

INTRODUCTION

The City of Wellington has undertaken a number of steps to ensure a dependable water supply for our customers during the past 25 years. The water supply for our City was obtained from 9 wells, the Chikaskia River and the City Lake southwest of Wellington. Construction of a new water treatment plant was completed in 1936 and again in 1996. Our City water supply, water treatment plant and distribution system have ample capacity to meet current customers demands and future projected demands for several years, except during drought periods. The City of Wellington believes that our Municipal Water Conservation Plan represents an additional major step in ensuring our customers of a dependable water supply in future years.

MUNICIPAL WATER CONSERVATION PLAN

The primary objectives of the Water Conservation Plan for the City of Wellington are to develop long-term water conservations plans (Long-term Water Use Efficiency Section) and short-term water emergency plans (Drought/Emergency Contingency Section) to assure the City customers of an adequate water supply to meet their needs. The efficient use of water also has the beneficial effect of limiting or postponing water distribution system expansion and thus limiting or postponing the resultant increases in costs, in addition to conserving the limited water resources of the State of Kansas.

LONG-TERM WATER USE EFFICIENCY

WATER USE CONSERVATION GOALS

The City of Wellington used 155 gallons per person per day (GPCD) in 2000. This GPCD figure included:

- a) water sold to residential/commercial customers;
- b) water distributed for free public services (parks, cemeteries, swimming pools, etc); and
- c) water lost by leaks in the water distribution system.

However the GPCD figure does not include municipally supplied water for industries that use over 200,000 gallons per year. According to Figure 1, show in the 2000 Kansas Municipal Water Use Publication, our City is located in region 7. From this publication it was determined that our Cit GPCD water use was 155, which was 34 percent above the regional average of 115GPCD among cities in Region 7 during 2000. The City desires to set a water use conservation goal for usage not to exceed 115 GPCD based on the regional average of the last five years (1996 thru 2000). Our City anticipates not exceeding this goal by carrying out the specific actions that are outlined in or plan.

WATER CONSERVATION PRACTICES

This subsection of the plan summarizes the current education, management and regulation efforts that relate to the long-term conservation of water in the City. Specific practices that will be undertaken to conserve water are listed and a target date to begin each practice is also shown.

Education

The City water bills show the total number of gallons of water used during the billing period and the amount of the bill. Water conservation tips are not normally provided with the water bills. The City has not provided information on water conservation to the local news media on a regular basis and has not encouraged the Board of Education and teachers to become involved in water conservation presentations in schools.

The City has chosen the following conservation practices and target dates for the Education Component of the Long-Term Water Use Efficiency Section of our Water Conservation Plan.

Education Conservation Practices to be Taken	Target Date
1. Water bills will show the amount of water used in gallons and the cost of the water	Implemented
2. Water conservation tips will be provided with the monthly water bills during summer months.	June, 2004
3. Make available information on water conserving landscapes practices through publications, local news media, seminars or other appropriate means.	June, 2004
4. Provide information to the general public on lawn water needs on a regular basis during the summer months.	June, 2004
5. Other appropriate education acts as identified.	June, 2004

Management

The City of Wellington has gallon meters on each of our raw water intake pumps. These meters are read on a daily basis.

Water meters were installed for all residential/commercial customers by in the 1930's. The amount of provided free of charge to the city government buildings and grounds are also metered. Customer meters are scheduled for an accuracy check and possible repair or replacement upon receiving a request to do so from the customer.

The City of Wellington reads each customer's water meter and mails a monthly water bill to each customer during the months of January through December.

Water leaks from the City public water distribution systems are repaired when customers report significant leaks from the water mains or when detected by city personnel. Water pressure is not checked unless customers complain that their water pressure is too low.

The water rate structure for the City was passed in 1991. The minimum monthly water bill is \$8.69 for residential customers, which allows each customer to use up to 2,000 gallons of water each month. Water use between 2,000 and 20,000 gallons is charged at \$3.08 per 1,000 gallons per month. All water use in excess of 20,000 gallons per month is charged at \$2.66 per 1,000 gallons.

The City of Wellington realizes that much emphasis must be place on obtaining accurate measurement of water use at our raw water intake and at customer meters and that a water use records system must be developed that can be used to more effectively and efficiently manage the City public water distribution system. Hence, the City of Wellington has chosen the following conservation practices and target dates for the Management component of the Long-Term Water Use Efficiency Section of our Water Conservation Plan.

