motor vehicle, motorbike, boat, trailer, or other vehicle is prohibited except on designated watering days between the hours of 12:00 midnight to 10:00 a.m. and between 8:00 p.m. to 12:00 midnight. Such washing, when allowed, shall be done with a hand-held bucket or a hand-held hose equipped with a positive shutoff nozzle.
- (c) Use of water to fill, refill, or add to any indoor or outdoor swimming pools, wading pools, or Jacuzzi-type pools is prohibited except on designated watering days between the hours of 12:00 midnight to 10:00 a.m. and between 8 p.m. to 12:00 midnight.
- (d) 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.
- (e) Use of water from hydrants shall be limited to fire fighting, related activities, or other 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 permit from the BDWSC.
- (f) All restaurants are prohibited from serving water to patrons except upon request of the patron.
- (g) The following uses of water are defined as non-essential and are prohibited:
 - 1. wash down of any sidewalks, walkways, driveways, parking lots, tennis courts, or other hard-surfaced areas;
 - 2. use of water to wash down buildings or structures for purposes other than immediate fire protection.
 - 3. use of water for dust control;
 - 4. flushing gutters or permitting water to run or accumulate in any gutter or street; and
 - 5. 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 -- Critical Water Shortage Conditions/Water Allocation

Target: Achieve a 75 percent reduction in total water use.

Best Management Practices for Supply Management:

Additional measures to be implemented directly by BDWSC to manage limited water supply include reduced or discontinued flushing of water mains.

Water Use Restrictions for Demand Reduction:

All requirements of Stage 2 shall remain in effect during Stage 3 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.
- (c) The use of water for construction purposes from designated fire hydrants under special permit is to be discontinued.
- (d) 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 shall be in effect.

In the event that water shortage conditions threaten public health, safety, and welfare, the BDWSC Board is hereby authorized to allocate water according to the following water allocation plan:

Single-Family Residential Customers

The allocation to residential water customers residing in a single-family dwelling shall be as follows:

Persons per Household	Gallons per Month
1 or 2	1,300
3 or 4	2,500
5 or more	3,750

Household means the residential premises served by the customer's meter. Persons per household include only those persons currently physically residing at the premises and expected to reside there for the entire billing period

Residential water customers shall pay the following surcharges:

\$35 for each 500 gallons over allocation. Surcharges shall be cumulative.

Commercial Customers

The allocation to commercial water customers shall be 75% of the customer's average monthly usage. Commercial water customers shall pay the following surcharges:

\$35 for each 500 gallons over allocation. Surcharges shall be cumulative.

Section X: Enforcement

- (a) No person shall knowingly or intentionally allow the use of water from the BDWSC in an amount in excess of that permitted by the drought response stage in effect at the time pursuant to action taken by the BDWSC Board, in accordance with provisions of this Plan.
- (b) For any customer who violates this Plan the BDWSC may install a flow restricting device in the line to limit the amount of water which will pass through the meter in a 24-hour period. The BDWSC may charge the customer for installation and removal of the device, not to exceed \$50.00.
- (c) Any person who violates this Plan will have service discontinued to their premises if fines/surcharges are not paid. Services disconnected under such circumstances shall be restored only upon payment of a re-connection charge, hereby established at \$25.00, and any other costs incurred by the BDWSC in discontinuing service. In addition, suitable assurance must be given to the BDWSC that the same action shall not be repeated while the Plan is in effect.
- (d) Any person classified as a water customer of the BDWSC in apparent control of the property where a violation occurs or originates shall be presumed to be the violator.

Section XI: Variances

The BDWSC Board, 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.

Persons requesting an exemption from the provisions of this Ordinance shall file a petition for variance with the BDWSC within 5 days after the Plan or a particular drought response stage has been invoked. All petitions for variances shall be reviewed by the BDWSC Board, 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.



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Bluff Dale Water Supply Corporation Board

Dennis McNaughten	President
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Deborah Morris	Secretary/Treasurer
Gini Pettit	Board Member
LaNell McNaughten	Board Member
Richard Skinner	Board Member