

# Sample Water Conservation Resolutions

Source: <http://weather.nmsu.edu/drought/action-plan/water-consevation-resolution.pdf>

## RESOLUTION OF THE MDWCA Resolution # \_\_\_\_\_

### Approving Rate Schedule

WHEREAS:

1. Pursuant to the Sanitary Project Act [3-29-1 to 3-29- 20 NMSA 1978], the State of New Mexico established Mutual Domestic Water Consumers Associations to provide water and sewer services to rural unincorporated communities.
2. Whereas the Sanitary Projects Act establishes the local administration through a board of directors.
3. Whereas, the board of directors of the association shall have power to do all things necessary in the local administration of any project. (Sanitary Project Act [3-29-12 NMSA 1978 Section D.] )
4. There is a need to establish a new rate schedule,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The board of directors hereby approves the rate schedule date \_\_\_\_\_.

### CERTIFICATION

We hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the board of directors at a board meeting at which quorum was present and that the same was approved by a vote of \_\_\_\_\_ in favor and \_\_\_\_\_ opposed, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

President \_\_\_\_\_ Vice-President \_\_\_\_\_

Trustee \_\_\_\_\_ Trustee \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary/Treasurer \_\_\_\_\_

Resolution # 2002

A POLICY/ORDINANCE FOR WATER EFFICIENCY PERTAINING TO \_\_\_\_\_

**WHEREAS**, water is a valuable resource that should be used wisely and as efficiently as possible;

**WHEREAS**, during a work session on the \_\_\_ considered implementing a resolution for voluntary, mandatory water conservation efforts prior to implementing a more restrictive water conservation policy/ordinance.

**WHEREAS**, after discussion during the work session, the decided to implement a water conservation policy/ordinance to both require and encourage all users of water within the service area of the public water supply system or community limits to reduce water consumption and water waste by percent;

**WHEREAS**, although the proposed policy/ordinance may not require mandatory water conservation practices such as water efficient landscaping, and plumbing requirements, the recognizes that it may wish to expand the proposed policy/ordinance into these and other areas in the future;

**WHEREAS**, the finds that it is in the best interest of the community to attempt to increase efficient water use through implementation of the restrictions contained in this policy/ordinance.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it ordained by the governing body of \_\_\_\_\_.

( I ) **THAT** Exhibit “A” titled attached hereto and made a part of this ordinance is hereby adopted.

( II ) **THAT** staff is hereby authorized to do all acts necessary to accomplish the intent of the policy/ordinance including, but not limited to, a public awareness campaign, rate increase, penalties and fees.

**RESOLUTION 2002-**

A Resolution encouraging the residents of \_\_\_\_\_ to conserve water at every opportunity including water saving tips for inside the home and outdoors.

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Board of Trustee members of the Town of \_\_\_\_\_ recognize that water is both an essential element for life and a limited resource; and

**WHEREAS**, the residents of \_\_\_\_\_ used an average of \_\_\_\_\_ gallons of water per month in the (give the period of time/year); and

**WHEREAS**, the \_\_\_\_\_ Water Department has information pamphlets available at Town Hall or explaining how to conserve water in the home, including finding, fixing and preventing indoor water leaks, installing water-saving devices, purchasing water-efficient appliances and re-using water whenever possible; and

**WHEREAS**, the \_\_\_\_\_ Water Department also has information pamphlets on how to reduce outdoor water use such as adjusting sprinklers to avoid watering pavement and sidewalks; avoiding daytime watering or watering when its windy; using mulch and drip irrigation or soaker hoses on flowers, shrubs and gardens; where not to plant grass and where to hand-water; and

**WHEREAS**, the Water Conservation Office of the City of Albuquerque has made available to the Town \_\_\_\_\_ a comprehensive guide to xeroscaping, or water-efficient landscaping that is appropriate to the natural environment; covering the seven principal of xeroscaping; the ten planting steps; selecting trees; shrubs, flowering plants, turfs and grasses for a xeroscaped yard; and adding desert accents and ground covers; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Trustees encourage Townspeople to drop by Town Hall and/or to obtain copies of these pamphlets and to share watersaving practices with staff in preparation for an educational newsletter on water saving tips;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Mayor and Trustees of the Town of \_\_\_\_\_ hereby declare the (for example the summer of 2002) a water-wise summer and set the goal of saving (for example one million gallons) of water per month during the (summer months of 2002.)

