

Water Conservation Ordinance

Adopted:

Water Works Board of Trustees
City of Osceola, Iowa

In any given year, during and following dry weather and drought conditions, the water supply from West Lake to the Osceola Water Plant may become significantly and seriously depleted. During and following such conditions, there will not then be adequate supply of water to meet all customary and usual water demands of the City and rural customers. The Water Board may establish and declare by resolution, a public emergency water shortage during which time the following voluntary and mandatory measures and provisions shall be in effect to produce an orderly and equitable curtailment of water consumption until, by resolution, the Water Board finds and declares the water shortage emergency to be ended.

Section 1: *Water Watch* - Voluntary Conservation Measures

A *Water Watch* may be declared when the water level in West Lake reaches an elevation 1068.7 feet above Mean Sea Level (“MSL”) which is 4 feet below full pool elevation of 1072.7 feet above MSL. All water users are encouraged to comply with the following voluntary conservation measures during the *Water Watch*.

- A. Voluntary reduction of all indoor and outdoor water uses of all types is encouraged.
- B. Reduced outdoor watering of all types between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 8:00 P.M.
- C. Reduced watering of lawns, shrubs, or gardens, including automatic sprinklers.
- D. Water used to wash streets, parking lots, driveways, sidewalks or building exteriors is discouraged.
- E. Water used for nonessential cleaning of commercial and industrial equipment, machinery, and interior spaces is discouraged.
- F. Southern Iowa Rural Water Association (SIRWA) is requested to switch to as much of their system serviced by Osceola to be supplied by another source where possible.

Water reclaimed or recycled after some primary use, such as water that has been used for washing or cooling, may be used without restriction. Additionally, water derived from sources other than the Osceola Water Plant may be used without restriction.

Section 2: *Water Warning* - Restrictions

A *Water Warning* may be declared when the water level in West Lake reaches an elevation 1066.7 feet above Mean Sea Level (6-feet below normal pool elevation of 1072.7 MSL). Under these conditions, no user shall use municipal water service in any manner contrary to the following:

- A. Outdoor watering and irrigation is prohibited, except as follows.
- B. Watering or irrigation of flower and vegetable gardens, trees and shrubs less than 4-years old, and new seeding or sod is permitted once a week with an application not to exceed 1-inch. Watering or irrigation which would lead to irreparable harm if not completed shall also be allowed. Watering shall only be done between the hours of 8:00 P.M. to 8:00 A.M.
- C. Car washing is prohibited, except at commercial establishments that provide that service.
- D. No water shall be used to fill private swimming pools, children's wading pools, reflecting pools or any other private outdoor pool or pond.
- E. No water shall be used to wash streets, parking lots, driveways, sidewalks or building exteriors.
- F. No water shall be used for nonessential cleaning of commercial and industrial equipment, machinery, and interior spaces.
- G. Suspension of Rule 28: Hydrant Meters of the Osceola Water Works Rules & Regulations and Suspension of Bulk Vendor Usage.

- H. Southern Iowa Rural Water Association (SIRWA) is requested to switch to as much of their system serviced by Osceola to be supplied by another source where possible.
- I. The Water Board will notify Clarke County Emergency Management of a Public Emergency Water Warning.

Water reclaimed or recycled after some primary use, such as water that has been used for washing or cooling, may be used without restriction. Additionally, water derived from sources other than the Osceola Water Plant may be used without restriction.

Penalties - Water Warning

The following penalties shall apply for violations of Water Warning use restrictions imposed under this Ordinance.

- A. First Violation: For a first violation, the Water Board shall issue a written notice of violation to the water user violating the water use restrictions imposed.
- B. Second Violation: For a second violation, a \$65 surcharge shall be imposed.
- C. Subsequent Violations: For any subsequent violations, a \$130 surcharge shall be imposed.

Any customer charged with a violation of the *Water Warning* use restrictions may request a hearing before the Water Board. The Water Board may conclude that a violation did not occur or that the circumstances under which the violation occurred warrant a complete or partial mitigation of the penalty.

Section 3: Water Emergency - Restrictions

A *Water Emergency* may be declared when the water level in West Lake reaches an elevation 1064.7 feet above Mean Sea Level (8-feet below normal pool elevation of 1072.7 MSL). Under these conditions, no user shall use municipal water service in any manner contrary to the following:

- A. All outdoor water use, except for fire and health hazard prevention, is prohibited, unless otherwise allowed by this Section.
- B. All commercial and industrial uses of water not essential in providing products or services is prohibited.
- C. Water use not necessary for the preservation of life or the general welfare of the community is prohibited.
- D. Southern Iowa Rural Water Association (SIRWA) is requested to switch to as much of their system serviced by Osceola to be supplied by another source where possible.
- E. Water use for all users shall be automatically reduced to the "Base Allocation" described below during a *Water Emergency*.

Water reclaimed or recycled after some primary use, such as water that has been used for washing or cooling, may be used without restriction. Additionally, water derived from sources other than the Osceola Water Plant may be used without restriction.

Penalties - *Water Emergency*

The following penalties shall apply for violations of Water Emergency use restrictions imposed under this Ordinance.

- A. First Violation: For a first violation, the Water Board shall issue a written notice of violation to the water user violating the water use restrictions imposed.
- B. Second Violation: For a second violation, a \$65 surcharge shall be imposed.
- C. Subsequent Violations: For any subsequent violations, a \$130 surcharge shall be imposed.
- D. In addition, the Water Superintendent or designee shall interrupt water service to that customer at the premises at which the violation occurred. Service shall not be restored until the customer has paid the surcharges and the \$65 service reconnection. Customer must also provide reasonable assurance (satisfactory to the Water Board) that future violations of this nature will not occur.

