



Benbrook Water Authority  
Drought Contingency  
and  
Emergency Water Management Plan

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## Table of Contents

I.	Introduction and Objectives .....	1
II.	Jurisdiction .....	1
III.	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Rules .....	1
IV.	Benbrook Water Authority System Information .....	1
	A. General .....	1
	B. Tarrant Regional Water District (TRWD) Role in Supplying Water to BWA .....	2
	C. Distribution System Sectors .....	2
V.	Benbrook Water Authority Water Restriction Implementation .....	2
	A. Water Authority Actions for All Stages .....	2
VI.	Initiation and Termination of Drought Response Stages .....	3
	A. Initiation of a Drought Response Stage .....	3
	B. Termination of a Drought Stage .....	3
	C. Drought and Emergency Response Stages and Measures .....	4
	1. Stage 1, Water Watch .....	4
	2. Stage 2, Water Warning .....	8
	3. Stage 3, Water Emergency .....	12
	D. Procedure for Curtailment of Water Supplies .....	15
	E. Procedure for Granting Variances to the Plan .....	15
	F. Revocation of Variances .....	16
	G. Procedure for Enforcing Mandatory Water Restrictions .....	16
	H. Coordination with the Regional Water Planning Groups .....	17
VII.	Plan Review and Update .....	17
VIII.	Public Information and Input .....	17

## I. Introduction and Objectives

The Benbrook Water Authority (“BWA” or “Authority”) Drought Contingency Plan outlines actions the authority will take to insure adequate water is available for the safety and health of all Benbrook consumers caused by water supply limitations. Potential supply limitations include a limited water supply, possible contamination, delivery system limitations and required system repairs.

Plan objectives:

- To conserve the available water supply in times of drought and emergency
- To maintain supplies for domestic water use, sanitation, and fire protection
- To protect and preserve public health, welfare, and safety
- To minimize the adverse impacts of water supply conditions and shortages

## II. Jurisdiction

This plan applies to all metered Benbrook BWA customers.

## III. Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Rules

Texas Administrative Code Title 30, Part 1 Chapter 288, Subchapter A, Rule 288.1 (4) defines a drought contingency plan as "a strategy or combination of strategies for temporary supply and demand management responses to temporary and potentially recurring water supply shortages and other water supply emergencies." Chapter 288, Subchapter B, Rule 288.20 and Rule 288.22 prescribe the rules governing the minimum requirements for drought contingency plans.

This drought contingency plan is consistent with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) guidelines and requirements for the development of drought contingency plans by retail water suppliers, contained in Title 30, Part 1, Chapter 288, Subchapter B, Rule 288.20 of the Texas Administrative Code. This rule is included in Appendix A.

## IV. Benbrook Water Authority System Information

### A. General

The Authority's main source of water is Benbrook Lake managed by the Tarrant Regional Water District (TRWD). The Authority currently has access to 16,457 acre-feet of this reservoir. Lake water is treated at the BWA Water Treatment Plant with treatment capacity of 12 million gallons per day (MGD). In addition, the Authority has 12 active water wells that produce approximately 1 MGD.

As of 2018, the Authority serves a population of 22,760 people and has 11,689 connections.

The Authority maintains approximately 115 miles of distribution pipelines.

The average water production in 2018 was 3.54 MGD with a maximum production day of 7.845 MGD on July 21, 2018.

## **B. Tarrant Regional Water District (TRWD) Role in Supplying Water to BWA**

Tarrant Regional Water District serves a major role in supplying water to customers in Tarrant County, Texas and elsewhere. The District owns and operates four major water supply reservoirs. These are Lakes Bridgeport and Eagle Mountain on the West Fork of the Trinity River and Cedar Creek Lake and Richland-Chambers Reservoir in east Texas. The District also plays a major role in operating Lake Benbrook. Through a system of pipelines, rivers, and lakes it is possible for the District to deliver water to customers in a multi-county service area.

## **C. Distribution System Sectors**

The BWA distribution system includes 5 pressure planes supplied by the water treatment plant and wells. These pressure planes and their sub-systems can be isolated to control supply, water loss or cross-contamination. This allows BWA to continue service to customers while addressing temporary localized problems in the system. Water restrictions may be implemented for affected parts of the system to insure adequate supply is maintained for the entire system. If more than 2 pressure plane sectors are affected, restrictions will normally be implemented for the entire system.

## **V. Benbrook Water Authority Water Restriction Implementation**

**The BWA General Manager** will implement water restriction stages consistent with the guidelines in this plan and consultation with the Board of Directors. Stage restrictions may be requested by the TRWD <http://www.trwd.com/> in the case of reservoir depletion. Mitigation of the trigger conditions that required the restrictions will dictate termination or reduction of restriction stages. Required state agencies will be notified when restrictions are implemented or changed.