Management Conservation Practices to be taken	Target Date
1. All raw water intakes will have meters installed and the meters will be repaired or replaced within two weeks when a malfunction occurs.	Implemented
2. Meters at raw water intakes will be tested for accuracy at least once every three years. Each meter will be repaired or replace if its test measurements are not within two percent of the actual volume of water passing through the meter.	Implemented

3. Meters will be installed at all residential service connections and at all other service connections whose annual water use may exceed 300,000 gallons. Including separate meters for municipally operated irrigation systems which irrigate more than one acre of turf.	Implemented
4. Meters at each individual service connection will be replaced or tested for accuracy on a regular basis, at least once every 10 years, if they are one inch or less. Meters between one inch and six inches will be tested for accuracy at least once every five years and meters six inches and larger will be tested on at least an annual basis. Each meter will be repaired or replaced if its test measurements are not within three percent of the actual volume of water passing through the meter.	2005
5. All meters at raw water intakes be read at least on a monthly basis and meters at individual service connections will be read at least once every two months.	Implemented
6. A reading will be taken at each raw water intake meter at the same time that meters for individual service connections are read.	Implemented
7. A water utility will implement a water management review, which will result in a specified change in water management practices or implementation of a leak detection and repair program or plan, whenever the amount of unsold water (amount of water provided free for public service, used for treatment purposes, water loss, etc.) exceeds 20 percent of the total raw water intake for a four month time period.	Implemented
8. Water sales will be based on the amount of water used.	Implemented
9. A water rate structure designed to curb excessive use of water will be evaluated.	2005

10. Develop and implement an irrigation management program for irrigated grounds.	2005
11. The city will consider the recycling of wastewater for selected industrial purposes.	2005

Regulation

The City of Wellington has taken the following water conservation regulation in effect at the present time.

Regulation Actions to be Taken	
1. All new or renovated construction will install toilets that use 1.6 gallons per flush or less and low flow showerheads that use 2.5 gallons per minute or less.	Implemented

DROUGHT EMERGENCY CONTINGENCY

The city of Wellington addresses its short-term water shortage problems through a series of stages based on conditions of supply and demand with accompanying triggers, goals and actions. Each stage more stringent in water use than the previous stage since water supply conditions are deteriorated. The City Manager is authorized by ordinance to implement the appropriate conservations measures.

STAGE 1: WATER WATCH

Goals

The goals of this stage are to heighten awareness of the public on water conditions and to maintain the integrity of the water supply system.

Triggers

This stage is triggered by any one of the following conditions:

1. The City's storage has fallen below 85 percent capacity, and will not recover,
2. Lake elevation is 3 feet below normal seasonal level, or
3. Demand for one day is in excess of 3.3 million gallons per day.

Education Actions

1. The City will make occasional news releases to the local media describing present conditions and indicating the water supply outlook for the upcoming season.
2. Previous month summaries of water levels and storage will be made public at the beginning of each month.

Management Actions

1. The City wells be cleaned and flushed to maintain them at their most efficient condition.
2. Leaks will be repaired within 48 hours of detection.
3. The City will monitor its use of water and will curtail activities such as hydrant flushing.

Regulation Actions

1. The public will be asked to curtail some outdoor water use and to make efficient use of indoor water, i.e.; wash full loads, take short showers. Don't; let faucets run, etc.

STAGE 2: WATER WARNING

Goals

The goals of this stage are to reduce peak demands by 20 percent and to reduce overall weekly consumption by 10 percent.

Triggers

This stage is triggered by any one of the following conditions:

1. The City's storage has fallen below 70 percent capacity, and will not recover,
2. Lake elevation is 5 feet below normal seasonal level, or
3. Demand for one day is in excess of 3.5 million gallons per day.
4. Treatment plant operations are at 80 percent capacity or more for three consecutive days.

Education Actions

1. The City will make weekly news releases to the local media describing present conditions and indicating the water supply outlook for the upcoming week.

2. Previous month summaries of precipitation, temperature, water levels and storage will be made public at the beginning of each month.
3. The City will place inserts in each customer's water bill outlining tips on conserving water indoors and outdoors.
4. Water conservations articles will be provided to the local newspapers

Management Actions

4. The City water supplies will be monitored daily.
5. Leaks will be repaired within 24 hours of detection.
6. The City will curtail its water usage, including operation of fountains, water of city grounds and washing of vehicles.
7. Standby wells will be prepared for contingency operation.
8. Pumping at wells will be reduced to decrease drawdown and to maintain water levels over well screens.

Regulation Actions

1. An odd/even lawn watering system will be imposed on City residents. Residents with odd numbered addresses will water on odd days, even addresses will water on even days.
2. Outdoor water use, including lawn watering and car washing, will be restricted to before 10 a.m. and after 9 p.m.
3. Refilling of swimming pools will be allowed one day a week after sunset.
4. Excess water use charges for usage of water over the amount used in the winter will be imposed.
5. Waste of water will be prohibited.

