



**CITY OF COLUSA**  
**DROUGHT RESPONSE**  
**PLAN** 2022

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# **CITY OF COLUSA DROUGHT RESPONSE PLAN 2022**

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# INTRODUCTION

The objective of the City of Colusa Drought Response Plan is to assure the City customers of an adequate and safe water supply to meet their needs during water shortages. The City of Colusa addresses its short-term water shortage issues through a series of stages based on supply and demand conditions, with accompanying triggers, goals, and actions. As water supply conditions deteriorate, each step will become more stringent in water use than the previous stage. The City Manager is authorized by ordinance (Ord. No. 421, § 1) to implement the appropriate conservation measures.

## DROUGHT STAGE RESPONSE WATER LEVEL GRID

	STAGE 1	STAGE 2	STAGE 3	STAGE 4	STAGE 5	STAGE 6
TRIGGER (STATIC LEVEL BELOW NORMAL)	25'	50'	65'	75'	85'	90'
BGS*	55'	80'	95'	105'	115'	120'

\*BGS - Below Ground Surface

**VOLUNTARY REGULATION ACTIONS:**  
STAGES 1, 2, & 3 (PARTIAL)

**MANDATORY REGULATION ACTIONS:**  
STAGES 3 (PARTIAL), 4, 5, & 6

# Drought Response

## Stage 1: Water Watch I

### GOALS

Heighten the public's awareness of water conditions and maintain the integrity of the City water supply system.

### Triggers

Static water elevation is 25' below average, or 55' BGS

### Regulation Actions

- Irrigation is eliminated during the daytime hours of 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM (Voluntary)
- Irrigating reduced to four days per week (Voluntary)
- Use of a hose to wash an automobile with a shut-off nozzle or device attached to it, causing the hose to cease dispensing water when not in use immediately
- The public will be asked to curtail some outdoor water use and to make efficient use of indoor water (i.e., wash full loads of laundry and dishes, shorter showers, do not let faucets run)

### Education Actions

- The City will make occasional news releases to local media describing present conditions and indicating the water supply outlook for the upcoming season.
- Water-saving tips are included in utility customer billing and e-newsletters. Recommendations will also be available to view on the City website.

### Management Actions

- City wells will be cleaned and flushed to maintain the most efficient condition.
- Leakes will be repaired within 72 hours of detection.
- The City will monitor its use of water and will minimize activities such as hydrant flushing and street cleaning.

# Drought Response

## Stage 2: Water Watch II

### GOALS

Heighten the public's awareness of water conditions and maintain the integrity of the City water supply system.

### Triggers

Static water elevation is 50' below average, or 80' BGS

### Regulation Actions

- Irrigation is eliminated during the daytime hours of 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM (Voluntary)
- Irrigating reduced to three days per week (Voluntary)
- Use of a hose to wash an automobile with a shut-off nozzle or device attached to it, causing the hose to cease dispensing water when not in use immediately
- no washing of driveways or sidewalks
- The public will be asked to curtail some outdoor water use and to make efficient use of indoor water (i.e., wash full loads of laundry and dishes, shorter showers, do not let faucets run)

### Education Actions

- The City will make occasional news releases to local media describing present conditions and indicating the water supply outlook for the upcoming season.
- The previous month's summaries of precipitation, temperature, water levels, and storage will be available to the public at the beginning of each month.
- Water-saving tips are included in utility customer billing and e-newsletters. Recommendations will also be available to view on the City website.

### Management Actions

- City wells will be cleaned and flushed to maintain the most efficient condition.
- Leakes will be repaired within 48 hours of detection.
- The City will monitor its use of water and will minimize activities such as hydrant flushing and street cleaning.

# Stage 3: Water Warning

## GOALS

Reduce peak demands by 20% and overall weekly consumption by 10%.

## Triggers

Static water elevation is 65' below normal or 95' BGS

## Regulation Actions

- Irrigation eliminated during the daytime hours of 6:00 AM to 8:00 PM (Mandatory)
- Irrigating reduced to three days per week (Mandatory)
- General outdoor washing of cars, driveways, and sidewalks discouraged (Voluntary)
- The public will be asked to curtail some outdoor water use and to make efficient use of indoor water (i.e., wash full loads of laundry and dishes, shorter showers, do not let faucets run)
- After sunset, refilling of swimming pools will be allowed one day a week.

