



Daphne Utilities

Emergency Water Conservation Plan

Revised July 20, 2006

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Emergency Water Conservation Plan is as follows:

- to provide contingency plans to manage drought and emergency conditions; and
- to continue to deliver a cost effective, adequate, safe and reliable supply of high quality water to our customers; and
- to identify successful public information strategies which will motivate the community to reduce normal consumption to drought allowances; and
- to identify critical points of change which would result in an acute or long term water outage and to establish preemptive stages to address the outage; and
- to recommend a programmed response for each stage which would most effectively reduce water consumption to the available supply with the least adverse impact to the Daphne community.

WATER CONSERVATION PLAN

The plan as outlined in this document consists of a menu of response measures to be enacted by Daphne Utilities in response to shortages either acute or chronic.

A water shortage may exist in localized areas of Daphne any time the system demand is in excess of 85% of the available capacity and widespread water outages can occur whenever system demand is in excess of 100% of available capacity. Serious shortages could also be caused by system failures and power interruptions.

WATER CONSERVATION RESPONSE OPTIONS

- *Public Education and information for Voluntary Reduction* - public information and education programs would be implemented at the earliest drought or emergency stage to make our customers aware of the problem, to respond to customer concerns and questions, and to motivate the customer to take action to reduce water consumption. A major component of Daphne Utilities water conservation program focuses on public education. These programs, typically through bill inserts, website notices, and media announcements, are aimed at reaching the greatest amount of people in the largest water use category which are residential customers. During an emergency, these existing programs will become the core of an expanded program working with the public to reduce water consumption.
- *Outdoor Water Use Restrictions and Bans* - residential outdoor water use is a significant portion of daily consumption. Water consumption increases dramatically in the summer months. In the early stages of a drought or emergency, outdoor water use restrictions would be mostly voluntary. However, starting with the second stage, some reduction in water consumption is mandatory.
- *Nonresidential Water Use Planning* - because the highest percentage of water consumption is due to residential customers, implementation of water use restrictions for

industrial and commercial customers is usually insignificant until the final stage of the drought or emergency occurs.

WATER CONSERVATION PHASES

The onset of an emergency situation or anticipated onset of drought and the necessary adjustments and management techniques depend on the severity of the water emergency. Water Conservation phases will be implemented by Daphne Utilities or by triggering the following criteria

- Phase I: When pumping reaches 4.8 million gallons for 3 consecutive days.
- Phase II: When pumping on any one day reaches 5.1 million gallons or after two consecutive low tank alarms.
- Phase III: When pumping on any one day reaches 5.3 million gallons or the pressure cannot be maintained above 25 psi.
- Phase IV: When pumping on any one day reaches 5.5 million gallons or the pressure cannot be maintained above 20 psi.

WATER CONSERVATION RESPONSE

Specific conservation management responses are listed according to the conservation phase. The phases are dependent on the ability of Daphne Utilities to foresee conditions which would affect water allotments or water availability. After declaration of the drought or water emergency stage by Daphne Utilities; the General Manager is authorized to implement any or all of the following:

Phase I: CONSERVATION – Voluntary. Customers or persons who use Daphne Utilities water system are requested to voluntarily limit the amount of water to the amount that is absolutely necessary for health, business, and outdoor use. These measures specifically include:

- A voluntary landscape irrigation ban for a minimum one-week period
- Fund-raiser car washes are prohibited

Phase II: WATER ALERT – Mandatory Compliance. Beginning at a time deemed necessary by the Daphne Utilities and after public notification, the following restrictions shall apply to all customers or persons who use the Daphne Utilities water system.

- Irrigation utilizing individual sprinklers from hoses or buried sprinkler systems for the purpose of watering lawns, gardens, landscaped areas, trees, shrubs and other plants is prohibited, except on designated water-use days which shall be as follows:
- Odd-numbered street addresses will water on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.
- Even-numbered street addresses will water on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday.
- No irrigation shall be performed between the hours of 5:00am – 9:00am and 5:00pm – 9:00pm.
- No watering will be allowed on Sunday.
- This restriction shall not apply to any handheld garden hose or small handheld watering container which may be used on any day to water small areas that might need more frequent watering.

