

**SECTION H
DROUGHT CONTINGENCY AND EMERGENCY
WATER DEMAND MANAGEMENT PLAN
FOR THE
FORT BELKNAP WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION**

Certificate of Convenience and Necessity N. 11042

Public Water Supply No. 2520007

315 5th Street, Graham, Texas 76450

940.549.6922

fortbelknapwsc.com

Certificate of Convenience and Necessity #11042

Public Water Supply System #2520007

**Water Source: Purchase treated water from the City of Graham
(Lake Graham/Lake Eddleman)**

Serving areas in Young, Stephens, Throckmorton and Palo Pinto Counties, Texas

**March 16, 2021
(revised)**

1. Introduction

The goal of this plan is to cause a reduction in water use in response to drought or emergency conditions so that the water availability can be preserved. Since emergency conditions can occur rapidly, responses must also be enacted quickly. This plan has been prepared in advance considering conditions that will initiate and terminate the water use restriction program.

A Drought/Emergency Management Committee consisting of two Board Members and the General Manager will monitor usage patterns and public education efforts and will make recommendations to the Board of Directors on future conservation efforts, demand management procedures or any changes to this plan. The Committee will develop public awareness notices and other methods that will begin and continue as a constant type of reminder that water should be conserved at all times, not just during a drought or emergency. This Committee will also review and evaluate any needed amendments or major changes in the Fort Belknap WSC service area population, distribution system or supply. This review and evaluation will be done on a regular basis of five years unless conditions necessitate more frequent amendments.

The plan will be implemented according to the five stages of water use restrictions as imposed by the Board of Directors. Paragraph 4 describes the conditions that will trigger these stages.

2. Public Involvement

Opportunity for the public to provide input into the preparation of the Plan was provided by the Fort Belknap Water Supply Corporation by scheduling and providing public notice of a public meeting to accept input on the Plan.

Notice of the meeting was provided to all customers. In the adoption of this plan, the Board of Directors considered all comments from customers.

3. Public Education

Fort Belknap Water Supply Corporation will periodically provide the public 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 press releases to be published in both radio and newspapers in the Young, Stephens, Throckmorton, and Palo Pinto counties of Texas.

4. Coordination with Regional Water Planning Groups and City of Graham

Being located within Brazos G Planning Group, a copy of this plan has been provided to that Regional Water Planning Group.

5. Violations:

- First violation - The Member/Customer will be notified by a written notice of their specific violation and their need to comply with the Tariff rules.
- Second violation – After written notice, Fort Belknap Water Supply Corporation 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 utility may charge the customer for the actual cost of installing and removing the flow restricting device

not to exceed \$100.00. members may also be charged a fee for violating water rules not to exceed \$260.00 or 6 (six) times the monthly minimum (in accordance with the 30 Texas Administrative Code Section 291.41(j)). Any income generated from fees related to water use violations will be separately accounted for and restricted for water system improvements.

- Subsequent violations – Fort Belknap Water Supply Corporation may discontinue service at the meter for a period of 3 (three) days. The notice of termination will show the date on which water service will be terminated and the date on which service will be restored, unless the customer has failed to pay delinquent penalties or other assessments have been paid in full including a charge for the service call to restore service.

These provisions apply to all customer of Fort Belknap Water Supply corporation

6. Trigger Conditions

The Drought Emergency Management Committee is responsible for monitoring water supply and demand conditions on a monthly basis (or more frequently if conditions warrant) and shall determine when conditions warrant initiation or termination of each stage of the plan, that is, when the specific triggers are reached. The Committee will monitor monthly operating reports, water supply or storage tank levels and/or rainfall as needed to determine when trigger conditions are reached. The triggering conditions described below take into consideration: the vulnerability of the water source under drought of record conditions, the production, treatment and distribution capacities of the system, and member usage based upon historical patterns.

STAGE 1- MILD WATER SHORTAGE CONDITIONS:

Goal: Achieve a voluntary 5% reduction in total water use.