**Public awareness and customer notification** of water restriction stages will be by local news media, the BWA Website <http://www.benbrookwater.com> water bill messages, and local signs; augmented by door to door contact for localized emergencies. Benbrook is synchronized with TRWD regional public awareness and drought restriction actions. BWA takes advantage of TRWD regional news releases and larger area city media coverage to inform Benbrook residents.

### **A. Water Authority Actions for All Stages**

- Notify State and Regional Authorities
- Announce Stage Restriction via local news and other media Revue and coordinate public awareness campaign

- Review commercial hydrant user consumption Monitor compliance and public awareness Identify violators and take necessary action
- Monitor compliance and public awareness
- Identify violators and take necessary action

## **VI. Initiation and Termination of Drought Response Stages**

### **A. Initiation of a Drought Response Stage**

The TRWD General Manager may order the implementation of a drought response stage or water emergency when one or more water supply trigger conditions is met. The following actions will be taken when a drought stage is initiated:

- The designated representative(s) of primary wholesale customers will be notified by email, mail, telephone, or fax that provides details of the reasons for initiation of the drought stage.
- The public will be notified through local media following the notification of primary wholesale customers.
- If any mandatory provisions of the drought contingency plan are activated, TRWD will notify TCEQ within five business days.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the TRWD General Manager may decide, under special circumstances, not to order the implementation of a drought response stage or water emergency even though one or more of the trigger criteria for the stage are met. Factors which could influence such a decision include, but are not limited to, the time of year, weather conditions, the anticipation of replenished water supplies, or the anticipation that additional facilities will become available to meet needs.

### **B. Termination of a Drought Stage**

The TRWD General Manager will order the termination of a drought response stage or water emergency when the conditions for termination are met. The following actions will be taken when a drought stage is terminated:

The designated representative(s) of primary wholesale customers will be notified by email, mail, telephone, or fax that provides details of the reasons for termination of the drought stage.

The public will be notified through local media following the notification of primary wholesale customers.

When mandatory provisions of the drought contingency plan that have been activated are terminated, TRWD will notify the Executive Director of the TCEQ within five business days.

The TRWD General Manager may decide, under special circumstances, not to order the termination of a drought response stage or water emergency even though conditions for termination of the stage are met. Factors which could influence such a decision include, but are not limited to, the time of year, weather conditions, or the anticipation of potential changes in conditions that warrant the continuation of the drought stage.

## C. Drought and Emergency Response Stages and Measures

### 1. Stage 1, Water Watch

#### Triggering and Terminating Conditions

Initiated by BWA:

- BWA water demand exceeds 90% of reliable delivery capacity for three consecutive days. The delivery capacity could be citywide or in a specified portion of the system.
- BWA water treatment or distribution system becomes contaminated.
- BWA water demand for all or part of the delivery system approaches delivery capacity because delivery capacity is inadequate.
- BWA water supply system is unable to deliver water due to the failure or damage of major water system components, or due to other criteria, such as energy shortages or outages.

Initiated by TRWD:

- Total combined raw water supply in TRWD western and eastern division reservoirs drops below 75% (25% depleted) of conservation storage capacity.
- Water demand for all or part of the delivery system approaches delivery capacity because delivery capacity is inadequate.
- Water demand is projected to approach the limit of permitted supply.
- Supply source becomes contaminated.
- Water supply system is unable to deliver water due to the failure or damage of major water system components.
- The General Manager finds that conditions warrant the declaration of a Stage 1 drought.

Subject to Paragraph VI.B [Termination of a Drought Stage](#), Stage 1, Water Watch will be terminated when the total combined raw water supply in TRWD's western and eastern division reservoirs exceeds 95% of conservation storage or remains above 85% for 90 consecutive days, whichever occurs first.

### Goal for Use Reduction

The goal for water use reduction under Stage 1, Water Watch, is to decrease use by five percent. If circumstances warrant, the General Manager can set a goal for greater water use reduction.

### Water Use Reduction Actions under Stage 1, Water Watch

The TRWD General Manager may order the implementation of any of the actions listed below, as deemed necessary. Measures imposing mandatory requirements on customers require notification to TCEQ. TRWD must notify TCEQ within five business days if any mandatory measures are implemented.

- Require customers (including indirect customers) to initiate Stage 1 in their drought contingency plans. Indirect customers include any successive wholesale customers of TRWD's primary wholesale customers to the extent provided for in water sales contracts.

### Stage 1, Water Watch Restrictions Applicable to All Water Users

Maximum of twice per week watering for hose-end sprinklers and automatic irrigation systems based on odd/even addresses and day of week schedule.

