

# Drought Contingency Plan for a Wholesale Public Water Supplier

City of Grapeland Water Department  
P.O. Box 567  
Grapeland, TX 75844

PWS# 1130002

January 4, 2019

## **Section I : Declaration of Policy; Purpose, and Intent**

In order to conserve the available water supply and/or protect the integrity of water supply facilities, with particular regard for public water use, sanitation and fire protection, and to protect and preserve public health, welfare and safety and minimize the adverse impacts of water supply shortage or other water supply emergency conditions, the City of Grapeland water department adopts the following Drought Contingency Plan.

## **Section II : Public Involvement**

Opportunity for the public and the wholesale water customers to provide input into the preparation of the plan was provided by the City of Grapeland Water Dept. by Means of Public Notice to Customers published in local news paper, Public Notice handouts and City Council meeting.

## **Section III : Wholesale water Customer Education**

The Grapeland water dept. will periodically provide wholesale water customers with information about the plan, including information about conditions under which each state of the plan is to be initiated or terminated and the drought response measures to be implemented in each state. This information will be provided by means of handouts; printed notice in local Newspaper and information provided in the monthly City Council meetings.

#### **Section IV: Coordination with Regional Water Planning Groups**

The water service area of the City of Grapeland Water Dept. is located within the Deep East Tx. Water Planning Region and the City of Grapeland has provided a copy of the Plan to the Deep East Tx. Regional Office.

#### **Section V: Authorization**

The Water Utilities Superintendent or his/her designee is hereby authorized and directed to implement the applicable provisions of this Plan upon determination that such implementation is necessary to protect public health, safety, and welfare. The Water Utilities Superintendent, Shall have the authority to initiate or terminate drought or other water supply emergency response measures as described in this Plan.

#### **Section VI: Application**

The provisions of this Plan shall apply to all customers utilizing water provided by the City of Grapeland Water Department. The terms "person" and "customer" as used in the Plan include individuals, corporations, partnerships, associations, and all other Legal entities.

#### **Section VII: Criteria for Initiation and Termination of Drought Response Stages**

The Water Utilities Superintendent or his/her designee shall monitor water supply and /or demand conditions on a weekly basis and shall determine when conditions warrant initiation or termination of each state of the Plan. Customer notification of the initiation or termination of drought response stages will be made by mail or telephone. The news media will also be informed.

##### ***The triggering criteria described below are based on:***

water demand, weather conditions, past history of the reservoir under drought conditions, firm capacity of the Plant, and prudent and rational thinking.

##### **Stage 1 Triggers - MILD Water Shortage Conditions.**

**Requirements for initiation-** The Grapeland City and Water Department will recognize that a mild water shortage condition exists when 1. Water demand has reached 90% of the capacity of the system for three consecutive days with the plant operating at 100% of the rated production. 2. Weather conditions that will result in reduced water supply available for an extended period of time.

**Requirements for termination** - Stage 1 of the Plan may be rescinded when all conditions listed as triggering events have ceased to exist for a period of 14 consecutive days. The City of Grapeland Water Department will notify its wholesale customers and the media of the termination of Stage 1 in the same manner as the notification of initiation of State 1 of the Plan.

#### **Stage 2 triggers - MODERATE Water Shortage Conditions**

**Requirements for initiation**-The Water Utilities Superintendent will recognize that a moderate water shortage condition exists when 1. Water demand has reached 100% of the capacity of the system for three consecutive days with the plant operating at 100% of the rated production. 2. Weather conditions that result in ground water and reservoir levels falling to a point that mild operational problems occur.

**Requirements for termination** - Stage 2 of the Plan may be rescinded when all of the conditions listed as triggering events have ceased to exist for a period of 14 consecutive days. Upon termination of Stage 2, Stage 1 becomes operative. The City of Grapeland Water Department will notify its wholesale customers and the media of the termination of Stage 2 in the same manner as the notification of initiation of Stage 1 of the Plan.

#### **Stage 3 Triggers - SEVERE Water Shortage Conditions.**

**Requirements for initiation**-The City of Grapeland Water Department will recognize that a severe water shortage condition exists when 1. The treatment plant is non-operational due to a malfunction at the site. 2. Ground water and reservoir levels drop to a point where pumping equipment will not function properly.

**Requirements for termination** - Stage 3 of the Plan may be rescinded when all of the conditions listed as triggering events have ceased to exist for a period of 14 consecutive days. Upon termination of Stage 3, Stage 2 becomes operative. The City of Grapeland Water Department will notify its wholesale customers and the media of the termination of Stage 2 in the same manner as the notification of initiation of Stage 3 of the Plan.

#### **Stage 4 Triggers - CRITICAL Water Shortage Conditions**

**Requirements for initiation** - The City of Grapeland Water Department will recognize that an emergency water shortage condition exists when 1. A major water line breaks which causes considerable water loss. 2. Pumps or system failures occur which cause the inability to obtain the water from the well and or Houston County WCID, treat the water adequately, or supply the water to our customers. 3. Natural or man-made contamination of the water supply source occurs.