Fort Belknap Water Supply Corporation will implement Stage 1 when notified by the City of Graham of implementation of Stage 1 or when a supply or demand trigger is reached:

Supply-Based Triggers:

- The static water level at Lake Graham/Eddleman is equal to or less than 1067.8 feet above msl or 65% capacity.
- Excessive demand on the system.
- U.S. Drought Monitor indicates abnormally dry to moderate drought conditions.

Requirements for Termination:

Stage 1 may be rescinded when all of the conditions listed as triggering events have ceased to exist for a period of 30 consecutive days.

FBWSC Management Measures:

- Reduce the flushing of water mains.
- Repair all leak(s) within a reasonable time period.

Voluntary Water Use Restrictions:

1. Water customers are requested to voluntarily limit the irrigation of landscape areas to Sundays and Thursdays for customers with a mailing address ending in an even number (0, 2, 4, 6 or 8), and Saturdays and Wednesdays for water customers with a mailing 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.
2. Water customers are required to practice water conservation and to minimize or discontinue water use for non-essential purposes.

STAGE 2 – MODERATE WATER SHORTAGE CONDITIONS:

Goal: Achieve a 10% reduction in total water use.

Fort Belknap Water Supply Corporation will implement Stage 2 when notified by the City of Graham of implementation of Stage 2 or when supply or demand trigger is reached.

Supply – Based Triggers:

- The static water level at Lake Graham/Eddleman is equal to or less than 1,065.3 feet above msl or 55% capacity.
- Inability to maintain 70% storage capacity overnight due to high demand.
- Demand exceeds 85% treatment capacity for 3 consecutive days.
- Demand exceeds 90% capacity for 1 day.
- U.S. Drought Monitor indicates severe, extreme, or exceptional drought conditions.

Requirements for Termination

Stage 2 of the plan may be rescinded when all of the conditions listed above as triggering events have ceased to exist for a period of 30 consecutive days. Upon termination of Stage 2, Stage 1 becomes operative.

FBWSC Management Measures:

- The Supply Management measures prescribed in Stage 1.
- Notify TCEQ Water Supply Division of current mandatory drought stage.
- Visually inspect lines and repair on a daily basis.

- Monthly review of customer use records and follow-up on any that are unusually high.
- Reduce flushing of water mains by.

Voluntary Water Use Restrictions: Under threat of penalty for violation, the following water use restrictions apply to all persons:

1. Irrigation of landscape areas with hose end sprinklers or automatic irrigation systems shall be limited to Sundays and Thursdays for customers with a mailing address ending in an even number (0, 2, 4, 6 or 8), and Saturdays and Wednesdays for water customers with a mailing address ending in an odd number (1, 3, 5, 7 or 9), and irrigation of landscaped areas is further limited to the hours of 12:00 midnight until 10:00 a.m. and between 8:00 p.m. and 12:00 midnight on designated watering days. 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.
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 midnight and 10:00 a.m. and between 8:00 p.m. and 12:00 midnight. Such washing, when allowed shall be done with a hand held bucket or a hand held hose equipped with a positive shut off nozzle for quick rinses. Vehicle washing may be done at any time on the immediate premises of 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 is contingent upon frequent vehicle cleansing, such as garbage truck and vehicles used to transport food perishables.
3. 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 and 10:00 a.m. and between 8:00 p.m. and 12:00 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, or other activities necessary to maintain public health, safety and welfare, except use of water from designated fire hydrants for construction purposes may be allowed under a special permit from Fort Belknap Water Supply Corporation.
6. Use of water for the irrigation of golf course greens, tees, and fairways is prohibited except on designated watering days between the hours of 12:00 midnight and 10:00 a.m. and between 8:00 p.m. and 12:00 midnight. However, if the golf course utilizes a water source other than that provided by Fort Belknap Water Supply Corporation, the facility shall not be subject to these regulations.
7. All restaurants are prohibited from serving water to patrons except when requested.
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 in any gutter or street; and
- e) Failure to repair controllable leak(s) within a reasonable time.

