

NEKOWIN REGIONAL WATER DISTRICT (NRWD) CONSERVATION STRATEGIES

JUSTIFICATION

- Low flow months coincide with high usage months (June – August)
- We must conserve water in order to meet critical sanitary and consumption needs
- We must make every effort to protect in-stream water rights for fish as required by ODFW

OUTREACH

- Fliers (staff to get these ASAP) to be distributed at the Farmers' Market, Post Office, July 4th activities and to HOAs, hotels/motels and rental agencies
- Presentation at 5/24 NCA meeting
- Information posted on the NRWD website
- *Water Availability – Stage of Alert* signs will be placed at key locations indicating water the supply status (green, yellow, orange, red)
- Outreach to restaurants regarding drinking water only on request at the GREEN alert stage
- Email and mailing to all customers at YELLOW alert stage, explaining the Mandatory Requirements noted below

VOLUNTARY INITIATIVES

- When the water level in Hawk Creek reaches 1.5 cfs, we're at the **GREEN alert stage** and will call for voluntary conservation measures with the goal of reducing usage by 20%. The primary emphasis will be on reducing lawn watering and washing vehicles, driveways and structures. Watering of gardens, shrubs and fruit trees should be done by hand-held hoses with a shut-off nozzle or by drip irrigation rather than with sprinklers. Watering of lawns and other trees is discouraged.
- NRWD staff will assist customers in locating leaks on their property.
- Water production at the treatment plant will be reduced to maintain the 1.5 cfs stream flow level and District staff will discontinue hydrant flushing and water main blow-offs, etc.

MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS

- If the water level in Hawk Creek reaches 1.25 cfs, we are at the **YELLOW alert stage** and will call for mandatory conservation measures, including:
 - Prohibition on watering lawns and trees as well as on the use of water to wash structures, driveways, vehicles
 - Prohibition on watering flower or vegetable beds and fruit trees other than by hand or drip irrigation
 - Prohibition on use of water in recreational fountains and ponds except as required to support fish
 - Prohibition on exchanging water in hot tubs or adding water to swimming pools
 - NRWD staff will continue to assist customers in locating leaks on their property
 - Customers with known leaks will be given 48 hours notice to repair them or water will be shut off
 - Any application for a new hook-up may be delayed
 - Water production at the treatment plant will be reduced to maintain the 1.25 cfs stream flow level

- If the water level in Hawk Creek reaches 1.0 cfs, we are at the **ORANGE alert stage** and will continue the mandatory conservation measures described for YELLOW above, as well as:
 - If NRWD personnel find sprinklers running, they will automatically shut off the water to that customer
 - If water has been shut off by the NRWD for conservation purposes, the following turn-on fee schedule will apply:
 - a \$50 fee to turn water back on the first time;
 - a \$100 fee to turn water back on the second time; and
 - a \$500 fee to turn water back on the third time
 - Commercial and industrial users will have their water meters shut-off and locked; residential usage will be prioritized
 - Production at the water treatment plant will be further reduced to allow for maximum possible stream flow while still supplying a minimum amount of water to the community
 - All outdoor water use shall be prohibited.

- If the water level in Hawk Creek drops below 0.75 cfs, we are at the **RED alert stage** and will continue ALL the mandatory conservation measures described for YELLOW and ORANGE above, as well as:
 - Water production may be stopped and service discontinued through our normal distribution system
 - If production is stopped and water is available in reservoir tanks, this will be made available in small quantities to residents using their own containers.
 - At the same time, the District will attempt to locate a source of potable water and have it delivered and distributed at key points in the District.