<b>Stage 1, Water Watch Outdoor Watering Schedule</b>	
<b>Monday</b>	No Outdoor Watering
<b>Tuesday and Friday</b>	Nonresidential properties and apartments
<b>Wednesday and Saturday</b>	Even number residential addresses ending in (2, 4, 6, 8, 0)
<b>Thursday and Sunday</b>	Odd number residential addresses ending in (1, 3, 5, 7, 9)

#### Exceptions:

- Watering with a handheld hose, soaker hose or drip irrigation may occur any day and any time.
- Watering of trees and structural foundations may occur any day and any time by means of handheld hose, soaker hose, or drip irrigation.
- The use of water necessary to protect the health, safety, or welfare of the public.
- Water use necessary for the repair of an irrigation system, plumbing line, fountain, etc. in the presence of person making repair.
- Variances may be available if requested and approved by BWA for the following:
  - Establishing new turfgrass and/or landscaping. Variances granted for establishing new turfgrass or landscaping will be for a maximum of 30 days from

the date of approval then maximum of twice per week watering schedule applies. Variances do not apply to the installation of cool season grasses (overseeding).

- Outdoor watering at service addresses with large multi-station irrigation systems may take place in accordance with a variance granted by BWA, if BWA determines that a property cannot be completely irrigated with an average of three-quarters of an inch of water in a single day, and that the property should be divided into sections to be irrigated on different days. If approved, no station will be watered more than twice per week.
- Areas that are open to the public and have a high-impact from frequent use may be allowed additional watering if it is deemed to be beneficial to serve and protect the community facility or amenity. Examples may include but are not limited to: outdoor amphitheaters, demonstration gardens, public art exhibits, outdoor learning areas, arboretums, etc.

Restrictions do not apply to well water, reclaimed water, or other alternative water sources.

No watering with hose-end sprinklers and/or automatic spray irrigation systems between the hours of 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Water waste is prohibited - which includes the following:

- failure to repair a controllable leak, including, broken sprinkler heads, leaking valves, leaking or broken pipes or faucets;
- knowingly operating an irrigation system with: (a) a broken head; (b) a head that is out of adjustment and spraying into the street, parking area, or sidewalk; or (c) a system that is misting/fogging due to excessive water pressure; or
- allowing any water to: (a) run off property forming a stream of water for a distance of 50 feet or greater; (b) run into a storm drain; or (c) pond to a depth of ¼ inch or greater; or
- allowing or causing an irrigation system or other lawn watering device to operate during any form of precipitation or when temperatures are at or below 32 degrees Fahrenheit.

Hosing of paved areas is discouraged.

Hosing of buildings or other structures for purposes other than fire protection or surface preparation prior to painting or maintenance is discouraged.

Washing of any motor vehicle, motorbike, boat, trailer, airplane, or other vehicle shall be limited to the use of a hand-held bucket or a hand-held hose equipped with a positive-pressure shutoff nozzle for quick rinses. Vehicle washing may be done at any time on the

premises of a commercial car wash or commercial service station. Companies with automated on-site vehicle washing facilities may wash its vehicles at any time.

Filling, draining, or refilling of swimming pools, wading pools, hot tubs and Jacuzzi type pools except to maintain adequate water levels for structural integrity, proper operation and maintenance, and/or to alleviate an issue that poses a public safety risk is discouraged.

#### **Stage 1 Efforts by BWA and/or City of Benbrook**

- Review conditions and problems that caused Stage 1. Take corrective action.
- Increase public education efforts on ways to reduce water use.
- Increase enforcement efforts.
- Intensify leak detection and repair efforts.
- Audit all city and local government irrigation systems to ensure proper condition, settings, and operation.
- Identify and encourage voluntary reduction measures by high-volume water users through water use audits.
- Landscape watering of municipal parks, golf courses and athletic fields is restricted to a twice per week watering schedule; or twice per week per irrigation station if a variance is granted by the BWA General Manager. (See exceptions to outdoor watering restrictions in all water users category above for facilities with large multi-station irrigation systems.)

#### **Exceptions:**

- Golf courses may water greens and tee boxes as necessary, however, use of spray irrigation may not be done between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Encouraged to reduce water use by five percent.
- Watering of athletic fields (field only, does not include surrounding landscaped areas) used for organized sports practice, competition, or exhibition events may occur as necessary to protect the health and safety of the players, staff, or officials present for athletic events. Encouraged to reduce water use by five percent.
- Reduce non-essential water use. As used herein, non-essential water uses are those that do not have a health or safety impact and are not needed to meet the core function of the agency.
- Notify wholesale customers of actions being taken and request them to implement the same drought stage and measures.

#### **Stage 1, Water Watch Restrictions Applicable to Commercial or Industrial**

- All actions listed above for all water users apply to commercial and industrial users.

- Landscape watering of parks, golf courses and athletic fields is restricted to the twice per week watering schedule; or twice per week per irrigation station if a variance is granted by the water provider. (See exceptions to outdoor watering restrictions in all water users category above for facilities with large multi-station irrigation systems.)