STAGE 3 – SEVERE WATER SHORTAGE CONDITIONS

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

Fort Belknap Water Supply Corporation will implement Stage 3 when notified by the City of Graham of implementation of Stage 3 or when a supply or demand trigger is Reached.

Supply-Based Triggers:

- The static water level at Lake Graham/Eddleman is equal to or less than 1,062.5 feet above msl or 45% capacity.
- Inability to maintain 50% storage capacity over-night due to high demand.
- Demand exceeds 90% treatment capacity for 3 consecutive days
- Demand exceeds 95% capacity for 1 day.
- U.S. Drought Monitor indicated exceptional drought conditions.

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 thirty (30) consecutive days. Upon termination of Stage 3, Stage 2 becomes operative.

FBWSC Management Measures:

- The Supply Management measure prescribed in Stage 2.
- Discontinue irrigation of public landscaped areas.
- Notify TCEQ Water Supply Division of current mandatory drought stage.
- FBWSC will discontinue flushing of water mains.

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

- 1) Odd addresses – Wednesdays, 12:00 midnight to 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. to 12:00 midnight
- 2) Even addresses – Thursdays, 12:00 midnight to 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. to 12:00 midnight

- 3) Shall be conducted by hand-held hoses, hand-held buckets, drip irrigation, or permanently installed automatic sprinkler systems. Use of hose-end sprinklers is prohibited at all times.
- 4) The watering of golf course tees is prohibited unless the golf course utilizes a water source other than that provided by Fort Belknap Water Supply Corporation.
- 5) The use of water for construction purposes from designated fire hydrants under special permit is discontinued.

STAGE 4 – CRITICAL WATER SHORTAGE CONDITIONS:

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

Fort Belknap Water Supply Corporation will implement Stage 4 when notified by the City of Graham of implementation of Stage 4 or when a supply or demand trigger is reached.

Supply-Based Triggers:

- The static water level at Lake Graham/Eddleman is equal to or less than 1,059.4 feet above msl or 35% capacity.
- Inability to maintain 35% storage capacity over-night due to high demand
- Demand exceeds 95% treatment capacity for 3 consecutive days.
- Demand exceeds 100% treatment capacity for 1 day.
- U.S. Drought Monitor indicates exceptional drought conditions.
- Major limitations of water system components.

Requirements for Termination:

Stage 4 of the plan may be rescinded when all of the conditions listed as trigger events have ceased to exist for 30 consecutive days. Upon termination of Stage 4, Stage 3 becomes operative.

FBWSC Management Measures:

- The Supply Management measure prescribed in Stage 3.
- Discontinue all flushing of water mains.
- Notify TCEQ Water Supply Division of current mandatory drought stage.

Water Use Restrictions. All requirements of stage 2 and 3 shall main in effect during Stage 4 except:

- 1) All out-door, non-essential, and discretionary uses of water are prohibited except with a hand-held hose, water can or bucket on designated watering days:
 - a. Odd addresses – Wednesday between 7:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.
 - b. Even addresses – Thursdays between 7:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

- 2) Use of water to wash any motor vehicle, motorbike, boat, trailer, airplane or other vehicle no occurring on the premises of a commercial car wash and commercial service stations and not in the immediate interest of public health, safety, and welfare.
- 3) Filling refilling, or adding of water to swimming pools, wading pools, and Jacuzzi type pools is prohibited.
- 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) No applications 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 allowed or approved.

STAGE 5 EMERGENCY WATER SHORTAGE CONDITIONS:

Goal: Achieve a 40% reduction total water use.

Fort Belknap Water Supply Corporation will implement Stage 5 when notified By the City of Graham of implementation of Stage 5 or when a supply or Demand trigger is reached.