**RESOLVED** this day of 2002, at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees.

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_

(Title) (Title)

, **New Mexico**

## **WATER CONSERVATION ORDINANCE**

### **NAME**

The ordinance shall be known as the “Water Conservation Ordinance.” The ordinance shall both require and encourage all users of water within the municipal limits to reduce water consumption and waste.

### **APPLICATION.**

The restrictions contained in the Water Conservation Ordinance shall apply to all users of the public utility provided water.

The outdoor vegetation watering restrictions in Article III shall not apply to users of irrigation water provided by acequia association or irrigation district, or from domestic wells.

### **OUTDOOR VEGETATION WATERING RESTRICTIONS**

A. All outdoor vegetation on residential and commercial properties located

(a) On the even numbered side of the street shall be watered only on \_\_\_\_.

(b) On the odd numbered side of the street shall be watered only on \_\_\_\_\_. For corner building or properties having both odd and even numbers, the number shown on water companies’ utility records shall control.

B. From (for example April 1 to September \_\_\_\_ 30), all outdoor watering of vegetation is prohibited between the hours of 10:00a.m. - 6:00p.m.

### **MISCELLANEOUS WATER USE RESTRICTIONS**

A. The washing of vehicles and other types of mobile equipment shall be done only with a hand held bucket or hand held hose equipped with a functioning shutoff nozzle for quick rinses. This restriction does not apply to the washing of vehicles or mobile equipment at a commercial car wash or commercial service station. When used in this section, bucket means a container holding five gallons of water or less.

B. The following uses of water are defined as “wasting water” and are prohibited:

(1) Allowing water to flow onto adjacent property or onto any street, alley or other Public right-of-way.

(2) Watering outdoor vegetation excessively so that waters ponds on site.

(3) Failing to repair a water leak within five (5) working days of the discovery of same.

(4) Washing sidewalks, driveways, parking areas, tennis courts, patios and other impervious surfaces with a hose, except in emergencies to remove spills of hazardous materials or to eliminate dangerous conditions which threaten the public health, safety or welfare. When used in this section, “impervious surface” means any surface covered with nonporous material.

## **PENALTY/INJUNCTIVE RELIEF AUTHORIZED**

A. Any person who is convicted of a violation of any provision of this Ordinance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished in accordance with the penalties set forth in the Municipal Code.

B. With respect to violations that are continuous in time, each day the violation continues is a separate offense.

C. Violations that are continuous in time may be abated by injunctive or other equitable relief. The imposition of a criminal penalty does not prevent equitable relief.

## **VI. EXCEPTIONS TO ENFORCEMENT**

The following shall constitute exceptions from compliance with the provisions of this Ordinance concerning outdoor vegetation watering restrictions and miscellaneous water use restrictions:

A. The water flow is a result of natural events such as rain or snow unless user is watering at the same time.

B. The water flow is a result of temporary malfunctions of or vandalism to be municipal water supply system.

C. The water flow is a result of water used for fire fighting purposes, including the inspection and pressure testing of fire hydrants, or the use of water for fire fighting training activities.

D. The use of water is required for the control of dust or the compaction of soil as may be required by municipal codes.

E. The water is used to wash down areas where flammable or otherwise hazardous material has spilled, creating a dangerous condition.

F. The water is used to prevent or abate public health, safety or accident hazards when alternate methods are not available.

G. The water is used for routine inspection or maintenance of the public water supply system.

H. The water is used to facilitate construction within public right-of-way in accordance with City requirements and good construction practices.

I. The use of the water is permitted under a variance granted by the Village/City.

J. The water is used for street sweeping, sewer maintenance or other established utility practices.

## **VII. WATER EMERGENCY – RESTRICTION OF WATER USE**

A. The Village/City Council may declare a water emergency in the event of a severe drought or any condition, which significantly reduces the Village/City's ability to supply water in order to protect the public health, safety or welfare or to preserve the water supply.

B. During such a water emergency, the Village/City Manager may implement water use restrictions approved by the Council.