Exceptions:

- Golf courses may water greens and tee boxes as necessary, however, use of spray irrigation may not be done between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Encouraged to reduce water use by five percent.
- Watering of athletic fields (field only, does not include surrounding landscaped areas) used for organized sports practice, competition, or exhibition events may occur as necessary to protect the health and safety of the players, staff, or officials present for athletic events. Encouraged to reduce water use by 5 five percent.
- Stock at commercial plant nurseries is exempt from Stage 1 watering restrictions.
- Hotels, restaurants, and bars are encouraged to serve drinking water to patrons per request only.
- Hotels are encouraged to implement laundry conservation measures by encouraging patrons to reuse linens and towels.
- Car wash facilities must keep equipment in good working order, which should include regular inspections to be sure there are no leaks, broken or misdirected nozzles, and that all equipment is operating efficiently.
- All commercial and industrial customers are encouraged to audit irrigation systems to ensure proper condition, settings, and operation. If irrigation audit or repair occurs during restricted watering times or days, a sign indicating such work is taking place must be placed in public view until job is completed.

## 2. Stage 2, Water Warning

### Triggering and Terminating Conditions

Initiated by BWA:

- BWA water demand exceeds 95% of reliable delivery capacity for two consecutive days. The delivery capacity could be citywide or in a specified portion of the system.
- BWA demand for all or part of the delivery system equals or exceeds delivery capacity because delivery capacity is inadequate.
- BWA water treatment or distribution system becomes contaminated.
- BWA water supply system is unable to deliver water due to the failure or damage of major water system components, or due to other criteria, such as energy shortages or outages.

Initiated by TRWD:

- Total raw water supply in TRWD western and eastern division reservoirs drops below 60% (40% depleted) of conservation storage capacity.
- Water demand for all or part of the delivery system approaches delivery capacity because delivery capacity is inadequate.
- Water demand is projected to approach the limit of permitted supply.
- Supply source becomes contaminated.
- Water supply system is unable to deliver water due to the failure or damage of major water system components.
- The General Manager finds that conditions warrant the declaration of a Stage 2 drought.

Subject to Paragraph VI.B [Termination of a Drought Stage](#), Stage 2, Water Warning will be terminated when the total combined raw water supply in TRWD's western and eastern division reservoirs exceeds 75% of conservation storage or remains at or above 70% for 30 consecutive days, whichever occurs first.

#### **Goal for Use Reduction**

The goal for water use reduction under Stage 2, Water Warning, is to decrease use by ten percent. If circumstances warrant, the General Manager for TRWD or BWA can set a goal for greater water use reduction.

#### **Water Use Reduction Actions under Stage 2, Water Warning**

The General Manager may order the implementation of any of the actions listed below, as deemed necessary. Measures imposing mandatory requirements on customers require notification to TCEQ. TRWD must notify TCEQ within five business days if any mandatory measures are implemented.

- Continue actions under Stage 1.
- Require customers (including indirect customers) to initiate Stage 2 in their drought contingency plans. Indirect customers include any wholesale customer of TRWD's primary wholesale customers to the extent provided for in water sales contracts.
- Initiate engineering studies to evaluate water supply alternatives should conditions worsen.

#### **Stage 2, Water Warning Restrictions Applicable to All Water Users**

- Maximum of once per week watering for hose-end sprinklers and automatic irrigation systems based on odd/even addresses and day of week schedule.
- Once per week watering schedule will be determined at such time as necessary by TRWD and its primary water customers. Due to the variation in water storage and

delivery systems of TRWD customers, specific watering days per address may vary across TRWD's service area.

Exceptions:

- Watering with a handheld hose, soaker hose or drip irrigation may occur any day and any time.
- Watering of trees and structural foundations may occur any day and any time by means of handheld hose, soaker hose, or drip irrigation.
- Variances may be available through BWA for the following:
  - All users are encouraged to wait until the current drought or emergency situation has passed before establishing new landscaping. Variances granted for establishing new turfgrass or landscaping will be for a maximum of 30 days from the date of approval then maximum of once-per-week watering schedule applies.
  - Variances do not apply to the installation of cool season grasses (overseeding).
  - Outdoor watering at service addresses with large multi-station irrigation systems may take place in accordance with a variance granted by the BWA General Manager, if the General Manager determines that a property cannot be completely irrigated with an average of three-quarters of an inch of water in a single day, and that the property should be divided into sections to be irrigated on different days. If approved, no station will be watered more than once per week.
  - Areas that are open to the public and have a high-impact from frequent use may be allowed additional watering if it is deemed to be beneficial to serve and protect the community facility or amenity. Examples may include but are not limited to: outdoor amphitheaters, demonstration gardens, public art exhibits, outdoor learning areas, arboretums, etc.
  - Restrictions do not apply to well water, reclaimed water, or other alternative water sources.
- Encourage the use of covers for all types of pools, hot tubs, and Jacuzzi type pools when not in use.

**Stage 2 Efforts by BWA and/or City of Benbrook**

In addition to the actions listed above:

- Continue or initiate any actions available under Stage 1.
- Review conditions or problems that caused Stage 2. Take corrective action.
- Increase frequency of media releases on water supply conditions.
- Further accelerate public education efforts on ways to reduce water use.

