

City of Gordon

P.O. BOX 227 – 105 S. Main St.
GORDON, TEXAS 76453
254-693-5676 – FAX 254-693-5859
e-mail: cityofgordon@yahoo.com

July 28, 2022

To all citizens of Gordon and surrounding areas:

Drought Contingency Plan – Water Conservation

Stage 1 Starting Monday August 1, 2022

When/ if Stage 2 or Stage 3 will be sent out on the city's Messaging system (SWIFT 911), the Website (www.discovergordon.com), and posted on Facebook (City of Gordon).

You can always contact City Hall to check on the Stages that are in effect.

Stage 1 – Drought Watch

Target - Achieve a voluntary 10% reduction in daily water demand.

Stage 2 – Drought Warning

Supply Management Measures for Retail Customers:

1. Continue implementation of all relevant actions in preceding phase.
2. Car washing, window washing, and pavement washing shall be prohibited except when a bucket is used.
3. A mandatory lawn watering schedule shall be implemented, so that customers will be required to limit outside watering to alternate days based on residents address as determined by City and not exceed once a week. A schedule should be published in all area newspapers and broadcast on local radio and television. Watering shall be limited to the hours of 6-10 a.m. and 8-10 p.m.
4. Shrubs and newly established lawn grasses may be watered with a hand held hose with a sprayer limiting nozzle discharge to 2.0 gpm.
5. The following public water uses, not essential for public health or safety, are prohibited:
 - Street Washing
 - Water hydrant flushing
 - Filling pools
 - Golf course watering
6. City shall begin investigating alternative sources of water supply.

Stage 3 – Drought Emergency

Supply Management Measures for Retail Customers:

1. Prohibit all outdoor use.
2. RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS

Limited to 8,000 gallons per month

Surcharges will apply as follows:

- 8,000 to 9,000 gallons rate plus \$25
- 9,000 to 10,000 gallons rate plus \$50
- 10,000 to 11,000 gallons rate plus \$75
- Over 11,000 gallons rate plus \$100 per additional 1,000 gallons
- The above charges are cumulative – example: 11,000 gallons would cost the normal rate plus \$150

3. COMMERCIAL CUSTOMERS

Limited to 75% of their annual monthly use

Surcharges will apply according to the following schedule:

- 75 to 80 percent of monthly average at twice the rate per gallon
- 80 to 85 percent of monthly average at 3 times the normal rate per gallon
- 85 to 100 percent of monthly average at 4 times the normal rate per gallon
- Over 100% of monthly average will be controlled by cut-off

4. WHOLESALE CUSTOMERS

Wholesale customers will be asked to reduce water consumption to 75 percent of their annual monthly average.

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A surcharge will be added on the following basis:

- 75 to 80 percent of average monthly consumption will be charged at twice the standard rate.
- 80 to 85 percent of average monthly consumption will be charged at three times the standard rate per thousand gallons.
- Usage will be closely monitored and the wholesale customer will be notified if excess use is apparent.
- When 85 percent of monthly average is exceeded, the City and wholesaler will meet in emergency session and formulate a plan to resolve the problem.

Section X: Enforcement

(a) No person shall knowingly or intentionally allow the use of water from the City for residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural, governmental, or any other purpose in a manner contrary to any provision of this Plan, or in an amount in excess of that permitted by the drought response stage in effect at the time pursuant to action taken by Mayor, or his/her designee, in accordance with provisions of the Plan.

(b) Any person who violates this Plan is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction shall be punished by a fine of not less than twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) and not more than seventy-five dollars (\$75.00). Each day that one or more of the provisions in this Plan is violated shall constitute a separate offense. If a person is convicted of three or more distinct violations of this Plan, the Mayor shall, upon due notice to the customer, be authorized to discontinue water service to the premises where such violations occur. Services discontinued under such circumstances shall be restored only upon payment of a re-connection charge, hereby established at fifty dollars (\$50.00), and any other costs incurred by the City in discontinuing service. In addition, suitable assurance must be given to the Mayor that the same action shall not be repeated while the Plan is in effect. Compliance with this plan may also be sought through injunctive relief in the district court.

(c) Any person, including a person classified as a water customer of the City, in apparent control of the property where a violation occurs or originates shall be presumed to be the violator, and proof that the violation occurred on the person's property shall constitute a rebuttable presumption that the person in apparent control of the property committed the violation, but any such person shall have the right to show that he/she did not commit the violation. Parents shall be presumed to be responsible for violations of their minor children and proof that a violation, committed by a child, occurred on property with the parents control shall constitute a rebuttal presumption that the parent committed the violation, but any such parent may be excused if he/she proves that he/she had previously directed the child not to use the water as it was used in violation of this Plan and that the parent could not have reasonably known of the violation.

(d) Any employee of the City, police officer, or other City employee designated by the Mayor, may issue a citation to a person he/she reasonably believes to be in violation of the Ordinance. The citation shall be prepared in duplicate and shall contain the name and address of the alleged violator, if known, the offense charged, and shall direct him/her to appear in the municipal court on the date shown on the citation for which the date shall not be less than 3 days nor more than 5 days from the date the citation was issued. The alleged violator shall be served a copy of the citation. Service of the citation shall be complete upon delivery of the citation to the alleged violator, to an agent or employee of a violator, or to a person over 14 years of age who is a member of the violator's immediate family or is a resident of the violator's residence. The alleged violator shall appear in municipal court to enter a plea of guilty or not guilty for the violation of the Plan. If the alleged violator fails to appear in municipal court, a warrant for his/her arrest may be issued. A summons to appear may be issued in lieu of an arrest warrant. These cases shall be expedited and given preferential setting in municipal court before all other cases.

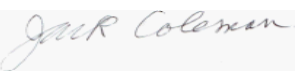
A complete copy of the Drought Contingency Plan will be posted on the website:

www.discovergordon.com

If there are any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me or City Hall.

Sincerely,

 Recoverable Signature



Jack Coleman
Mayor

Signed by: 82052eb9-8f14-4263-bffa-66560b6743bf