Supply-Based Triggers:

- Static water level at Lake Graham/Eddleman is equal to or less than 1,058.0 feet above msl.
- Water production or distribution system limitations.
- Supply source contamination.
- System outage due to failure or damage of major water system components.
 - Major waterline breaks, or pump or system failures occur, which cause unprecedented loss of capability to provide water service; or
 - Natural or man-made contamination of water supply source(s).

Requirements of Termination:

Stage 5 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 5, Stage 4 becomes operative.

FBWSC Management Measures:

- Supply Management measure prescribed in Stage 4.
- Will enact the following measures and/or as allocated by the City of Graham in accordance with Texas Water Code Chapter 11.039.
- In the event of contamination, appropriate emergency procedures will be implemented and appropriate emergency response officials will be notified immediately.
- Notify TCEQ Water Supply Division of current mandatory drought stage.

7. Initiation and Termination Procedures

Once a trigger condition occurs:

The Corporation, or its designated responsible representative, shall, based on recommendation from the Chairperson of the Drought/Emergency Management Committee, decide if the appropriate stage of water use restrictions shall be initiated. The initiation may be delayed if there is a reasonable possibility the water system performance will not be compromised by the condition. If water allocation is to be instituted, written notice to the customers shall be given.

Written notice of the proposed water use restrictions measure shall be mailed or delivered to each affected customer upon the initiation of each stage. Notice may be sent by email only if the customer chooses the option to receive email notices instead of mailed notices and provides email address. In addition, upon adoption of Stage 2 or Stage 3, a notice will be placed in a local newspaper or announced on a local radio or television station.

The customer notice shall contain the following information:

- The date water restriction shall begin,
- The expected duration,
- The stage (level) of water allocations to be employed,
- Penalty for violations of the water allocation program, and
- Affected area or areas.

If the water allocation program extends 30 days then the Chairperson of the Drought/Emergency Management Committee or General Manager shall present the reasons for the allocations at the next scheduled board meeting and shall request the concurrence of the Board to extend the allocation period.

When the trigger condition no longer exists then the responsible official may terminate the water allocations provided that such an action is based on sound judgment. Written notice of the end of allocations shall be given to customers. A water allocation period may not exceed 60 days without extension by action of the Board.

- a. penalties or other assessments have been paid in full including a charge for the service call to restore service.

These provisions apply to all customers of Fort Belknap Water Supply Corporation

8. Exemptions or Waivers

The Drought/Emergency Management Committee 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 or sanitation for the public or the person requesting such variance and if one or more of the following conditions are met:

- 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.
- 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 Plan shall file a petition for variance with the Drought/Emergency Management Committee within five (5) days after the Plan or a particular drought response stage has been invoked or after a condition justifying the variance first occurs. All petitions for variances shall be reviewed by the Committee and shall include the following:

- Name and address of the petitioner(s).
- Purpose of water use.
- Specific provision(s) of the Plan from which the petitioner is requesting relief.
- 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 Plan.
- Description of the relief requested.
- Period of time for which the variance is sought.
- 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.
- Other pertinent information, as requested by the Committee.

Variances granted by the Committee shall be subject to the following conditions, unless specifically waived or modified by the Committee or Board of Directors:

- Variances granted shall include a time table for compliance.
- Variances granted shall expire when the water allocation is no longer in effect, unless the petitioner has failed to meet specified requirements. No variance allowed for a condition requiring water allocation will continue beyond the termination of water allocation under Section F. Any variance for a subsequent water allocation must be petitioned again. The fact that a variance has been granted in response to a petition will have no relevance to the Committee's decision on any subsequent petition.

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

9. Implementation

The Board of Directors establishes a Drought/Emergency Management Committee by Resolution, the chairperson of which will be the responsible representative to make Drought and Emergency Water Management actions. This Committee will review the procedures in this Plan annually or more frequently. Modifications may be required to accommodate system growth, changes in water use demand, available water supply and/or other circumstances.

This Plan was adopted by the Board of Directors at a properly noticed meeting held on March 16, 2021.

Charles Birdwell
President, Board of Directors