
**DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN
FOR THE
(San Diego Municipal Utility District No. 1)
(February 17, 2000)**

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 San Diego Municipal District No. 1 hereby adopts the following regulations and restrictions on the delivery and consumption of water.

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 XI of this Plan.

Section II: Public Involvement

Opportunity for the public to provide input into the preparation of the Plan was provided by the San Diego Municipal Utility District No. 1 by means of public notices to the public, newspaper publications.

Section III: Public Education

The San Diego Municipal Utility District No. 1 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 provided by means of public events, newspaper releases and Utility Bill inserts.

Section IV: Coordination with Regional Water Planning Groups

The service area of the San Diego Municipal Utility District No. 1 is located within the Coastal Bend Regional Planning Group and San Diego Municipal Utility District No. 1 has provided a copy of this Plan to the Coastal Bend Regional Planning Group.

Section V: Authorization

The General Manager, or his/her designee 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 General Manager or his/her designee, shall have the authority to initiate or terminate drought or other water supply emergency response measures as described in this Plan.

Section VI: Application

The provisions of this Plan shall apply to all persons, customers, and property utilizing water provided by the San Diego Municipal Utility District No. 1. 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, hotels and motels, restaurants, and office buildings.

Conservation: those practices, techniques, and technologies that reduce the consumption of water, reduce the loss or waste of water, improve the efficiency in the use of water or increase the recycling and reuse of water so that a supply is conserved and made available for future or alternative uses.

Customer: any person, company, or organization using water supplied by San Diego Municipal Utility District No. 1.

Domestic water use: water use for personal needs or for household or sanitary purposes such as drinking, bathing, heating, cooking, sanitation, or for cleaning a residence, business, industry, or institution.

Shaded area in Red: customers will be allowed restricted water usage to Mondays only.

Shaded area in Green: customers will be allowed restricted water usage to Tuesdays only.

Shaded area in Red: customers will be allowed restricted water usage to Wednesdays only.

Shaded area in Yellow: customers will be allowed restricted water usage to Thursdays only.

Shaded area in White: customers will be allowed restricted water usage to Fridays only.

Industrial water use: the use of water in processes designed to convert materials of lower value into forms having greater usability and value.

Landscape irrigation use: water used for the irrigation and maintenance of landscaped areas, whether publicly or privately owned, including residential and commercial lawns, gardens, golf courses, parks, and rights-of-way and medians.

Non-essential water use: water uses that are not essential nor required for the protection of public, health, safety, and welfare, including:

- (a) irrigation of landscape areas, including parks, athletic fields, and golf courses, except otherwise provided under this Plan;
- (b) use of water to wash any motor vehicle, motorbike, boat, trailer, airplane or other vehicle;
- (c) use of water to wash down any sidewalks, walkways, driveways, parking lots, tennis courts, or other hard-surfaced areas;
- (d) use of water to wash down buildings or structures for purposes other than immediate fire protection;
- (e) flushing gutters or permitting water to run or accumulate in any gutter or street;
- (f) use of water to fill, refill, or add to any indoor or outdoor swimming pools or jacuzzi-type pools;
- (g) use of water in a fountain or pond for aesthetic 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 General Manager or his/her designee shall monitor water supply and/or demand conditions on a daily basis and shall determine when conditions warrant initiation or termination of each stage of the Plan, that is, when the specified "triggers" are reached.

The triggering criteria described below are based on water well levels, daily storage capacity, water-well capacity, equipment failure.

Stage 1 Triggers -- MILD Water Shortage Conditions

Requirements for initiation

Customers shall be requested to voluntarily conserve water and adhere to the prescribed restrictions on certain water uses, defined in Section VII.

- A. Annually, beginning on May 1 through October 31 of every year.*
- B. When the water supply available to the San Diego Municipal Utility District No. 1 is Equal to or less than 70% percentage of storage capacity.*
- C. When the static water level in the San Diego Municipal Utility District No. 1 well(s) is equal to or less than 100ft above water pump level.*
- D. When the specific capacity of the San Diego Municipal Utility District No. 1 well(s) is equal to or less than 70 % percent of the well's original specific capacity.*
- D. When total daily water demand equals or exceeds one million gallons for three consecutive days.*

Requirements for termination

Stage 1 of the Plan may be rescinded when all of the conditions listed as triggering events have ceased, depending on summer precipitation.