- Landscape watering of municipal parks, golf courses and athletic fields is restricted to a once-per-week schedule; or once-per-week per irrigation station if a variance is granted by the water provider. (See Stage 1 exceptions to outdoor watering restrictions in all water users category for facilities with large multi-station irrigation systems.)

Exceptions:

- Golf courses may water greens and tee boxes as necessary, however, use of spray irrigation may not be done between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Encouraged to reduce water use by ten percent.
- Watering of athletic fields (field only, does not include surrounding landscaped areas) used for organized sports practice, competition, or exhibition events may occur as necessary to protect the health and safety of the players, staff, or officials present for athletic events. Efforts should be made to encourage the reduction of water use by ten percent.
- Eliminate non-essential water use. As used herein, non-essential water uses are those that do not have any health or safety impact and are not needed to meet the core function of the agency.
- Notify wholesale customers of actions being taken and request them to implement the same drought stage and measures.

**Stage 2 Restrictions Applicable to Commercial or Industrial**

- All actions listed above for all water users apply to commercial and industrial users.
- Landscape watering of municipal parks, golf courses and athletic fields is restricted to a once-per-week schedule; or once-per-week per irrigation station if a variance is granted by the water provider. (See Stage 1 exceptions to outdoor watering restrictions in all water users category for rules that apply to facilities with large multi-station irrigation systems.)

Exceptions:

- Golf courses may water greens and tee boxes as necessary, however, use of spray irrigation may not be done between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Encouraged to reduce water use by ten percent.
- Watering of athletic fields (field only, does not include surrounding landscaped areas) used for organized sports practice, competition, or exhibition events may occur as necessary to protect the health and safety of the players, staff, or officials present for athletic events. Encouraged to reduce water use by ten percent.
- Use of water from hydrants for any purpose other than firefighting related activities, or other activities necessary to maintain public health, safety and welfare, requires a variance issued by the BWA General manager. Fire hydrant use may be limited to only designated hydrants. Upon declaration of this drought stage, all holders of a Water Fire

Hydrant Meter Agreement are required to apply for a variance as set forth in this plan. If conditions allow, as determined by the BWA General Manager, the use of water from hydrants may continue until the BWA General Manager his/her designee issues a determination on the petition for variance. If conditions do not allow, the BWA General Manager may require all fire hydrant meters to be immediately returned from the field, pending determination of each petition for variance.

### **3. Stage 3, Water Emergency**

#### **Triggering and Terminating Conditions**

Initiated by BWA:

- The BWA water demand exceeds 98% of reliable delivery capacity for one day. The delivery capacity could be citywide or in a specified portion of the system.
- The BWA demand for all or part of the delivery system exceeds delivery capacity because delivery capacity is inadequate.
- The BWA water treatment or distribution system becomes contaminated.
- The BWA water supply system is unable to deliver water due to the failure or damage of major water system components, or due to other criteria, such as energy shortages or outages.

Initiated by TRWD:

- Total raw water supply in TRWD western and eastern division reservoirs drops below 45% (55% depleted) of conservation storage capacity.
- Water demand exceeds the amount that can be delivered to customers.
- Water demand for all or part of the TRWD delivery system approaches delivery capacity because delivery capacity is inadequate.
- One or more of TRWD's water supply sources has become limited in availability.
- Water demand is projected to approach the limit of permitted supply.
- Supply source becomes contaminated.
- Water supply system is unable to deliver water due to the failure or damage of major water system components.
- The TRWD General Manager finds that conditions warrant the declaration of a Stage 3 drought.

Subject to Paragraph VI.B [Termination of a Drought Stage](#), Stage 3, Water Emergency, will be terminated when the total combined raw water supply in TRWD's western and eastern division reservoirs exceeds 60% of conservation storage or remains at or above 55% for 30 consecutive days, whichever occurs first.

### Goal for Use Reduction

The goal for water use reduction under Stage 3, Water Emergency, is to decrease use by twenty percent. If circumstances warrant, the General Manager can set a goal for greater water use reduction.

### Water Use Reduction Actions under Stage 3, Water Emergency

The General Manager can order the implementation of any of the actions listed below, as deemed necessary. Measures imposing mandatory requirements on customers require notification to TCEQ. TRWD must notify TCEQ within five business days if these measures are implemented.

- Continue actions available under Stages 1 and 2.
- Require customers (including indirect customers) to initiate Stage 3 in their drought contingency plans. Indirect customers include any wholesale customer of TRWD's primary wholesale customers to the extent provided for in water sales contracts.

