

Drought Contingency Plan

*Italic text from 30 TAC 288.20(a)(1)(A thru J)
Drought Contingency Plans*

(H) The drought contingency plan must include the procedures to be followed for the initiation or termination of each drought response stage, including procedures for notification of the public.

(D) The drought contingency plan must include a description of the information to be monitored by the water supplier, and specific criteria for the initiation and termination of drought response stages, accompanied by an explanation of the rationale or basis for such triggering criteria.

(E) The drought contingency plan must include drought or emergency response stages providing for the implementation of measures in response to at least the following situations:

- (i) reduction in available water supply up to a repeat of the drought of record;*
- (ii) water production or distribution system limitations;*
- (iii) supply source contamination; or*
- (iv) system outage due to the failure or damage of major water system components (e.g., pumps).*

(G) The drought contingency plan must include the specific water supply or water demand management measures to be implemented during each stage of the plan including, but not limited to, the following:

- (i) curtailment of non-essential water uses; and*
- (ii) utilization of alternative water sources and/or alternative delivery mechanisms with the prior approval of the executive director as appropriate (e.g., interconnection with another water system, temporary use of a non-municipal water supply, use of reclaimed water for non-potable purposes, etc.).*

(J) The drought contingency plan must include procedures for the enforcement of mandatory water use restrictions, including specification of penalties (e.g., fines, water rate surcharges, discontinuation of service) for violations of such restrictions.

1 Situation E-1	
2 reduction in available water supply up to a repeat of the drought of record	
3 Initiation Trigger	City of Austin announcement of their DCP Stage as Austin is the MWSC sole source water provider
4 Authority/Actor/Agent	MWSC President, in concurrence with other Corporate officers, subject to ratification by the Board of Directors
5 Response	Response level as declared by President
6 Public Notification	postcard, email, website announcement
7 Termination Trigger	City of Austin announcement
8 Conservation level	water use reduced 10% from 5-year month-on-month average (Reminder that opportunity for reductions are very limited)

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10 Basic conservation: don't water concrete or rock, water use with aeration (e.g sprinklers or
11 misters or anything else that is "watering the air") only at night (pre-dawn hours preferred,
12 typically less wind)

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14 There are three levels of response, depending on the degree of the drought declaration:

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16 First level: Outside water use without aeration is allowed, unless permitted otherwise

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18 Second level: Outside water use without aeration is allowed to maintain life support for
19 animals or to sustain vegetation. All other use is verboten, unless permitted otherwise

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21 Third level: Outside water use allowed for animal life support only. All other use is verboten,
22 unless permitted otherwise

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24 Exemptions/Variances:

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26 MWSC President may grant an exemption, but must report each such exemption to the Board
27 by the next regular Board meeting. For the exemption to remain in effect after the report to
28 the Board, the Board must ratify the exemption by resolution.

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30 Enforcement:

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32 Member may be charged [(level) * \$50.00] per occurrence per day. Any such funds shall be
33 considered as "contribution in aid of construction" and used for repair and replacement or for
34 new construction.

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Situation E-2 water production or distribution system limitations	
Initiation Trigger	there is a leak, and it can be fixed within a few hours to within one day
Authority/Actor/Agent	MWSC President
Response	fix the <beep> leak
Termination Trigger	no more leak
Public Notification	A message will be sent to the Outage Email List with as much information as available at the time. Website announcement Customers have no water. They will be contacting MWSC to ask why.
Comment	Distribution system limitations is unfortunately an almost routine occurrence. Water production is purchase water contract from the City of Austin. Limitations from Austin are Situation E-1.
Conservation level	100% conservation - the system is shut down

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Situation E-3 supply source contamination	
Initiation Trigger	City of Austin announcement; or Coliform report from the monthly sample; or leak with suspected contamination
Authority/Actor/Agent	MWSC President
Response	sectional isolation to the extent possible; AND system shutdown WITHOUT flushing TCEQ notification
Termination Trigger	TCEQ response authorizes resumption of service
Alternative Source	bottled water and/or water hauling services
Service Notification	A message will be sent to the Outage Email List with as much information as available at the time. Website announcement. Email Customers have no water. They will be contacting MWSC to ask why.
Comment	MWSC is a small system. By the time we are aware of a contamination problem, that contamination will have been spread thru most if not all of our distribution pipelines. Shutdown is the only viable option to stop any contamination. Sectional isolation without flushing is a "Hail Mary" last-best-hope method to avoid having a contamination spread thru the remainder of the distribution system that just might not have been contaminated. There is no directional flushing capability.
Conservation level	100% conservation - the system is shut down

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Situation E-4 system outage due to the failure or damage of major water system components	
Initiation Trigger	we have leak/failure and a bad one - something that will take more than a day to fix
Authority/Actor/Agent	MWSC President
Response	system shutdown TCEQ notification on advice and concurrence of Operator
Termination Trigger	repair the <beep> leak if TCEQ is notified, TCEQ authorizes restoring service
Alternative Source	bottled water and/or water hauling services
Service Notification	A message will be sent to the Outage Email List with as much information as available at the time. Website announcement, email Customers have no water. They will be contacting MWSC to ask why.
Comment	Situation E-4 is different from E-3 only by the source of the problem. Mechanical failure is E-4, otherwise it is E-3. MWSC is a small system, not all that unlike an airplane with a single engine. If the engine stops, the plane is going down.
Reminder	MWSC is a purchase water system. We do not have any treatment facilities, pumps, storage tanks, or pressure planes. We have pipe and valves. And that's it.
Conservation level	100% conservation - the system is shut down

1 Other Elements of the Drought Contingency Plan (30 TAC 288.20)

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3 Public Notice and Participation (A):

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5 The members and general public are given the opportunity to attend any regularly scheduled
6 Board of Directors meeting.

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8 Continuing Public Education (B):

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10 Information about the Drought Contingency Plan, and using water efficiently, is included in
11 billing inserts and on the corporation website.

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13 Regional Planning (C):

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15 The Pamela Heights subdivision is located in Planning Group Region K. As MWSC is a wholesale
16 customer of the City of Austin, and does not draw on water sources directly, the City of Austin
17 serves as the Region K representative.