



OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 21, 2016
TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: Eugene Palazzo, City Manager *E.M.P.*
SUBJECT: STAGE 2 – WATER ALERT DECLARATION

Based upon the recommendation of the City Engineer, pursuant to Galt Municipal Code section 13.10.040, I am declaring a de-escalation from the current Stage 3 – Water Warning to a Stage 2 – Water Alert, effective immediately.

The State Water Board recently adopted updated Emergency Regulations with the following impacts:

- Prior emergency regulations are extended until February 28, 2017, except as currently modified.
- Water suppliers must now ‘self-certify’ an appropriate water conservation target, based upon a determination of whether the local water system’s supply can withstand 3 additional drought years, assuming similar precipitation to that experienced during the 3 ‘water years’ ending September 30th of 2013 through 2015.
- The new local conservation target must equal any projected shortfall in supply that would occur in such a scenario.

While the final determination is still pending regarding what, if any, conservation target will be required for Galt under the new criteria; it is clear that it will be significantly lower than the current 29% state mandate. As such, I believe it is prudent to de-escalate from the current Stage 3 to Stage 2 water conservation requirements. Additional information on the impacts of the new requirements are outlined in the attached Memo from the Public Works Director. A press release will be issued today and the City’s various web and social media sites will be updated as appropriate.

Please let me know if you have any questions in this matter.

Eugene M. Palazzo
City Manager
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Galt, California

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INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Eugene Palazzo, City Manager

FROM: Steven Winkler, Public Works Director *SW*

DATE: June 20, 2016

SUBJECT: Reduced Water Conservation Requirements

On May 9, 2016 Governor Brown issued Executive Order B-37-16, calling for an extension to the existing Emergency Water Conservation Regulations, with modifications intended to develop a permanent regulatory framework. In response, on May 18, 2016 the State Water Resources Control Board (Water Board) adopted new Emergency Water Conservation Regulations. The new regulations extend and modify the previous emergency regulations approved on February 2, 2016. The regulations now require water suppliers to 'self-certify' an appropriate water conservation target, based upon a determination of whether the local water system's supply can withstand 3 additional drought years, assuming similar precipitation to that experienced during the 3 'water years' ending September 30th of 2013 through 2015. The local conservation target must equal any projected shortfall in supply that would occur in such a scenario.

While the formal calculations and assessments necessary to 'self-certify' a formal conservation target for Galt's water system are on-going, a preliminary review clearly indicates that a significant reduction from the current 29% water conservation mandate will result for Galt, based upon the resilience and recharge characteristics of the Cosumnes Sub-basin underlying the Galt area. As such, I am recommending the City revert to a **Stage 2 – Water Alert**, effective immediately, as set forth in Galt Municipal Code Section 13.10.060. This is a de-escalation from the current Stage 3 – Water Warning in effect since May 18, 2015.

Stage 2 requires all of the following:

Prohibits:

"Waste of Water" - allowing water to escape from the water supply at the rate of one quart or more per hour from any leaky, worn or broken faucets, valves, pipes or other fixtures, or permitting water to run from any hose, hose nozzle, valve or sprinkler in a wasteful, useless or non-beneficial manner.

Requirements:

- Automatic shutoff devices shall be used on all hoses for the purposes of watering lawns or gardens or for the washing of vehicles, boats, equipment, driveways, sidewalks, or similar uses.
- All leaking water lines and/or faulty sprinkler systems must be repaired within five days. At the discretion of the City's Public Works Department, and upon a showing or just cause by the use, the five-day limit may be extended. Any water

line beyond and including the connection to the curb stop shall be the resident's responsibility for repair and replacement.

- All pools, spas, ponds and ornamental fountains shall be equipped with a recirculating pump and shall be constructed in a leak-proof manner. Draining and refilling of such structure shall be allowed only for health, maintenance or structural considerations.
- Landscape and pasture irrigation shall be limited to a maximum of **three days per week**, when necessary, and shall be based on the following odd-even schedule:
 - Customers with street addresses ending with an **even number** may irrigate only on **Wednesday and/or Friday and/or Sunday**;
 - Customers with street addresses ending with an **odd number** may irrigate only on **Tuesday and/or Thursday and/or Saturday**;
 - No irrigation will be permitted on Mondays.
- Draining and refilling of pools, spas and ponds shall be allowed for health, maintenance or structural considerations, after approval by the City Engineer. Customer requests for approval must be substantiated in writing by a pool consultant or equivalent.
- Restaurants shall serve water only upon specific request.
- No washing of sidewalks, streets, driveways, parking lots, structures, or similar uses will be allowed except as necessary for health, sanitary or fire protection purposes.
- Washing of vehicles, boats, equipment, etc. shall be accomplished under the following restrictions:
 - Water buckets shall be utilized;
 - Water hoses with automatic shutoff devices may be used for rinsing for a duration not to exceed three minutes.

In addition to the requirements noted above, the current State Emergency Regulations impose additional requirements until February 28, 2017:

- Prohibition against applying potable water to outdoor landscapes during and within 48 hours following a measurable rainfall event.
- Requirement for hotels/motels to prominently display a notice providing guests with the option not to have daily laundry service for towels and linens.
- Prompt customer notification when the City obtains information regarding a potential leak within the customer's exclusive control.

If you concur, I recommend that you prepare a brief memo to Council and Department Heads advising of your declaration of a reduced **Stage 2 - Water Alert** and effective date, with this memo attached. We will coordinate the issuance of a press release and update the City's web-sites. Once a determination is made as to what, if any, formal water conservation % is necessary for Galt under the new regulations, we will provide you with further recommendations.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Donna Settles
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GALT TO IMPLEMENT REDUCTION TO STAGE 2 WATER ALERT

Galt, CA (6/21/16) – The Galt City Manager has declared a de-escalation from a Stage 3 – Water Warning to a Stage 2 – Water Alert, effective immediately. This action is in response to updated emergency regulations recently adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board. The new emergency water conservation mandates require Urban Water Suppliers to ‘self-certify’ a conservation %, based upon any projected shortfall in supply that would occur if another 3-year drought were to be experienced. While the City of Galt has not yet completed its determination of what, if any, conservation % will be required under the new regulations, it is clear that a significant reduction from the current 29% state mandate will occur. As a result, city officials believe a reduction from the current Stage 3 water restrictions to Stage 2 limitations is now appropriate.

Under Stage 2, outdoor watering in Galt may increase from the current two days per week to three, based upon an odd/even street numbering system:

- Odd addresses may water on Tuesday, Thursday and/or Saturday.
- Even addresses may water on Wednesday, Friday and/or Sunday.
- No watering is allowed on Mondays.

Under Stage 2 customers must still avoid wasting water, including a prohibition against using water to wash hardscapes (driveways, sidewalks, streets, etc.) except for health and safety reasons. The State’s current Emergency Water Conservation Regulations also prohibit watering during or within 48 hours of a measurable rainfall event. Additional restrictions are outlined in the attached memo dated June 20, 2016.

Public Works Director Steven Winkler said “Galt’s water customers have done an excellent job in meeting state mandates for water conservation over the past two years. We are pleased to be able to provide them with limited relief in maintaining their landscape investments, but request that they remain vigilant in conserving water wherever they can.”

Attachment: Stage 2 – Water Conservation Memo