

**MARIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT**

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MARIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT  
DECLARING INITIAL DROUGHT WATER CONSERVATION ACTIONS**

**WHEREAS**, average annual rainfall at Lake Lagunitas is approximately 52 inches; and

**WHEREAS**, the district has received just over 20 inches of rain in calendar year 2020, the second lowest rainfall total in 90 years; and

**WHEREAS**, the previous 12 months have been the fifth driest on record in the 142 year history of District rainfall records; and

**WHEREAS**, the District's Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) contains water shortage contingency planning that is tied to Chapter 13.02 of the District's Code which was adopted in 1999 and contains trigger points for voluntary and mandatory water rationing based upon reservoir levels; and

**WHEREAS**, Chapter 13.02 calls for voluntary water use reductions when District reservoir storage levels are below 50,000 acre-feet (AF) on April 1; 25% mandatory water use reductions when District reservoir storage levels are below 40,000 AF on April 1 and 50% mandatory water usage reduction when reservoir storage levels on December 1 are projected to be in the vicinity or less than 30,000 AF; and

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of the contingency plan contained in Chapter 13.02, as described in the staff report that accompanied that item was designed to " ... provide some guidance to decision makers, not to limit their-options;" and

**WHEREAS**, as of February 1, District reservoir storage is 45,275 AF, well below the District average of 66,087 AF and the 75,108 AF of storage in District reservoirs at this same time last year; and

**WHEREAS**, with reservoir levels below 50,000 AF, preservation of the District's water supply is essential to District customers and conservation actions taken now by District customers can minimize the reduction in reservoir storage levels in order to conserve water for future use; and

**WHEREAS**, given all of the above described considerations, additional measures are necessary by District customers until the current weather conditions have abated.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BASED ON THE FINDINGS SET FORTH ABOVE WHICH ARE HEREBY ADOPTED BY THE BOARD, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:**

1. In an effort to preserve the District's limited water supply and maximize the time available for the effect of conservation measures, the Board is activating an early voluntary phase of its water shortage contingency planning and is calling for District customers to voluntarily reduce their water usage.
2. The Board is asking all District customers to be judicious and prudent with every gallon of water used and to voluntarily turn off outdoor irrigation systems and minimize outdoor watering.
3. The Board and staff are committed to working with customers to lower water usage and towards that end, the Board is calling all customers to save water by:
  - Compliance with District's water waste prohibitions.
  - Participation in the District's conservation programs, for example;
    - a. Request a conservation assistance program audit of water usage in your home.
    - b. Install water efficient faucet aerators and showerheads. Free aerators and showerheads are available from Marin Water.
    - c. Install a high-efficiency clothes washer and get a rebate from Marin Water.
    - d. Install a WaterSense labeled smart irrigation controller and get a rebate from Marin Water.
    - e. Convert lawns to a low water use landscape with free materials from Marin Water or get a rebate from Marin Water.
    - f. Install a graywater system to irrigate your garden. Participate in Marin Water's Graywater Webinar and receive a discounted DIY Graywater Kit.
  - Other suggested water use reduction actions beyond water waste provisions;
    - a. Check for leaks and repair them immediately.
    - b. Turn off automatic sprinkler systems and water plants only as needed.
    - c. Check your water meter and learn to read it and spot unusual usage and leaks.
    - d. Add compost and mulch to gardens.
    - e. Hold off on refilling decorative fountains, swimming pools and hot tubs until drought conditions end.
    - f. Don't wash your car at home, take your car to a carwash that recycles water.
    - g. Do not power wash buildings and homes.
4. District Staff is directed to:
  - a. Communicate to all District customers advising them of the Board's call for the water usage reductions described above, asking for their cooperation and educating them on the top ways to save water.

- b. Provide customers with updates on the drought conditions, District reservoir storage levels and any anticipated changes through local and social media and the District's website.
  - c. Continue with the operational adjustments staff has been discussing with the Board.
  - d. Closely monitor water supply to determine if further action is needed.
- 5. The Board recognizes that weather conditions could change and intends to be agile in its approach and response to dealing with the drought and any changes in weather conditions.
  - 6. The Board thanks District customers for their anticipated cooperation and fully understands that it will take all of us, customers, staff and the Board to successfully navigate this situation.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 16th day of February 2021, by the following vote of the Board of Directors.

**AYES:**

**NOES:**

**ABSENT:**

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**President, Board of Directors**

**ATTEST:**

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**Board Secretary**

**Attachment 2:  
Water Waste Prohibitions**

**13.02.020 Water waste prohibitions.**

No customer of the district shall make, cause, use or permit the use of potable water from the district for residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural, governmental or any other purpose in a manner contrary to any provision of this section.