**Requirements for termination** - Stage 4 of the Plan may be rescinded when all of the conditions listed as triggering events have ceased to exist for a period of 14 consecutive days. The City of Grapeland Water Department will notify its wholesale customers and the media of the termination of Stage 4 in the same manner as the notification of initiation of Stage 3 of the Plan.

### **Section VIII: Drought Response Stages**

The Water Utilities Superintendent or his/her designee, shall monitor water supply and or demand conditions and, in accordance with the triggering criteria set forth in Section VI, shall determine that mild, moderate, or severe water shortage conditions exist or that an emergency condition exists and shall implement the following actions:

#### **Stage 1 Response - MILD Water Shortage Conditions**

**Target:** Achieve a voluntary 10% reduction in daily water demand.

##### **Demand Management Measures:**

- (a) The Water Utilities Superintendent or his/her designee, will contact wholesale water customers to discuss water supply and demand conditions, and will request that wholesale water customers initiate voluntary measures to reduce water use. (Initiate Stage 1 of the customer's Drought Contingency Plan).
- (b) The Water Utilities Superintendent or his/her designee, will provide a weekly report to news media with information regarding current water supply demand conditions, projected water supply and demand, if drought condition persist, and consumer information on water conservation measures and practices.

##### **Water Use Restriction for Reducing Demand:**

- (a) The Water Utilities Superintendent or his/her designee, will contact wholesale water customers to discuss water supply and /or demand condition and will request that wholesale water customers initiate voluntary measures to reduce water use(e.g., implement Stage 1 of customer's drought contingency plan).
- (b) The Grapeland Water Department, will provide a weekly report to news media with information regarding current water supply and/or demand conditions, projected water supply and demand conditions if drought conditions persist, and consumer information on water conservation measures and practices.

## **Stage 2 Response - MODERATE Water Shortage Conditions**

**Target: Achieve a 20% percent reduction in daily water demand.**

### **Demand Management Measures:**

- (a) The Water Utilities Superintendent or his/her designee will initiate weekly contact with wholesale water customers to discuss water supply and demand conditions, and the possibility of pro rata curtailment of water sales.
- (b) The Water Utilities Superintendent or his designee, will request wholesale water customers to initiate mandatory measures to reduce non-essential water usage. (Initiate Stage 2 of the customer's Drought Contingency Plan).
- (c) The Water Utilities Superintendent or his/her designee, will initiate preparations for implementation of pro rata curtailment of water sales by preparing a monthly water usage allocation baseline for each wholesale customer.
- (d) The Water Utilities Superintendent or his/her designee, will provide a weekly report to news media with information regarding current water supply and demand conditions projected water supply and demand if drought conditions persist, and consumers information on water conservation measures and practices.

### **Water Use Restrictions for Reducing Demand:**

- (a) The Water Utilities Superintendent or his/her designee, will initiate weekly contact with wholesale water customers to discuss water supply and /or demand conditions and the possibility of pro rata curtailment of water diversions and /or deliveries.
- (b) The Water Utilities Superintendent or his/her designee, will request wholesale water customers to initiate mandatory measures to reduce non-essential water use (implement Stage 2 of the customer's drought contingency plan).
- (c) The Water Utilities Superintendent or his/her designee, will initiate preparations for the implementation of pro rata curtailment of water diversions and /or deliveries by preparing a monthly water usage allocation baseline for each wholesale customer according to the procedures specified in Section VI of the Plan.
- (d) The Water Utilities Superintendent or his/her designee, will provide a weekly report to news media with information regarding current water supply and /or demand conditions, projected water supply and demand conditions if drought conditions persist, and consumer information on water conservation measures and practices.

### **Stage 3 Response - SEVERE Water Shortage Conditions**

**Target: Achieve a 30% percent reduction in daily water demand.**

#### **Demand Management Measures:**

- (a) The Water Utilities Superintendent or his/her designee, will contact wholesale water customers to discuss water supply and demand conditions, and will request that wholesale water customers initiate additional mandatory measures to reduce non-essential water use.
- (b) The Water Utilities Superintendent or his/her designee, will initiate pro rata curtailment of water sales for each wholesale customer.
- (c) The Water Utilities Superintendent or his/her designee, will provide a weekly report to news media with information regarding current water supply and demand conditions, projected water supply and demand, if drought conditions persist, and consumer information.