STAGE 3: WATER EMERGENCY

Goals

The goals of this stage are to reduce peak demands by 50 percent and to reduce overall weekly consumption by 25 percent.

Triggers

This stage is triggered by any one of the following conditions:

1. The City's storage has fallen below 50 percent capacity.
2. Lake elevation is 7 feet below normal seasonal level, or
3. Demand for one day is in excess of 3.8 million gallons per day.
4. Treatment plant operations are at 90 percent capacity or more for three consecutive days.
5. Emergency conditions related to repairs or water quality.

Education Actions

1. The City will make weekly news releases to the local media describing present conditions and indicating the water supply outlook for the upcoming day.
2. Previous month summaries of precipitation, temperature, water levels and storage will be made public at the beginning of each month.

3. The City will hold public meetings to discuss the emergency, the status of the City's supply and further action, which needs to be taken

Management Actions

9. The City water supplies will be monitored daily.
10. Leaks will be repaired within 24 hours of detection.
11. Standby wells will be prepared for contingency operation.
12. Pumping at wells will be reduced to decrease drawdown and to maintain water levels over well screens.
13. The City will seek additional emergency supplies from other users, the state or the federal government.

Regulation Actions

6. Outdoor water use will be banned.
7. Waste of water will be prohibited.

PLAN REVISION MONITORING & EVALUATION

The City of Wellington will establish a monthly management practice of reviewing monthly totals for water production, residential/commercial sales, water provided free of charge and unaccounted for water. Problems noted during the monthly review will be solved as soon as possible.

The City of Wellington Municipal Water Conservation Plan will be reviewed during the month of April each year and on a more frequent basis during drought or other water shortage conditions. If the water conservation GPCD goals for the previous year are not met, then the City will review the data collected from the previous year in relationship to the status and effectiveness of the conservation practices that are outlined in our plan and will provide a status report to the Kansas Water Office which will also include and additional water conservation practices that may need to be taken in order for the city to achieve and maintain its water use conservation GPCD goals.

Wellington, Kansas, Code of Ordinances >> PART II - CODE OF ORDINANCES >> Chapter 38 - UTILITIES >> ARTICLE IV. - WATER USE REGULATIONS >>

ARTICLE IV. - WATER USE REGULATIONS

- Sec. 38-190. - Purpose.
Sec. 38-191. - Definitions.
Sec. 38-192. - Declaration of a water emergency.
Sec. 38-193. - Voluntary conservation measures.
Sec. 38-194. - Mandatory conservation measures.
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Sec. 38-198. - Violations, disconnections and penalties.
Sec. 38-199. - Emergency termination.
Secs. 38-200—38-221. - Reserved.

Sec. 38-190. - Purpose.

The purpose of this article is to provide for the declaration of a water supply emergency and the implementation of voluntary and mandatory water conservation measures throughout the city in the event such an emergency is declared.

(Code 1989; Code 1996, § 15-301)

Sec. 38-191. - Definitions.

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Customer means the customer of record using water for any purpose from the city's water distribution system and for which either a regular charge is made or, in the case of coin sales, a cash charge is made at the site of delivery.

Waste of water.

- (1) The term "waste of water" includes, but is not limited to:
 - a. Permitting water to escape down a gutter, ditch, or other surface drain; or
 - b. Failure to repair a controllable leak of water due to defective plumbing.
- (2) The following class of uses of water are established:
 - a. *Class 1.* Water used for outdoor watering, either public or private, for gardens, lawns, trees, shrubs, plants, parks, golf courses, playing fields, swimming pools or other recreational area; or the washing of motor vehicles, boats, trailers, or the exterior of any building or structure.
 - b. *Class 2.* Water used for any commercial or industrial, including agricultural, purposes; except water actually necessary to maintain the health and personal hygiene of bona fide employees while such employees are engaged in the performance of their duties at their place of employment.
 - c. *Class 3.* Domestic usage, other than that which would be included in either Classes 1 or 2.
 - d. *Class 4.* Water necessary only to sustain human life and the lives of domestic pets and maintain standards of hygiene and sanitation.

Water means water available to the city for treatment by virtue of its water rights or any treated water introduced by the city into its water distribution system, including water offered for sale at any coin-operated site.

(Code 1989; Code 1996, § 15-302)

Sec. 38-192. - Declaration of a water emergency.

Whenever the governing body of the city finds that an emergency exists by reason of a shortage of water supply needed for essential uses, it shall be empowered to declare by resolution that a water supply emergency exists and that it will encourage voluntary water conservation or impose mandatory restrictions on water use during the period of the emergency. Such an emergency shall be deemed to continue until it is declared by resolution of the governing body to have ended. The resolutions declaring the existence and end of a water supply emergency shall be effective upon their publication in the official city newspaper.

