

Appendix A to the Rules and Regulations

WATER EFFICIENCY MEASURES



RMD WATER ACTIVITY ENTERPRISE

Amended and restated version adopted July 2019

SECTION 1: PURPOSE

The mandatory water efficiency measures outlined herein are designed to encourage efficient use of water resources.

SECTION 2: WATER BUDGETS

Aligning the cost of tap fees and monthly water usage to a unique water budget for each individual property receiving water service is a proven method for both equitably allocating system development costs and encouraging long-term efficient water use. For all new service connections occurring after March 2017 and located in the Lowry and Sky Ranch service areas, a water budget is developed prior to the property being issued a water tap from the District. To establish the annual water budget and associated tap fee, the builder or property owner is required to complete a land use and water use questionnaire for the property. These variables include information on the lot size, building size, finished building space, and landscaping. The responses to those questions are used to characterize the anticipated water need for the property and an associated indoor and outdoor annual water budget is developed for the property.

This predicted annual water use rate is compared to the typical “Single Family Equivalent” (SFE) which is equal to 0.4 acre-ft of water use per year. The potable water system development fee is then determined by calculating how many SFEs of water will be used by a property multiplied by the tap fee rates displayed in Appendix E.

SECTION 3: TIERED RATES

Potable water rates are tiered as shown below to encourage water customers to use water within their allocated water budgets and prevent excessive water use. The tier volumes were calculated so that typical single family residential lots will stay within the first tier water rates for a typical month and only enter the second tier rates during the summer when peak irrigation demands occur on the potable water system. Tier 3 rates are set to prevent customers from egregious water use. Customers that utilize large amounts of water to irrigate extensive sod areas may reach tier 3 rates if they have extensive landscaping irrigation needs.

Fee/Charge		Amount
Potable Water Consumption Charge		
Tier 1	0 - 15,000 gallons	\$4.63 per 1000 gallons
Tier 2	15,000 - 30,000 gallons	\$8.10 per 1000 gallons
Tier 3	>30,000 gallons	\$9.95 per 1000 gallons

SECTION 4: INDOOR WATER USE EFFICIENCY

Colorado Senate Bill 103 requires that by September 1, 2016 a person shall not sell a new low-efficiency plumbing fixture in Colorado. The intent of the law is to require manufacturers to sell only WaterSense labeled fixtures to distributors, wholesalers, retailers, developers and homebuilders in the State of Colorado. The Environmental Protection Agency’s WaterSense Program is the water equivalent to the

well-known Energy Star label and is designed to not only reduce water usage but also improve product performance. A WaterSense label certifies that a fixture has been independently tested through a public/private partnership to meet high standards for water savings and performance.

Indoor portions of tap fees issued after March 2017 will consider that WaterSense label fixtures should have been installed within these building. Those that do not follow the law and install low-efficiency plumbing fixtures will be challenged to staying within their water budget and therefore could realize higher monthly usage fees.

SECTION 5: OUTDOOR WATER USE EFFICIENCY

5.1. Summer Water Use. Beginning May 1 and ending October 1, no outdoor irrigation is allowed from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. It is recommended that property owners limit watering to three days per week; however, this is not mandatory unless extraordinary water use restrictions are in place as described in Section 7.

Hand watering trees and shrubs is allowed any time. Irrigation using water conserving methods such as drip irrigation or a deep root watering device is also allowed at any time.

5.2. Landscaping Best Practices. The following landscaping best practices shall be followed:

5.2.1 Recycled/Non-Potable Water. The District will required non-single family home property owners to purchase and utilize a non-potable water tap to irrigate landscaping whenever it is determined by the District that a non-potable water supply pipeline is within a reasonable distance to the landscape area.

5.2.2 Xeriscape. Xeriscape is a landscaping type that utilizes low water use plants, mulch, rocks and efficient drip-irrigation. It is the District's policy to encourage Xeriscape landscapes throughout the service areas.

5.2.3 Soil Amendment for Irrigation of Turf. Proper soil preparation is required before installation of plant material. Proper soil amendment is the equivalent of adding compost at a rate of four cubic yards per 1,000 square feet of permeable area, incorporated (roto tilled) to a depth of six inches.

5.2.4 Rain Sensors Required. A functioning rainfall sensor, with a battery backup, capable of turning off an automatic clock controlled irrigation system is required for all water taps that service more than one acre of landscaping, except for single family residences.

SECTION 6: PROHIBITION OF WATER WASTE

Water shall be used only for beneficial purposes and shall not be wasted. Prohibited water waste includes, but is not limited to:

1. Applying more water than is reasonably necessary to establish and maintain a healthy landscape.
2. Watering with spray irrigation between the hours of 10.00 a.m. and 6.00 p.m. during the period from May 1 to October 1, except for the following uses:
 - a. Watering for up to 21 days to establish turf from seed or sod.
 - b. Watering new plant material such as flowers, trees and shrubs on the day of planting.

- c. Watering essential to preserve turf subject to heavy public use.
3. Operating an irrigation system for installation, repair or reasonable maintenance, so long as the system is attended throughout the period of operation.
4. Watering landscaped areas during rain or high wind.
5. Applying water intended for irrigation to an impervious surface, such as a street, parking lot, alley, sidewalk or driveway.
6. Using water instead of a broom or mop to clean outdoor impervious surfaces such as sidewalks, driveways and patios, except when cleaning with water is necessary for public health or safety reasons or when other cleaning methods are impractical.
7. Allowing water to pool or flow across the ground or into any drainage way, such as gutters, streets, alleys or storm drains.
8. Failing to repair, for a period of more than ten business days after notice, leaking or damaged irrigation components, service lines or other plumbing fixtures.
9. Washing vehicles with a hose that lacks an automatic shut-off valve.

These rules are mandatory and repeat offenders may be fined as described in the enforcement section of this Appendix. Note that extraordinary water use restrictions may be imposed (above and beyond those described in this section) during conditions of reduced water supply.

SECTION 7: EXTRAORDINARY WATER USE RESTRICTIONS

Extraordinary water use restrictions may be imposed during extended drought, a system emergency or during other conditions that result in reduced water supply.

Extraordinary water use restrictions may include but are not limited to:

- Limiting the number of days per week outdoor watering can occur.
- Limiting car washing to only commercial locations with water recycling systems.
- Limiting the use of water for washing impervious surfaces.
- Temporary moratorium on allowing installation of new landscaping.

The specific level of extraordinary water use restrictions will depend on the severity of the water supply shortage and customers will be informed of the specific extraordinary water use restrictions via flyers, mailed information and/or the District web site message board.

When applicable extraordinary water use restrictions will be mandatory and will be enforced as described in the enforcement section.

SECTION 8: ENFORCEMENT

The owner or occupant of the licensed premises shall be responsible for complying with the District's water efficiency measures outlined herein. Those who violate these measures will be subject to the penalties in force at the time of the violation. Penalties may include.

1. In the event of a first violation, the owner or occupant will be advised in writing and informed that a monetary charge will be added to the water bill for subsequent violations.
2. In the event of a second violation at the same premises, the owner or occupant will be advised in writing, and a \$50 charge may be added to the water bill.
3. In the event of a third or any subsequent violation at the same premises, the owner or occupant will be advised in writing, and a \$100 charge may be added to the water bill.

Continuing waste of water or willful violation of District regulations or restrictions is cause for temporary suspension of water service.