- (1) Prohibited Nonessential Uses Applicable to Customers. It is unlawful for any person, firm, partnership, association, corporation, or political entity to use potable water from the district for the following nonessential uses:
  - (A) The washing of sidewalks, walkways, driveways, parking lots and all other hard surfaced areas by direct hosing, except as may be permitted by current regulations pertaining to urban water runoff pollution prevention as defined by the Marin County Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program and other controlling agencies.
  - (B) The escape of water through breaks or leaks within the consumer's plumbing or private distribution system for any substantial period of time within which such break or leak should reasonably have been discovered and corrected. It shall be presumed that a period of forty-eight hours after the consumer discovers such a leak or break, or receives notice from the district of such leak or break, whichever occurs first, is a reasonable time within which to correct such leak or break.
  - (C) Non-recycling decorative water fountains.
  - (D) Restrictions on Irrigation. Irrigation shall not be conducted in a manner or to an extent that allows water to run off or overspray the areas being watered. Every consumer is required to have his or her water distribution lines and facilities under control at all times to avoid water waste.
  - (E) Any excess water runoff flowing onto the public right-of-way at a rate of one gallon per minute or greater not caused by storm water or naturally occurring groundwater, is prohibited.
  - (F) Using a garden hose without a shut-off nozzle.
  - (G) Landscape irrigation between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
  - (H) Operating outdoor irrigation systems using potable water for the purpose of irrigating ornamental landscape areas or turf areas on more than three days within any week of the calendar year. Customers are strongly encouraged to irrigate ornamental landscapes or turf on fewer days and only as required to maintain plant health and replace evapotranspiration loss as defined by the California Irrigation Management Information System.
  - (I) The application of potable water to outdoor landscapes during and within 48 hours after measurable rainfall.
  - (J) Irrigating ornamental turf on public street medians.

- (2) Restrictions on Reverse Osmosis Units. The installation of reverse osmosis water purifying systems not equipped with an automatic shutoff unit is prohibited.
- (3) The following are prohibited for new connections:
  - (A) Single pass cooling systems for air conditioning or other cooling system applications unless required for health or safety reasons;
  - (B) Non-recirculating systems for conveyer carwash applications.
- (4) Exemption From Daytime Water Prohibition. Notwithstanding anything contained in this Title 13, testing and repairing irrigation systems for the purpose of eliminating water waste is permitted during the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. (Ord. 436 §2, 2016; Ord. 428 §2, 2015; Ord. 427 §2, 2014; Ord. 421 §2, 2011; Ord. 387 §1, 1999; Ord. 332 §1, 1992; Ord. 316 §2, 1991)

**Attachment 3:  
Dry Year Water Use Reduction Program**

**13.02.030 Water use reduction in dry periods.**

No customer of the district shall make, cause, use or permit the use of potable water from the district for residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural, governmental or any other purpose in a manner contrary to any provision of this section.

(1) Program to Reach a Ten Percent Water Use Reduction Goal (alert stage). When lake storage on April 1st in any year is below fifty thousand acre-feet and system modeling based on historic hydrologic data and use patterns indicates that a minimum reduction in use is required to assure a sufficient carry-over storage, the board may activate by resolution a voluntary use reduction program and should review its financial reserves to determine if a reduction in tier breaks is fiscally warranted to achieve ten percent savings in district's overall water use as follows:

(A) Consumer Percentage Curtailment. Every consumer shall eliminate water wastage in an effort to aid the district in achieving a ten percent reduction of the amount of potable water used by all consumers during the last year in which no restrictions in water use were required.

(B) Curtailment of Program. When lake storage on April 1st of any year is above fifty thousand acre-feet or when lake storage on or after January 1st is sufficiently above fifty thousand acre feet and projected demands will not reduce lake storage below fifty thousand acre-feet by the following April 1st, the requirements of this subsection shall be deactivated by resolution of the board.

(2) Twenty-Five Percent Water Use Reduction Program. When lake storage on April 1st is below forty thousand acre-feet and system modeling based on historical hydrologic data and use patterns indicates a reduction in use is required to assure sufficient carry-over storage, the board may activate by resolution a mandatory use reduction program to achieve twenty-five percent savings in district's overall water use as follows:

(A) Consumer Use Reduction. Residential consumers, Billing Codes 1 through 5, shall use no more than the water use allocation assigned by the district based on an allotment per resident to aggregate a thirty-two percent reduction by all residential consumers. A resident is considered to be an individual who resides, or is expected to reside in the structure for a mini-mum of six months of the year.

Each nonresidential consumer, Billing Code 6 shall use no more than seventy-five percent, Billing Code 7 shall use no more than eighty percent, and Billing Code 8 shall use no more than fifty percent, of the annual water budget calculated by the district for said consumer pursuant to Chapter 13.03 of the district's code.

Every consumer shall eliminate water wastage and non-essential use of potable water from the district in an effort to aid the district in achieving a twenty-five percent reduction in the amount of water used by all consumers in the last year in which no restrictions in water use were required.

(B) Prohibited Nonessential Uses Applicable to All Consumers. It is unlawful for any person, firm, partnership, association, corporation or political entity to use potable water from the district contrary to the provisions of this subsection, or, if more restrictive, subsections (1), (2) and (3) of this section, or to use potable water for: refilling or as make-up water for decorative fountains or pools; irrigation between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.; irrigation of new turf areas; washing of cars, boats, airplanes with hose without a shut-off nozzle; or serving water to restaurant patron except on request.

(C) Curtailment of Program. When lake storage on April 1st is above forty thousand acre-feet or when lake storage is sufficiently above forty thousand acre-feet and projected demands will not reduce lake storage below forty thousand acre-feet by the following April 1st, the requirements of this subsection shall be deactivated by resolution of the board. (Ord. 387 §1, 1999; Ord. 376 §8, 1997; Ord. 325 §1, 1991; Ord. 323 §1, 1991; Ord. 316 §2, 1991)