(Code 1989; Code 1996, § 15-303)

Sec. 38-193. - Voluntary conservation measures.

Upon the declaration of a water supply emergency as provided in section 38-192, the mayor is authorized to call on all water consumers to employ voluntary water conservation measures to limit or eliminate nonessential water uses including, but not limited to, limitations on the following uses:

- (1) Sprinkling of water on lawns, shrubs or trees (including golf courses).
- (2) Washing of automobiles.
- (3) Use of water in swimming pools, fountains and evaporative air conditioning systems.
- (4) Waste of water.

(Code 1989; Code 1996, § 15-304)

Sec. 38-194. - Mandatory conservation measures.

Upon the declaration of a water supply emergency as provided in section 38-192, the mayor is also authorized to implement certain mandatory water conservation measures, including, but not limited to, the following:

- (1) Suspension of new connections to the city's water distribution system, except connections of fire hydrants and those made pursuant to agreements entered into by the city prior to the effective date of the declaration of the emergency;
- (2) Restrictions on the uses of water in one or more classes of water use, wholly or in part;
- (3) Restrictions on the sales of water at coin-operated facilities or sites;
- (4) The imposition of water rationing bases on any reasonable formula including, but not limited to, the percentage of normal use and per capita or per consumer restrictions;
- (5) Complete or partial bans on the waste of water; and
- (6) Any combination of the foregoing measures.

(Code 1989; Code 1996, § 15-305)

Sec. 38-195. - Emergency water rates.

Upon the declaration of a water supply emergency as provided in section 38-192, the governing body of the city shall have the power to adopt emergency water rates by ordinance designed to conserve water supplies. Such emergency rates may provide for, but are not limited to:

- (1) Higher charges for increasing usage per unit of use (increasing block rates);
- (2) Uniform charges for water usage per unit of use (uniform unit rate); or
- (3) Extra charges in excess of a specified level of water use (excess demand surcharge).

(Code 1989; Code 1996, § 15-306)

Sec. 38-196. - Regulations.

During the effective period of any water supply emergency as provided for in section 38-192, the mayor is empowered to promulgate such regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this article, any water supply emergency resolution, or emergency water rate ordinance. Such regulations shall be subject to the approval of the governing body at its next regular or special meeting.

(Code 1989; Code 1996, § 15-307)

Sec. 38-197. - Water leaks.

It shall be unlawful for any customer of the water utility to permit a water leak in the customer's water system to continue unrepaired or otherwise stopped for a period of more than ten days after such leak is first discovered or detected and certified notification is provided to the owner and occupant.

(Code 1996, § 15-308; Ord. No. 3629, § 1)

Sec. 38-198. - Violations, disconnections and penalties.

- (a) Violation of any water use restriction implemented in accordance with this article shall be a municipal offense and may be prosecuted in municipal court. Each day's violation shall constitute a separate offense. The penalty for the first violation shall be a mandatory fine of \$100.00. The penalty for the second violation shall be a mandatory fine of \$200.00 and a notice will be given to the customer of record and any other person known to the city who is responsible for the violation or its correction describing the violation and order that it be corrected, cured or abated immediately, if the order is not complied with, the penalty for the third violation shall be a mandatory fine of \$300.00. In addition, such customer may be required by the court to serve a definite term of confinement in the city jail which shall be fixed by the court and which shall not exceed 30 days.
- (b) After the third violation the city may disconnect/terminate the service to the customer in accordance with the following procedure:
- (1) The city shall give the customer notice by mail or actual notice that water service will be discontinued within a specified time due to the violation and that the customer will have the opportunity to appeal the termination by requesting a hearing scheduled before the city governing body or a city official designated as a hearing officer by the governing body;
 - (2) If such a hearing is requested by the customer charged with the violation, the customer shall be given a full opportunity to be heard before termination is ordered; and
 - (3) The governing body or hearing officer shall make findings of fact and order whether service should continue or be terminated.

A fee which is on file in the city clerk's office shall be paid for the reconnection of any water service terminated pursuant to subsection (a) of this section. In the event of subsequent violations, the reconnection fee for the second violation and for any additional violations shall be on file in the city clerk's office.

(Code 1996, § 15-309; Ord. No. 3609, § 1)

Sec. 38-199. - Emergency termination.

Nothing in this article shall limit the ability of any properly authorized city official from terminating the supply of water to any or all service is required to protect the health and safety of the public.

(Code 1989; Code 1996, § 15-310)

Secs. 38-200—38-221. - Reserved.