

ORDINANCE NO. 2015-03

Introduced by the Administration Committee

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AN ORDINANCE OF THE GOLETA WATER DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS AMENDING CHAPTER 6.21 OF THE GOLETA WATER DISTRICT CODE TO ESTABLISH DESIGNATED WATERING TIMES FOR AGRICULTURAL CUSTOMERS IRRIGATING COMMERCIAL AGRICULTURAL CROPS, MODIFY LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION RESTRICTIONS FOR PUBLIC PARKS AND GOLF COURSES, AND INCORPORATE STATE-MANDATED WATER USE RESTRICTIONS

WHEREAS, the Goleta Water District (“District”) is a County water district organized and existing under the laws of the State of California; and

WHEREAS, California Water Code sections 350 et seq. provides that the District Board of Directors (“Board”) has the authority to declare a water shortage emergency condition and Section 353 enables the Board, after a properly noticed public hearing and after making certain findings, to adopt regulations and restrictions focused heavily on water use limits and prohibitions that will reduce non-essential use to conserve the water supply for the greatest public benefit; and

WHEREAS, California Water Code Section 31026 authorizes the District to restrict use of water during any emergency caused by drought, and to prohibit the wastage of water during such periods; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors adopted Ordinance 2015-02 on January 13, 2015, amending the Goleta Water District Code to establish rules and regulations for Stages III, IV, and V Water Shortage waste restrictions; and

WHEREAS, on April 1, 2015, the Governor of the State of California issued Executive Order B-29-15 addressing California’s historic drought and continued state of emergency, and directed the State Water Resources Control Board to impose additional restrictions to achieve a statewide twenty-five percent reduction in potable urban water usage; and

WHEREAS, restrictions on irrigation of commercial agricultural crops and public recreation fields are necessary and appropriate to preserve existing water supplies and ensure future supply will be sufficient to provide for public health and safety; and

WHEREAS, this ordinance is exempt from CEQA review pursuant Water Code § 10652; and

WHEREAS, this Board adopts the following ordinance in accordance with the Drought Preparedness and Water Shortage Contingency Plan, and finds that the restrictions set forth herein provide an effective means of conserving water and are necessary and proper to protect the water supply for human consumption, sanitation, and fire protection during water shortage emergencies. The Board also finds that the uses of water that are prohibited below are nonessential.

NOW THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE GOLETA WATER DISTRICT DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1: Subsection B of Section 6.21.025 of the Goleta District Water Code is hereby amended to revise subsection 4 and add new subsections 5, 6, 7, and 8 to read as set forth below:

4. "Necessary irrigation of public recreation and athletic fields and golf courses may occur on no more than two days a week between the hours of 8:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.
5. Exterior irrigation of commercial agricultural crops that is not delivered by drip or microspray irrigation systems may only occur before 10:00 a.m and after 4 p.m.
6. Irrigation of outdoor landscapes during and within 48-hours following measurable precipitation is prohibited.
7. Irrigation of ornamental turf on public street medians is prohibited.
8. Irrigation of landscapes outside of newly constructed homes and buildings in a manner inconsistent with regulations or other requirements established by the California Buildings Standards Commission is prohibited."

Section 2: Subsection (C) of Section 6.21.025 of the Goleta District Water Code is hereby amended to read as set forth below:

"C. The restrictions in 6.21.025(B) do not apply to the following:

1. Irrigation with water delivered by a water truck and injected below the surface of soil or mulch via an injection probe.
2. Irrigation of non-commercial vegetable gardens and edible plantings with a hose equipped with a shut off nozzle or drip irrigation system.
3. Establishment of new landscaping if approved in advance in writing by the District, provided however, that new landscaping is required where existing landscaping was severely damaged or destroyed by a reason other than lack of adequate irrigation.
4. Irrigation performed with a watering can, or by use of drip irrigation system or similar low-volume, non-spray irrigation equipment, or for very short periods of time not exceeding ten minutes for the express purpose of allowing landscape contractors to adjust or repair an irrigation system.
5. Customers that receive written authorization to water on an alternate schedule that shall not increase the maximum days or times allowed for outdoor landscape irrigation."

