



Utilities

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City Manager’s Declaration and Order of a Voluntary Water Shortage Watch for Fort Collins Utilities Water Customers

The City Manager of the City of Fort Collins hereby makes this *Declaration and Order of Voluntary Water Shortage Watch* (“*Watch*”) for *Fort Collins Utilities Water Customers* (“*Order*”), pursuant to Fort Collins City Code Section 26-167(a) and the Water Shortage Action Plan, dated April 2020 (“*WSAP*”).

The voluntary actions described in this *Order* shall be effective starting on April 29, **2021** and will remain in effect until lifted by order of the City Manager, anticipated by the end of the 2021 irrigation season. Upon determination that a *Watch* is no longer needed or that conditions have worsened, the City Manager will declare the end of the *Watch* and issue another order lifting the *Watch*, or publish another order indicating the need for mandatory water restrictions following *WSAP* Action Level I-IV, pursuant to Fort Collins City Code Section 26-167(a).

Projected Water Shortage and Necessity of Voluntary, Water Shortage Watch

Fort Collins Utilities (“*Utilities*”) faces a potential water shortage if a limitation, as described below, on *Utilities*’ ability to treat Cache la Poudre (“*Poudre*”) River supplies occurs and demands are high during what is projected to be a hot and dry summer.

The Cameron Peak Fire began Aug. 13, 2020 and burned 208,913 acres to become the largest wildfire in Colorado history. Much of the burn area is within the Poudre River watershed, with extensive burn areas adjacent to source water infrastructure for *Utilities* and surrounding communities, including Chambers Lake, Joe Wright Reservoir, and the Michigan Ditch. As a result of the fire, water quality may be impacted during times of spring run-off and other precipitation events in 2021. *Utilities* anticipates intermittent and temporary timeframes when Poudre River water supplies will be untreatable and treated water will be supplied solely from *Utilities*’ second water source – Horsetooth Reservoir.

Voluntary, Water Shortage Watch for Utilities Water Customers

Voluntary measures and awareness of the potential for a shortage is needed for *Utilities* water customers in order to prepare for potential water use restrictions while monitoring of water supply conditions continues.

The following voluntary water use restrictions shall apply for the duration of this *Order*. They are based on the Water Shortage Watch Action Level from the *WSAP*, which involves voluntary restrictions based on Action Level I mandatory actions or best practices and will promote awareness while staff continuing to monitor the given situation. These actions may provide for water shortage mitigation and avoid or defer mandatory restrictions.



Water Shortage Watch	Voluntary Action
Indoor Use Reductions (best practices, make reductions where possible)	
Landscape Water Use	
Lawn Watering	Target: 0.62 gallons/sq. ft. or 1" per week
Non-Watering Hours	No watering between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.
Number of Lawn Watering Days per Week	Limit to two days per week
Sprinkler System Maintenance	Minimize test run times per zone
Trees	Limit watering to two days per week and not between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. and by hand, drip system or deep root fork or needle at any time
Food Production	Limit watering to two days per week and not between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. and by hand or by drip system at any time
Other Landscapes	Limit watering to two days per week and not between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. and by hand or by drip system at any time
Non-Landscape Water Use	
Residential Vehicle Washing	Must use shutoff nozzle
City of Fort Collins Fleet Vehicle Washing	As needed
Dealership Vehicle Washing	As needed
Spraying Impervious Surfaces	Whenever possible deploy dry methods first
Dust Control Measures for Dust Generating Activities	Whenever possible use alternative (non-water) dust control measures, as defined by the City's <i>Dust Prevention and Control Manual</i>
Street Sweeping	No more than normal operating schedule and essential street



	sweeping. Whenever possible, deploy dry methods first
Hydrant Flushing and Testing	No more than normal operating schedule and critical situations
Water Features	Turn off water feature
Splash Parks	Operate system to maximize water reuse while maintaining water quality
Community Outdoor Swimming Pools	Use pool cover and backwash system if exists
Individual Outdoor Swimming Pools and Recreational Water Toys	Use pool cover and backwash system if exists. Limit use by setting a spigot timer on the hose
Misting Devices	Limit use to only when temperatures are extreme and misted areas are occupied
Enforcement	
Residential fines per violation	Not Applicable
Business fines per violation	Not Applicable
Water Rate Adjustments	
Adjust water rates to encourage additional conservation	No adjustment

Approved by:

4/21/2021

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Darin Atteberry, City Manager