#### **Water Use Restrictions for Reducing Demand:**

- (a) The Water Utilities Superintendent or his/her designee, will contact wholesale water customers to discuss water supply and / or demand conditions and will request that wholesale water customers initiate additional mandatory measures to reduce non-essential water use (implement state 2 of the customer's drought contingency plan).
- (b) The Water Utilities Superintendent or his/her designee, will initiate pro rata curtailment of water diversions and /or deliveries for each wholesale customer according to the procedures specified in Section VI or the Plan.
- (c) The Water Utilities Superintendent or his/her designee, will provide a weekly report to news media with information regarding current water supply and/or demand conditions, projected water supply and demand conditions if drought conditions persist, and consumer information on water conservation measures and practices.



## Section XI: Variances

The Water Utilities Superintendent, or his/her designee, may, in writing, grant a temporary variance to grant such variance would cause an emergency condition adversely affecting the public health, welfare, or safety and if one or more of the following conditions are met:

- (a) Compliance with this Plan cannot be technically accomplished during the duration of the water supply shortage or other condition for which the plan is in effect.
- (b) Alternative methods can be implemented which will achieve the same level of reduction in water use.

Persons requesting an exemption from the provisions of this Plan shall file a petition for variance with the Water Utilities Superintendent within 5 days after pro rata allocation has been invoked. All petitions for variances shall be reviewed by the Grapeland City Council and shall include the following.

- (a) Name and address of the petitioner(s)
- (b) Detailed statement with supporting data and information as to how the pro rata allocation of water under the policies and procedures established in the Plan adversely affects the petitioner complies with this Ordinance.
- (c) Description of the relief requested.
- (d) Period of time for which the variance is sought
- (e) Alternative measures the petitioner is taking or proposes to take to meet the intent of this Plan and the compliance date.
- (f) Other pertinent information.

Variances granted by the Grapeland City Council shall be subject to the following conditions, unless waived or modified by the Grapeland City Council or its designee:

- (a) Variances granted shall include a timetable for compliance.
- (b) Variances granted shall expire when the Plan is no longer in effect, unless the petitioner has failed to meet specified requirements.

No variance shall be retroactive or otherwise justify any violation of this Plan occurring prior to the issuance of the variance.

## **Section XII: Severability**

It is hereby declared to be the intention of the Grapeland City Council that the sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses, and phrases of this Plan are severable and , if any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph, or section of this Plan shall be declared unconstitutional by the valid judgment or decree of any court of competent jurisdiction, such unconstitutionally shall not affect any or the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences paragraphs, and sections of this Plan, since the same would not have been enacted by the Grapeland City Council without the incorporation into this Plan of any such unconstitutional phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph, or section.



## **DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN**

### **ORDINANCE NO. 0705-A**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GRAPELAND, TX., AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 0705; FOR ESTABLISHING CRITERIA FOR THE INITIATION AND TERMINATION OF DROUGHT RESPONSE STAGES; ESTABLISHING RESTRICTIONS ON CERTAIN WATER USES; ESTABLISHING PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION OF AND PROVISIONS FOR ENFORCEMENT OF THESE RESTRICTIONS; ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES FOR GRANTING VARIANCES; AND PROVIDING SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**WHEREAS, the City of Grapeland, Texas recognizes that amount of water available to the City and its water utility customers is limited and subject to depletion during periods of extended drought;**

**WHEREAS, the City recognizes that natural limitations due to drought conditions and other acts of God cannot guarantee and uninterrupted water supply for all purposes;**

**WHEREAS, Section 11.1272 of the Texas Water Code and applicable rules of the Texas Commission of Environmental Quality require all public water supply systems in Texas to prepare a drought contingency plan; and**

**WHEREAS, as authorized under law, and in the best interests of the citizens of Grapeland Texas, the City of Grapeland deems it expedient and necessary to establish certain rules and policies for the orderly and efficient management of limited water supplies during drought and other water supply emergencies;**

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF GRAPELAND, TEXAS:**

#### **Section 1.**

**That the City of Grapeland, Texas Drought Contingency Plan attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and made part hereof for all purposes be, and the same is hereby, adopted as the official policy of the City.**

#### **Section 2.**

**That all ordinances that are in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance be, and the same are hereby, repealed and all other ordinances of the City not in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.**

**Section 3.**

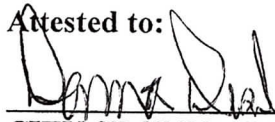
Should any paragraph, sentence, subdivision, clause, phrase, or section of this ordinance be adjudged or held to be unconstitutional, illegal or invalid, the same shall not affect the validity of this ordinance as a whole or any part or provision thereof, other than the part so declared to be invalid, illegal or unconstitutional.

**Section 4.**

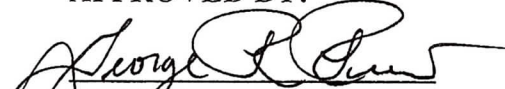
This ordinance shall take effect immediately from and after its passage and the publication of the caption, as the law in such cases provides.

**DULY PASSED THE CITY OF GRAPELAND, TEXAS on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2014.**

**Attested to:**

  
CITY SECRETARY

**APPROVED BY:**

  
MAYOR