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;

1. Water levels falls below 70% (percent) of storage capacity.
2. Water demands exceed 70% (percent) of water well capacity.

3. When the static water level in the San Diego Municipal Utility District well(s) is equal to or less than 100ft above water pumps.

Requirements for termination

Stage 2 of the Plan may be rescinded when all of the conditions listed as triggering events have ceased to exist for a period of 5 consecutive days. Upon termination of Stage 2, Stage 1 becomes operative.

Stage 3 Triggers -- SEVERE Water Shortage Conditions

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. Water levels falls below 50% (percent) of storage capacity.
2. Water demands exceed 90% (percent) of water well capacity.
3. When the static water level in the San Diego Municipal Utility District well(s) is equal to or less than 100ft above water pumps.
4. System outages due to equipment failure.

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 7 consecutive days. Upon termination of Stage 3, Stage 2 becomes operative.

Stage 4 Triggers -- EMERGENCY Water Shortage Conditions

Requirements for initiation

Customers shall be required to comply with the requirements and restrictions for Stage 5 of this Plan when General Manager, or his/her designee, determines that a water supply emergency exists based on:

1. Major water line breaks, or pump or system failures occur, which cause unprecedented loss of capability to provide water service; or
2. Natural or man-made contamination of the water supply source(s).

Requirements for termination

Stage 5 of the Plan may be rescinded when all of the conditions listed as triggering events have ceased to exist for a period of 5 consecutive days.

Section IX: Drought Response Stages

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

Notification

Notification of the Public:

The General Manager or his/her designee shall notify the public by means of:

- Publication in a newspaper of general circulation,
- Direct mail to each customer,
- Public service announcements,
- Signs posted in public places,

Additional Notification:

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

- Mayor /Chairman and members of the City Council/ Utility Board
- Fire Chief(s)
- City and / or County Emergency, Management Coordinator(s) County Judge & Commissioner(s)
- State Disaster District / Department of Public Safety
- TNRCC (required when mandatory restrictions are imposed)
- Major water users
- Critical water users, i.e. hospitals
- Parks/street superintendents & public facilities managers

Note: The plan should specify direct notice only as appropriate to respective Drought stages.

Stage 1 Response – MILD Water Shortage Conditions

Voluntary Water Use Restrictions:

- (a) Water customers are requested to voluntarily limit the irrigation of landscaped areas to Sundays and Thursdays for customers with a street address ending in an even numbers (0,2,4,6 or 8), and Saturdays and Wednesdays for water customers with a street address ending in an odd number (1,3,5,7 or 9), and to irrigated landscapes only between the hours of midnight and 10:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. to midnight on designated watering days.

- (b) All operations of the San Diego Municipal Utility District No.1 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

Goal: Achieve a reduction in daily water demand.

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

- (a) Irrigation of landscaped areas with hose-and sprinklers or automatic irrigation systems shall be limited to Water Scheduling Map of San Diego Municipal Utility District No.1, which will be posted at all public facilities. Irrigation of landscaped areas is further limited to 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 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, 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 shutoff nozzle for quick rises. Vehicle washing may be done at any time on the immediate premises of a commercial car wash or commercial service station. Further, such washing may be exempted from these regulations if the health, safety, and welfare of the public is contingent upon frequent vehicle cleansing, such as garbage trucks and vehicles used to transport food and perishables.
- (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 of hours of 12:00 midnight and 10:00 a.m. and between 8 p.m. and 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 San Diego Municipal Utility District No. 1.

(f) 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 been given notice directing the repair of such leak(s)

Stage 3 Response – SEVERE Water Shortage Conditions

Goal: Achieve an appropriate water demand reduction.

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

- (a) Irrigation of landscaped areas is strictly prohibited.
- (b) Use of water to wash any motor vehicle, motorbike, boat, trailer, or other vehicle is strictly prohibited.
- (c) The use of water for construction purposes from designated fire hydrants under special permit is to be discontinued.
- (d) The use of water to fill and refill, or add to any swimming pool, wading pools, or jacuzzi-type pools is prohibited.

Stage 4 Response—EMERGENCY Water Shortage Conditions

Water Use Restrictions. All requirements of Stage 3 shall remain in effect during Stage 4.

Water ration may be necessary at the discretion of the San Diego Municipal Utility District No. 1.

