

Table 1: WSCP Summary

	Stage I	Stage II	Stage III	Stage IV	Stage V	Stage VI
Target Water Savings	Up to 10%	10% -20%	20% -30%	30% - 40%	40%- 50%	Above 50%
Information Outreach and Audit Program	Low level outreach	Increase advertising, social media campaigns and direct communication with customers targeting highest users and increasing water use auditing			Escalate outreach efforts and media campaign with focus on water use prioritization	Highest outreach effort level with focus on health and safety
Demand-Side Management Programs	Continuation of existing programs, evaluation of new programs	Augment programs and incentive levels as necessary to achieve reduction targets				
Rate Structures	Standard rates already encourage conservation	Drought rate structures may be implemented to secure needed revenue			Water allocations or allotments may be implemented	
Water Use Restrictions	Permanent water use ordinance plus three additional water use restrictions adopted by Council on 3/7/2022 via Resolution 10022	Water use restrictions become more severe with each stage and enforcement is enacted more strongly with each stage. With each stage, efforts made to ensure tree canopy is protected as much as possible.				
Recycled Water Use	Business as usual use	Water use restrictions require use of recycled water for specific purposes, advertise availability of recycled water for trucked delivery, use recycled water for City facilities and street trees as much as possible.				

APPENDIX H - Water Shortage Contingency Plan Use Restrictions

WATER USE RESTRICTIONS

Water use restrictions will depend on local conditions and on the length of the water shortage or drought. The City's Water Shortage Contingency Plan identifies measures appropriate for various stages of action, based on reduction targets for each stage. Section A of this Appendix describes the City's existing water use regulations. The restrictions in Section B are additional restrictions that could be applied in various stages or a drought or other water supply shortage. These staged restrictions are intended to serve as tools within the broader framework of the Urban Water Shortage Contingency Plan, to help the City reduce potable water consumption.

Implementation of individual restrictions within each stage shall be carried out at the direction of the City Council, in response to its assessment of local water supply conditions, feasibility, and consumption trends. The Council may, in its discretion, opt to revise, delete or include different elements than those described below, so long as the restrictions implemented serve the overall purpose of reducing local consumption.

A. Permanent Water Use Regulations (See Palo Alto Municipal Code Section 12.32.010)

1. Flooding or runoff of potable water into gutters, driveways, sidewalks, streets or other unlandscaped areas is prohibited.
2. An operating shut-off valve is required for hoses used to wash cars, boats, trailers, buses or other vehicles, or to wash sidewalks, building structures, other hard-surfaced areas or parts thereof. Use of a hose for such purposes should be avoided whenever possible.
3. Potable water for consolidation of backfill and other nondomestic uses in construction shall not be used if other water sources, such as reclaimed water, are available, as determined by the Director of Utilities or his or her designee. Applicants for hydrant permits from the city of Palo Alto shall be deemed to have consented to restrictions on water use which may be imposed by the Director of Utilities or his or her designee.
4. Any broken or defective plumbing, sprinklers, watering or irrigation systems which permit the escape or leakage of water shall be repaired or replaced as soon as possible, but no later than the date established by the Director of Utilities, or his or her designee, as reasonable after observation of the broken or defective system.
5. Ornamental landscape¹ or turf irrigation with potable water shall not be allowed between 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., except via hand watering with a bucket or a hose with an operating shut-off valve.

6. The use of potable water in a fountain or other decorative water feature is prohibited, except where the water is part of a recirculating system.
7. The use of potable water for street sweepers/washers is prohibited if non-potable water is available, as determined by the Director of Utilities, or his or her designee.
8. Commercial car washes must use recycled water systems, if economically feasible.

B. Additional Restrictions Available for Council's Consideration in Droughts or Other Water Supply Shortages

Stage I – Minimum Water Supply Shortage: Up to 10% Target Water Savings

1. Irrigation with potable water during and within 48 hours after a measurable rainfall of at least one fourth of one inch of rain, as determined by the Director of Utilities, or his or her designee, and posted on the Palo Alto website, is prohibited.
2. The application of potable water to driveways, sidewalks, buildings, structures, patios, parking lots, or other hard surfaced areas is prohibited, except where necessary to address an immediate health and safety need or to comply with a term or condition in a permit issued by a state or federal agency.
3. Irrigation of ornamental turf on public street medians with potable water is prohibited.

Stage II – Moderate Water Supply Shortage: 10% - 20% Target Water Savings

1. Restaurants and other food service operations shall serve water to customers only upon request.
2. Operators of hotels and motels shall provide guests with the option of choosing not to have towels and linens laundered daily. The hotel or motel shall prominently display notice of this option in each guestroom using clear and easily understood language.

Stage III – Severe Water Supply Shortage: 20% - 30% Target Water Savings

All water use restrictions for Stage II, and the following:

1. The irrigation of ornamental landscapes¹ or turf with potable water more than three days per week is prohibited during the months of April through October.²
2. The irrigation of ornamental landscapes¹ or turf with potable water more than one day per week is prohibited during the months of November through March.²
3. The filling of newly constructed pools, spas and hot tubs is prohibited.
4. Water allocations may be imposed.
4. Golf courses, schools, and parks have the option to be placed on Alternative Irrigation Plans with targets established by the Director of Utilities.

Stage IV – Severe to Critical Water Supply Shortage: 30% - 40% Target Water Savings

All water use restrictions for Stages II, and III, and the following:

1. The irrigation of ornamental landscapes¹ or turf with potable water more than two days per week is prohibited during the months of April through October.²
2. Water allocations may be imposed.

3. Drought tolerant landscaping that minimizes irrigation and runoff is required at new construction sites, and non-drought tolerant landscaping is prohibited.
4. Golf courses, schools, and parks have the option to be placed on Alternative Irrigation Plans with targets established by the Director of Utilities.

Stage V – Critical Water Supply Shortage: 40% - 50% Target Water Savings

All water use restrictions for Stages II, III and IV, and the following:

1. No new water service connections are permitted unless the customer pays for sufficient conservation measures to be applied elsewhere in the City, to offset anticipated water use at the site to be served by the new water service, as determined by the City of Palo Alto.
2. Ornamental landscape and turf irrigation with potable water is prohibited.
3. The washing of all vehicles is prohibited except for at commercial washing facility that recirculates its water or uses recycled water.
4. Sprinkler irrigation is prohibited.

Stage VI – Water Emergency: Greater than 50% Target Water Savings

All water use restrictions for Stages II, III, IV, and V and the following:

1. All outdoor water use is prohibited except to maintain health and safety.
2. Some targeted water use to keep trees alive may be permitted.

¹ “Ornamental landscapes” serve purely decorative purposes, and are distinguished from trees, edible gardens or landscapes that provide more than a purely aesthetic function.

² Customers with a public or private non-residential facility containing ornamental landscapes or turf which supports a demonstrable business necessity or public benefit may apply for City approval of an alternative irrigation schedule.