### Stage 3 Restrictions Applicable to All Water Users

- Prohibit all outdoor watering with hose-end sprinklers and automatic irrigation systems.  
Exceptions:
  - Watering with hand-held hose, soaker hose or drip irrigation system may occur any day and any time.
  - Watering of trees and structural foundations may occur any day and any time by means of handheld hose, soaker hose, or drip irrigation.
  - Restrictions do not apply to well water, reclaimed water, or other alternative water sources.
- Irrigation of new landscapes and/or turfgrass installations is prohibited by means of automatic irrigation system or hose-end sprinkler. Variances may be granted for those landscape projects started prior to the initiation of stage 3 drought restrictions. However, variances will not be granted for the irrigation of new landscape and/or turfgrass installations after the initiation of Stage 3 drought restrictions.
- Prohibit washing of paved areas by any means except where a variance is granted to alleviate a possible public health and safety risk. Any pressure/power washing activities must be performed by a professional pressure/power washing service provider utilizing high efficiency equipment and a vacuum recovery system where possible.
- Prohibit hosing of buildings or other structures for purposes other than fire protection or surface preparation prior to painting with high-pressure equipment. Services must be performed by a professional pressure/power washing service provider utilizing high efficiency equipment and a vacuum recovery system where possible.
- Vehicle washing is restricted to commercial car washes, commercial service stations, or professional washing services only. This includes home and charity car washing. The

washing of garbage trucks and vehicles used to transport food and/or other perishables may take place as necessary for health, sanitation, or public safety reasons.

- Prohibit permitting of private pools. Pools already permitted may be completed and filled. Existing private and public pools may add water to maintain pool levels, but may not be drained and refilled.
- Prohibit the operation of ornamental fountains or ponds that use potable water except where necessary to support aquatic life or water quality.

### **Stage 3 Efforts by BWA and/or City of Benbrook**

- Continue or initiate any actions available under Stages 1 and 2.
- Review conditions or problems that caused Stage 3. Take corrective action.
- Increase frequency of media releases explaining emergency situation and/or water supply conditions.
- Landscape watering at municipal parks, golf courses, and sports fields is prohibited. Variances may be granted by the water provider under special circumstances.

#### **Exceptions:**

- Golf course greens and tee boxes may be watered by hand as necessary.
- Variances may be available for watering of athletic fields (field only, does not include surrounding landscaped areas) used for organized sports practice, competition, or exhibition events to protect the health and safety of the players, staff, or officials present for the athletic event.
- Professional and college sports fields (playing fields with a stadium only – not surrounding landscaping) may be watered as necessary to maintain league standards.
- Institute a mandated reduction in deliveries to all wholesale customers. Such a reduction will be distributed as required by Texas Water Code §11.039.
- If TRWD has imposed a reduction in water available to customers, impose the same percent reduction on wholesale customers.

### **Stage 3 Restrictions for Commercial or Industrial Users**

- All actions listed above for all water users apply to commercial and industrial users. Landscape watering of municipal parks, golf courses and athletic fields is prohibited. Variances may be granted by the water provider under special circumstances.

#### **Exceptions:**

- Golf course greens and tee boxes may be watered by hand as necessary.
- Variances may be available for watering of athletic fields (field only, does not include surrounding landscaped areas) used for organized sports practice, competition, or

exhibition events to protect the health and safety of the players, staff, or officials present for the athletic event.

- Professional and college sports fields (playing fields with a stadium only – not surrounding landscaping) may be watered as necessary to maintain league standards.
- Commercial water users may be required to reduce water use by a set percentage as determined by the BWA General Manager.

#### **D. Procedure for Curtailment of Water Supplies**

Any mandatory reduction to deliveries from TRWD to its customers shall be distributed as required by Texas Water Code §11.039, which is attached as Appendix I. In addition, every wholesale water supply contract entered into or renewed after adoption of this plan, including contract extensions, shall include a provision that water will be distributed in accordance with the Texas Water Code §11.039 in case of a water shortage resulting from drought.

To the extent not prevented by enforcement of provisions in the Water District's wholesale contracts in effect before November 28, 1999, TRWD will implement pro rata curtailment of water deliveries pursuant to Texas Water Code §11.039.

#### **E. Procedure for Granting Variances to the Plan**

The General Manager may grant temporary variances for existing water uses otherwise prohibited under this drought contingency plan to a customer if one or more of the following conditions are met:

- Failure to grant such a variance would cause an emergency condition adversely affecting health, sanitation, or fire safety for the public or the person requesting the variance.
- Compliance with this plan cannot be accomplished due to technical or other limitations.
- Alternative methods that achieve the same level of reduction in water use can be implemented.
- Variances shall be granted or denied at the discretion of the General Manager. All petitions for variances should be in writing and should include the following information:
  - Name and address of petitioner(s)
  - Purpose of water use
  - Specific provisions from which relief is requested
  - Detailed statement of the adverse effect of the provision from which relief is requested
  - Description of the relief requested
  - Period of time for which the variance is sought

- Alternative measures that will be taken to reduce water use
- Other pertinent information.

#### **F. Revocation of Variances**

Written notification of variance revocation will be issued by the General Manager if:

- The conditions are no longer applicable
- The terms of the compliance agreement have been violated
- Revocation is necessary to protect the health, safety, or welfare of the public or any person

#### **G. Procedure for Enforcing Mandatory Water Restrictions**

Water District customers (direct and indirect) shall provide TRWD with an order, ordinance, or resolution to demonstrate adequate enforcement provisions for the customer's own drought contingency plan.