Phase III: WATER WARNING – Mandatory Compliance. Upon implementation by Daphne Utilities and after public notification, the following restrictions shall be imposed in place of Phase

II restrictions (until further notice) to all Daphne Utilities water system customers or persons who use Daphne Utilities water system:

- Irrigation utilizing individual sprinklers from hoses or buried sprinkler systems for the purpose of watering lawns, gardens, landscaped areas, trees, shrubs and other plants is prohibited, except on designated water-use days which shall be as follows:
- Users of water at street addresses containing odd numbers will water on Monday and Wednesday.
- Users of water at street addresses containing even numbers will water on Tuesday and Thursday.
- No irrigation shall be performed between the hours of 5:00am – 9:00am and 5:00pm – 9:00pm.
- The intent of this action is to allow each customer to water two times a week, either Monday and Wednesday, or Tuesday and Thursday. No watering may be done on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.
- Washing of private vehicles is prohibited, except on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. No private vehicles may be washed on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Commercial car washes and service stations are exempt from this restriction.
- Swimming pools will be filled by users of water at street addresses containing odd numbers on Monday and Wednesday. Swimming pools will be filled by users of water at street addresses containing even numbers on Tuesday and Thursday.
- Washing of sidewalks, streets, driveways, parking areas, tennis courts, patios or other paved areas is absolutely prohibited, except by the street department and fire department to alleviate health or fire hazard.
- Taking water from a fire hydrant is prohibited without written permission from Daphne Utilities. The water system, street department, and fire department are exempt from this condition in order to properly maintain the water system and provide for public health and safety.

Phase IV: WATER EMERGENCY – Mandatory Compliance. Upon implementation by Daphne Utilities and after public notification, the following restrictions shall be imposed in place of Phase II or Phase III restrictions (until further notice) to all Daphne Utilities water system customers or persons who use Daphne Utilities water system: during Phase IV, no outside irrigation utilizing individual sprinklers from hoses or buried sprinkler systems for the purpose of watering lawns, gardens, landscaped areas, trees, shrubs and other plants is permitted. Also prohibited are the following:

- The washing of private vehicles is prohibited except at commercial car washes or service stations.
- The use of water from fire hydrants for any reason, other than use by the water department, street department, and fire department to maintain the water system and provide for public health and safety, is prohibited.
- The filling of swimming pools is prohibited during the water emergency.

VIOLATIONS

For violations of these Water Conservation Phases, water services may be disconnected or restricted

If a customer is irrigating during a time or on a day when irrigation is not permitted for the street address of that customer and a Daphne Utilities worker cannot find any person at that

street address to turn off the irrigation system, the Utility workers may enter the property and turn off the irrigation system.

Violations of the Daphne Utilities Water Conservation Plan by any Daphne Utilities customer shall receive the following:

1. First Offense: Written Warning and the violator to correct the violation within 30 minutes of the warning.
2. Second Offense in the same calendar year: Disconnection of Water Service(s) with a \$100 fee to reestablish water service.
3. Third Offense in the same calendar year: Disconnection of Water Service(s) with a \$500 fee to reestablish water service.
4. Fourth Offense in the same calendar year: Disconnection of Water Service(s) until the water conservation plan stage that is in effect at the time of violation has expired and a fee of \$1000 to reestablish water service.

The above warnings, disconnection notices, and disconnects shall be issued and implemented by the Daphne Utilities General Manager or his designee.

It is understood that situations may arise causing emergency conditions independent of Daphne Utilities. This plan can be implemented as needed under those circumstances by the General Manager of Daphne Utilities or his representatives.



Daphne Utilities

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Emergency Water Conservation Plan Overview

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Phase I – Conservation (Voluntary)

Daphne Utilities water customers are requested to voluntarily limit water use to only what is necessary for businesses, public safety and health.

These measures specifically include:

- A voluntary landscape irrigation cut-back for a minimum one-week period
- Fund-raiser car washes are prohibited

Phase II – Water Alert (Mandatory Compliance)

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>	<u>Sunday</u>
Odd	Even	Odd	Even	Odd	Even	No
Addresses	Addresses	Addresses	Addresses	Addresses	Addresses	Watering
Water	Water	Water	Water	Water	Water	Permitted

Phase III – Water Warning (Mandatory Compliance)

Upon implementation by Daphne Utilities and after public notification, the following water restrictions will be enforced for all Daphne Utilities water customers.

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>	<u>Sunday</u>
Odd	Even	Odd	Even	No	No	No
Addresses	Addresses	Addresses	Addresses	Watering	Watering	Watering
Water	Water	Water	Water	Permitted	Permitted	Permitted

Phase IV – Water Emergency (Mandatory Compliance)

Upon implementation by Daphne Utilities and after public notification, the following restrictions will be enforced until further notice for all Daphne Utilities water customers.

These measures specifically include:

- A mandatory landscape irrigation ban (sprinklers, hoses, irrigation systems, etc.)
- A mandatory ban on washing private vehicles, sidewalks, streets, driveways, parking areas, patios, etc., and filling swimming pools
- Fire Hydrants shall be used only by official fire and law enforcement officers for public safety