Any customer charged with a violation of the *Water Emergency* use restrictions may request a hearing before the Water Board. The Water Board may conclude that a violation did not occur or that the circumstances under which the violation occurred warrant a complete or partial mitigation of the penalty.

Base Allocation - *Water Emergency*

- A. The base allocation of water for Residential use shall be restricted to 7,000 gallons of water usage per billing period.
- B. The base allocation of water for Commercial, Industrial, and Institutional, if usage is greater than 7,000 gallons, shall be restricted to a decrease in water usage of 3% - 10% of the previous rolling 12-month average.
- C. First Notification: For the first notification, the Water Board shall issue a written notice of the water use restrictions imposed to all customers.
- D. Second Notification: For the second notification, the Water Board shall make every attempt to inform customers of their water usage if usage is within the restrictions of the Base Allocation – Water Emergency.
- E. Third Notification: For the third notification, customers in violation of not conserving water shall pay the Rate for Usage in Violation of Base Allocation – Water Emergency as described below.

Rate for Usage in Violation of Base Allocation - *Water Emergency*

In addition to the water rates duly enacted by the Osceola Water Works Board of Trustees of the City of Osceola, all customers shall pay a rate of \$20.00 per 1,000 gallons of water consumed in violation of the “Base Allocation” during a *Water Emergency*.

Adjustment of Violation Rate Charges - *Water Emergency*

Any customer may file an appeal with the Water Board for adjustment of the rate charges for Usage in Violation of water consumption in Water Emergency. The Water

Board may consider an adjustment of the Violation Rate Charges in accordance with the following criteria.

- A. The adjustment shall be granted only for the billing period prior to the correction of the failure.
- B. For those accounts granted an adjustment of the Violation Rate Charges, the Water Board will decide the amount of the adjustment to include sales tax.

Section 4: *Water Crisis* - Restrictions

A *Water Crisis* may be declared when the water level in West Lake reaches an elevation 1062.7 feet above Mean Sea Level (10-feet below normal pool elevation of 1072.7 MSL). Under these conditions, no user shall use municipal water service in any manner contrary to the following:

- A. All restrictions applicable to Water Emergency shall still be enforced.
- B. Water use for all users shall be automatically further reduced to the "Base Allocation" described below during a *Water Crisis*.

Water reclaimed or recycled after some primary use, such as water that has been used for washing or cooling, may be used without restriction. Additionally, water derived from sources other than the Osceola Water Plant may be used without restriction.

Penalties - *Water Crisis*

The following penalties shall apply for violations of *Water Crisis* use restrictions imposed under this Ordinance.

- A. First Violation: For a first violation, the Water Board shall issue a written notice of violation to the water user violating the water use restrictions imposed.
- B. Second Violation: For a second violation, a \$130 surcharge shall be imposed.
- C. Subsequent Violations: For any subsequent violations, a \$195 surcharge shall be imposed.
- D. In addition, the Water Superintendent or designee shall interrupt water service to that customer at the premises at which the violation occurred. Service shall not be restored until the customer has paid the surcharges and the \$65 service reconnection. Customer must also provide reasonable assurance (satisfactory to the Water Board) that future violations of this nature will not occur.

Any customer charged with a violation of the *Water Crisis* use restrictions may request a hearing before the Water Board. The Water Board may conclude that a violation did not occur or that the circumstances under which the violation occurred warrant a complete or partial mitigation of the penalty.

Base Allocation - *Water Crisis*

- A. The base allocation of water for Residential use shall be restricted to 5,000 gallons of water usage per billing period.
- B. The base allocation of water for Commercial, Industrial, and Institutional, if usage is greater than 5,000 gallons, shall be restricted to a decrease in water usage of 10% - 20% of the previous rolling 12-month average.
- C. First Notification: For the first notification, the Water Board shall issue a written notice of the water use restrictions imposed to all customers.
- D. Second Notification: For the second notification, the Water Board shall make every attempt to inform customers of their water usage if usage is within the restrictions of the Base Allocation – Water Crisis.
- E. Third Notification: For the third notification, customers in violation of not conserving water shall pay the Rate for Usage in Violation of Base Allocation – Water Crisis as described below.

Rate for Usage in Violation of Base Allocation - *Water Crisis*

In addition to the water rates duly enacted by the Osceola Water Works Board of Trustees of the City of Osceola, all customers shall pay a rate of \$40.00 per 1,000 gallons of water consumed in violation of the “Base Allocation” during a *Water Crisis*.

Adjustment of Violation Rate Charges - *Water Crisis*

Any customer may file an appeal with the Water Board for adjustment of the rate charges for Usage in Violation of water consumption in *Water Crisis*. The Water Board may consider an adjustment of the Violation Rate Charges in accordance with the following criteria.

- A. The adjustment shall be granted only for the billing period prior to the correction of the failure.
- B. For those accounts granted an adjustment of the Violation Rate Charges, the Water Board will decide the amount of the adjustment to include sales tax.

Water reclaimed or recycled after some primary use, such as water that has been used for washing or cooling, may be used without restriction. Additionally, water derived from sources other than the Osceola Water Plant may be used without restriction.

Section 5: Emergency Management Notification

Once the remaining raw water supply in West Lake reaches a supply of only 120 days, the Water Superintendent or designee is authorized to notify the coordinator – Clarke County Emergency Management.

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