Mandatory water use restrictions may be imposed in Stage 1, Stage 2, and Stage 3 drought stages. These mandatory water use restrictions will be enforced by warnings and penalties as follows:

On the first violation, the customer will be given a written warning that they have violated one or more of the mandatory water use restrictions.

After a second violation, TRWD will notify the customer of its intent to publish the name and contact phone numbers of any entity in violation of this water conservation and drought contingency plan in local print media and on its Web site. In addition, TRWD will require the customer to implement a more comprehensive public education and outreach program in a manner that increases the public's awareness about mandatory water use restrictions and the current drought status. The customer will also be required to submit documentation to TRWD of the steps it has taken to ensure compliance with this water conservation and drought contingency plan within 90 days after receiving the second notice of violation.

TRWD may petition the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to initiate formal enforcement action against customers that repeatedly fail to comply with the mandatory water use restrictions implemented during any stage of this water conservation and drought contingency plan.

Mandatory water use restrictions will be enforced by issuing violators a courtesy warning for the first offence, a written violation warning for the second and possible water service termination for a third violation within a 60 day period. When water service is turned off due

to water restriction non-compliance, the reconnect fees are charged per paragraph 8c of the BWA rate schedule.

<http://bwsa.org/wp/customer-service/rates-fees/>

#### **H. Coordination with the Regional Water Planning Groups**

Upon adoption of this plan by the BWA Board of Directors, the Drought Contingency Plan will be provided to the Region C Water Planning Group as well as to the Tarrant Regional Water District.

### **VII. Plan Review and Update**

TCEQ requires the Benbrook Water Authority review this Plan at least every five years or as required by events. The next planned update will be by May 1, 2024.

### **VIII. Public Information and Input**

Public input to the Plan will be solicited. The Authority will provide written notice of the Plan using the Authority's website (<http://www.benbrookwater.com>). The Authority will provide customers with the opportunity to comment on the Plan and hold a public hearing prior to implementation.

**Appendix A**

**Title 30, Part 1, Chapter 288, Subchapter B, Rule 288.20**

**Drought Contingency Plans**

**SUBCHAPTER B: DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLANS**  
**§§288.20 - 288.22**  
**Effective April 27, 2000**

**§288.20. Drought Contingency Plans for Municipal Uses by Public Water Suppliers.**

(a) A drought contingency plan for a retail public water supplier, where applicable, shall provide information in response to each of the following.

(1) Minimum requirements. Drought contingency plans shall include the following minimum elements.

(A) Preparation of the plan shall include provisions to actively inform the public and affirmatively provide opportunity for public input. Such acts may include, but are not limited to, having a public meeting at a time and location convenient to the public and providing written notice to the public concerning the proposed plan and meeting.

(B) Provisions shall be made for a program of continuing public education and information regarding the drought contingency plan.

(C) The drought contingency plan must document coordination with the Regional Water Planning Groups for the service area of the retail public water supplier to insure consistency with the appropriate approved regional water plans.

(D) The drought contingency plan shall include a description of the information to be monitored by the water supplier, and specific criteria for the initiation and termination of drought response stages, accompanied by an explanation of the rationale or basis for such triggering criteria.

(E) The drought contingency plan must include drought or emergency response stages providing for the implementation of measures in response to at least the following situations:

- (i) reduction in available water supply up to a repeat of the drought of record;
- (ii) water production or distribution system limitations;
- (iii) supply source contamination; or

(iv) system outage due to the failure or damage of major water system components (e.g., pumps).

(F) The drought contingency plan must include the specific water supply or water demand management measures to be implemented during each stage of the plan including, but not limited to, the following:

(i) curtailment of non-essential water uses; and

(ii) utilization of alternative water sources and/or alternative delivery mechanisms with the prior approval of the executive director as appropriate (e.g., interconnection with another water system, temporary use of a non-municipal water supply, use of reclaimed water for non-potable purposes, etc.).

(G) The drought contingency plan must include the procedures to be followed for the initiation or termination of each drought response stage, including procedures for notification of the public.

(H) The drought contingency plan must include procedures for granting variances to the plan.

(I) The drought contingency plan must include procedures for the enforcement of any mandatory water use restrictions, including specification of penalties (e.g., fines, water rate surcharges, discontinuation of service) for violations of such restrictions.

(2) Privately-owned water utilities. Privately-owned water utilities shall prepare a drought contingency plan in accordance with this section and shall incorporate such plan into their tariff.

(3) Wholesale water customers. Any water supplier that receives all or a portion of its water supply from another water supplier shall consult with that supplier and shall include in the drought contingency plan appropriate provisions for responding to reductions in that water supply.

(b) A wholesale or retail water supplier shall notify the executive director within five business days of the implementation of any mandatory provisions of the drought contingency plan.

(c) The retail public water supplier shall review and update, as appropriate, the drought contingency plan, at least every five years, based on new or updated information, such as the adoption or revision of the regional water plan.