## Education Actions

- The City will make weekly news releases to local media describing present conditions and indicating the water supply outlook for the upcoming week.
- Previous weekly summaries of precipitation, temperature, water levels, and storage will be presented and available to the public each week.
- Water-saving tips will be included in water utility customer billing and e-newsletters and the local newspapers. Tips will also be available to view on the City website.

## Management Actions

- The City will monitor water levels and supplies daily.
- Leakes to be repaired within 48 hours of detection.
- Pumpage at wells to be reduced to decrease drawdown and maintain water levels over well screens.
- The City will minimize its use of water and will reduce activities such as hydrant flushing and street cleaning.
- Reserve supplies, such as standby wells will be prepared for use.

# Stage 4: Water Threat

## GOALS

Reduce peak demands by 20% and overall weekly consumption by 10%.

## Triggers

Static water elevation is 75' below normal, or 105' BGS

## Regulation Actions

- Irrigation eliminated during the daytime hours of 5:00 AM to 9:00 PM (Mandatory)
- Irrigating reduced to one day per week; even addresses Tuesday and odd addresses Thursday (Mandatory)
- General outdoor washing of cars, driveways, sidewalks, refilling of pools prohibited (Mandatory)
- The City of Colusa notifies the department of Water Resources and the local GSA so water transfers from the groundwater source can be lowered or eliminated until static elevations come back at Stage 2 levels.

## Education Actions

- The City will make daily releases to local media, social media, and the city website, describing present conditions and indicating the water supply outlook for the next day.
- The previous day's summaries of precipitation, temperature, water levels, and storage will be available each day.
- The City will hold public meetings to discuss the emergency, the status of the City's water supply, and further actions needed.

## Management Actions

- The City will monitor water levels and supplies daily.
- Leakes will be repaired within 24 hours of detection.
- Pumpage at wells will be reduced to decrease drawdown and maintain water levels over well screens.
- The City will seek additional emergency supplies from other users, the State or Federal Government.

# Stage 5: Water Emergency I

## GOALS

Reduce peak demands by 50% and overall weekly consumption by 25%.

## Triggers

Static water elevation is 85' below normal or 115' BGS.

## Regulation Actions

- All actions outlined in the above stages become mandatory.
- The City of Colusa notifies the Governor's office of the situation and requests that any regional groundwater transfers be stopped.
- City and Colusa Industrial Park implement the water intertie to bring an additional well on one, located within CP, to supplement supplies.
- The City will discontinue the watering of Public Parks and no landscape irrigation.

## Education Actions

- The City will make daily releases to local media, social media, and the city website, describing present conditions and indicating the water supply outlook for the next day
- The previous day's summaries of precipitation, temperature, water levels, and storage will be presented and available to the public each day.
- The City will hold public meetings to discuss the emergency, the status of City's water supply, and further actions needed.

## Management Actions

- The City will monitor water levels and supplies daily.
- Repair leaks within 18 hours of detection.
- Pumpage at wells will be reduced to decrease drawdown and maintain water levels over well screens.
- The City will seek additional emergency supplies from other users, the State or Federal Government.



# Stage 6: Water Emergency II

## GOALS

Reduce peak demands by 50% and overall weekly consumption by 25%.

## Triggers

Static water elevation is 90' below normal or 120' BGS.

## Regulation Actions

- All actions outlined in the above stages become mandatory.
- The City of Colusa notifies the Governor's office of the situation and requests that any regional groundwater transfers be stopped.
- City and Colusa Industrial Park implement the water intertie to bring an additional well on line, located within CP, to supplement supplies.
- The City will discontinue the watering of Public Parks and no landscape irrigation.

## Education Actions

- The City will make daily releases to local media, social media, and the city website, describing present conditions and indicating the water supply outlook for the next day
- The previous day's summaries of precipitation, temperature, water levels, and storage will be presented and available to the public each day.
- The City will hold public meetings to discuss the emergency, the status of City's water supply, and further actions needed.

## Management Actions

- The City will monitor water levels and supplies daily.
- Repair leaks within 12 hours of detection.
- Pumpage at wells will be reduced to decrease drawdown and maintain water levels over well screens.
- The City will seek additional emergency supplies from other users, the State or Federal Government.