



STAFF REPORT
9/14/2022

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Cástulo R. Estrada, Utilities Manager

SUBJECT: Adoption of Resolution No. WA-2022-05 Adopting Level 2 Demand Reduction Actions As Outlined In The Authority's Water Shortage Contingency Plan, And As Required By The State Water Resources Control Board's Drought Emergency Rulemaking

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt the proposed Resolution declaring a water shortage level 2 as described in the Coachella Water Authority Water Shortage Contingency Plan (WSCP); implementing all of the demand reduction items identified in the WSCP relating to a water shortage level 2; and prohibiting the use of potable water for irrigation of non-functional turf.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS:

The City of Coachella, through the Coachella Water Authority (CWA), is an urban water supplier and is required to comply with the regulations which require the City to implement all requirements and actions of its Water Shortage Contingency Plan (WSCP). CWA's WSCP was adopted by its Board on June 23, 2021.

On July 8, 2021, the Governor issued Executive Order N-10-21 calling on all Californians to voluntarily cut water consumption by 15% from 2020 levels.

On March 28, 2022, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-7-22. Per the executive order, the SWRCB was asked to consider adopting emergency regulations by May 25, 2022, that require urban water suppliers to, at a minimum, enact level 2 shortage actions, and consider banning irrigation of "non-functional turf" in commercial, industrial, and institutional sectors.

Per the Executive Order, "non-functional turf" is defined as turf that is ornamental and not otherwise used for human recreation purposes such as school fields, sports fields and parks. The ban would only apply to non-functional turf within commercial, industrial, and institutional sectors except as it may be required to ensure the health of trees and other perennial non-turf plantings.

Table 1. Demand Reduction Actions

Shortage Level	ID	Demand Reduction Actions	Expected Relative Impact	Penalty or Enforcement
1	1.1	Applying any water to outdoor landscapes in a manner that causes runoff such that water flows onto adjacent property, non-irrigated areas, private and public walkways, roadways, parking lots, or structures is prohibited.	Low	No
	1.2	Using any water in a fountain or other decorative water feature is prohibited, unless the water recirculates.	Low	No
	1.3	Applying water to driveways, sidewalks, concrete or asphalt is prohibited unless to address immediate health and safety needs. Reasonable pressure washer or water broom use is permitted.	Low	No
	1.4	Spray irrigation of outdoor landscapes during and within 48 hours after rainfall of 0.10 inches is prohibited.	Low	No
	1.5	Using a hose to wash a vehicle, windows, or solar panels is prohibited unless an automatic shut-off nozzle or pressure washer is used.	Low	No
	1.6	Broken sprinklers shall be repaired within five business days of notification by agency, and leaks shall be repaired as soon as practical.	Low	No
	1.7	Draining and refilling of private swimming pools is discouraged, unless necessary for health and safety or leak repair.	Low	No
	1.8	Hotels will provide guests the option of choosing not to have towels and linens laundered daily.	Low	No
	1.9	Agency shall discourage overseeding.	Low	No
	1.10	Agency shall provide rebates for landscape efficiency.	High	No
	1.11	Agency shall offer water use surveys/audits.	Medium	No
	1.12	Agency shall provide rebates on plumbing fixtures and devices.	Medium	No
2	2.1	Outdoor water use is prohibited during daylight hours for spray irrigation except for leak checks or with an agency approved conservation alternative plan.	Medium	Yes
	2.2	Restaurants can serve water only on request.	Low	Yes
	2.3	Agency shall encourage use of non-potable water for construction, if available.	Low	No
	2.4	Agency shall actively discourage overseeding.	Medium	No
	2.5	Agency shall expand public information campaign.	Medium	No
	2.6	Agency shall increase water waste patrols.	Medium	Yes
	2.7	Agency shall reduce hydrant and dead-end line flushing.	Low	No

FISCAL IMPACT:

No Fiscal Impact