**§288.21. Drought Contingency Plans for Irrigation Use.**

(a) A drought contingency plan for an irrigation use, where applicable, shall provide information in response to each of the following.

(1) Minimum requirements. Drought contingency plans for irrigation water suppliers shall include policies and procedures for the equitable and efficient allocation of water on a pro rata basis during times of shortage in accordance with Texas Water Code, §11.039. Such plans shall include the following elements as a minimum.

(A) Preparation of the plan shall include provisions to actively inform and to affirmatively provide opportunity for users of water from the irrigation system to provide input into the preparation of the plan and to remain informed of the plan. Such acts may include, but are not limited to, having a public meeting at a time and location convenient to the water users and providing written notice to the water users concerning the proposed plan and meeting.

(B) The drought contingency plan must document coordination with the Regional Water Planning Groups to insure consistency with the appropriate approved regional water plans.

(C) The drought contingency plan shall include water supply criteria and other considerations for determining when to initiate or terminate water allocation procedures, accompanied by an explanation of the rationale or basis for such triggering criteria.

(D) The drought contingency plan shall include methods for determining the allocation of irrigation supplies to individual users.

(E) The drought contingency plan shall include a description of the information to be monitored by the water supplier and the procedures to be followed for the initiation or termination of water allocation policies.

(F) The drought contingency plan shall include procedures for use accounting during the implementation of water allocation policies.

(G) The drought contingency plan shall include policies and procedures, if any, for the transfer of water allocations among individual users within the water supply system or to users outside the water supply system.

(H) The drought contingency plan shall include procedures for the enforcement of water allocation policies, including specification of penalties for violations of such policies and for wasteful or excessive use of water.

(2) Wholesale water customers. Any irrigation water supplier that receives all or a portion of its water supply from another water supplier shall consult with that supplier and shall include in the drought contingency plan appropriate provisions for responding to reductions in that water supply.

(3) Protection of public water supplies. Any irrigation water supplier that also provides or delivers water to a public water supplier(s) shall consult with that public water supplier(s) and shall include in the plan mutually agreeable and appropriate provisions to ensure an uninterrupted supply of water necessary for essential uses relating to public health and safety. Nothing in this provision shall be construed as requiring the irrigation water supplier to transfer irrigation water supplies to non-irrigation use on a compulsory basis or without just compensation.

(b) Irrigation water users shall review and update, as appropriate, the drought contingency plan, at least every five years, based on new or updated information, such as adoption or revision of the regional water plan.

Adopted April 5, 2000

Effective April 27, 2000

### **§288.22. Drought Contingency Plans for Wholesale Water Suppliers.**

(a) A drought contingency plan for a wholesale water supplier shall include the following minimum elements.

(1) Preparation of the plan shall include provisions to actively inform the public and to affirmatively provide opportunity for user input in the preparation of the plan and for informing wholesale customers about the plan. Such acts may include, but are not limited to, having a public meeting at a time and location convenient to the public and providing written notice to the public concerning the proposed plan and meeting.

(2) The drought contingency plan must document coordination with the Regional Water Planning Groups for the service area of the wholesale public water supplier to insure consistency with the appropriate approved regional water plans.

(3) The drought contingency plan shall include a description of the information to be monitored by the water supplier and specific criteria for the initiation and termination of drought response stages, accompanied by an explanation of the rationale or basis for such triggering criteria.

(4) The drought contingency plan shall include a minimum of three drought or emergency response stages providing for the implementation of

measures in response to water supply conditions during a repeat of the drought-of-record.

(5) The drought contingency plan shall include the procedures to be followed for the initiation or termination of drought response stages, including procedures for notification of wholesale customers regarding the initiation or termination of drought response stages.

(6) The drought contingency plan shall include the specific water supply or water demand management measures to be implemented during each stage of the plan including, but not limited to, the following:

(A) pro rata curtailment of water deliveries to or diversions by wholesale water customers as provided in Texas Water Code, §11.039; and

(B) utilization of alternative water sources with the prior approval of the executive director as appropriate (e.g., interconnection with another water system, temporary use of a non-municipal water supply, use of reclaimed water for non-potable purposes, etc.).

(7) The drought contingency plan shall include a provision in every wholesale water contract entered into or renewed after adoption of the plan, including contract extensions, that in case of a shortage of water resulting from drought, the water to be distributed shall be divided in accordance with Texas Water Code, §11.039.

(8) The drought contingency plan shall include procedures for granting variances to the plan.

(9) The drought contingency plan shall include procedures for the enforcement of any mandatory water use restrictions including specification of penalties (e.g., liquidated damages, water rate surcharges, discontinuation of service) for violations of such restrictions.

(b) The wholesale public water supplier shall notify the executive director within five business days of the implementation of any mandatory provisions of the drought contingency plan.

(c) The wholesale public water supplier shall review and update, as appropriate, the drought contingency plan, at least every five years, based on new or updated information, such as adoption or revision of the regional water plan.