Section 3: Section 6.21.025 of the Goleta District Water Code is hereby amended to add a new subsection F to read as set forth below:

Section 4: Subsection B of Section 6.21.030 of the Goleta District Water Code is hereby amended to read as set forth below:

“B. During a Stage Four Water Shortage, outdoor landscape irrigation may only occur pursuant to the following restrictions:

1. Manual irrigation of outdoor landscape may only take place before 8:00 a.m. or after 8:00 p.m. no more than one day a week.
2. Outdoor landscape irrigation through the use of a sprinkler system is prohibited.
3. Irrigation of lawns with District water is prohibited for all customer classes unless authorized by the General Manager and in accordance with a specific irrigation schedule and/or water budget provided by the District.
4. Irrigation of landscapes must comply with a customer’s landscape irrigation water budget where required by the District for non-residential customers. The District shall provide written notice for such water budgets at least thirty days in advance.
5. Necessary irrigation of public recreation and athletic fields may occur on no more than two days a week between the hours of 8:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.
6. Irrigation of golf courses with District water is limited to putting greens and tees and may occur no more than two days a week between the hours of 8:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.
7. Irrigation of roadway median strips with District water is prohibited except where necessary to preserve trees, as determined by the District.
8. Exterior irrigation of commercial agricultural crops with District water that is not delivered by drip or microspray irrigation systems may only occur before 10:00 a.m. and after 4 p.m.
9. Irrigation of outdoor landscapes during and within 48-hours following measurable precipitation is prohibited.”

Section 5: Subsection (C) of Section 6.21.030 of the Goleta District Water Code is hereby amended to read as set forth below:

“C. The restrictions in 6.21.030(B) do not apply to the following:

1. Irrigation with water delivered by a water truck and injected below the surface of soil or mulch via an injection probe.
2. Irrigation of non-commercial vegetable gardens and edible plantings with a hose equipped with a shut off nozzle or drip irrigation system.
3. Establishment of new landscaping if approved in advance in writing by the District, provided however, that new landscaping is required where existing landscaping was severely damaged or destroyed by a reason other than lack of adequate irrigation.
4. Irrigation performed with a watering can, or by use of drip irrigation system or similar low-volume, non-spray irrigation equipment, or for very short periods of time not exceeding ten minutes for the express purpose of allowing landscape contractors to adjust or repair an irrigation system.

5. Customers that receive written authorization to water on an alternate schedule that shall not increase the maximum days or times allowed for outdoor landscape irrigation.”

Section 6: Section 6.21.030 of the Goleta District Water Code is hereby amended add a new subsection F to read as set forth below:

- F. “Hotels and motels must provide guests with the option of choosing not to have towels and linens laundered daily, and must prominently display notice of this option in each guestroom using clear and easily understood language.”

Section 7: Section 6.21.035 of the Goleta District Water Code is hereby amended to read as set forth below:

“A. During a Stage Five Water Shortage, it shall be unlawful for a person to:

1. Water or irrigate any outdoor landscaping, including commercial agricultural crops and edible plants, recreation and athletic fields, and golf courses, unless such watering is with collected rain water, gray water or permitted recycled water, or is authorized in advance in writing by the District. The District may authorize water usage pursuant to this provision upon written application only if the District determines such irrigation serves to protect public health and safety.
2. Use District water at any time in such a manner as to result in water runoff into adjacent property, non-irrigated areas, private and public walkways, roadways, parking lots, or parking structures.
3. Use a hose that is not equipped with a shutoff nozzle or device attached to it that causes it to cease dispensing water immediately when not in use.
4. Use District water for any outdoor washing purpose, including commercial car washing, window washing and paint preparation, except where necessary to alleviate immediate safety or sanitary hazards.
5. Allow District water to escape from breaks, leaks or other system failures within a customer’s plumbing system for more than 48 hours after the customer receives notice of, discovers, or would have had knowledge with the exercise of reasonable care of the break, leak or other system failure.
6. Use District water to maintain outdoor fountains, reflection ponds, and decorative water features for aesthetic or scenic purposes except where necessary to support aquatic life that was in existence as of the date of the District declaration of the applicable Stage Two Water Shortage.
7. Use District water to wash vehicles and boats, including on-site vehicle washing such as company fleets and dealer lots.
8. Use District water to fill or top off any swimming pools, outdoor spas, hot tubs, or wading pools.
9. Use District water for public outdoor showers.
10. Use District water for recreational purposes.

- B. Restaurants in the District shall maintain table signage indicating that water is provided only upon request and shall not serve water to customers or patrons except upon request.
- C. Hotels and motels must provide guests with the option of choosing not to have towels and linens laundered daily, and must prominently display notice of this option in each guestroom using clear and easily understood language.”

Section 8: Urgency.


This Ordinance is an urgency ordinance. It is necessary that the restrictions set forth in this Ordinance be adopted as set forth herein in order to protect the supply of water for human consumption, sanitation and fire protection.

This Ordinance shall become effective upon adoption.


PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Goleta Water District this 12th day of May, 2015 by the following roll call vote:

- AYE:** Directors Cunningham, Hanson, Merrifield, Rosen, West
- NAY:** None
- ABSENT:** None
- ABSTAIN:** None

ATTEST:



JOHN D. MCINNES
DISTRICT SECRETARY



LAUREN HANSON, PRESIDENT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS