

Resolution No. 18-08

**Resolution of the Town Council of Ridgway, Colorado
Amending the Town of Ridgway Water Conservation and Management Plan**

WHEREAS, the water supply for the Town of Ridgway is a precious, valuable and critical resource for the Ridgway community; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Ridgway, State of Colorado and the United States have seen periods of drought that significantly impact the local water supply, threatening the health, safety and welfare of our communities; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council desires to be proactive in communicating with the Ridgway community and water users of town-supplied water regarding the water conservation efforts that will be employed and the timing of such water restrictions; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council desires to conserve water in times of need to insure effective and safe delivery of water to the Ridgway community during all times, including in times of restricted or limited water supply and drought; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council adopted Resolution 2018-06 on April 11, 2018 establishing six stages of limited water supply and various, graduated mechanisms for curbing water demand during times of drought or water plant limitations; and

WHEREAS, persistent drought in 2018 realized the first time in the history of the Town that mandatory water restrictions were put into place and there is now a need to update and modify the Water Conservation and Management Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF RIDGWAY, COLORADO the Ridgway Water Conservation and Management Plan as defined herein is ratified.

Water Conservation and Management Plan

Stage	Trigger Condition	Goals	Actions
Stage I	Voluntary Restrictions: Statewide Drought Status (Begin May 1)	Good management of limited water supply; Public education.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does not apply to drip systems and use of hand-watering containers. • No irrigating between the hours of 10:00 am - 7:00 pm, or when windy, in order to minimize evaporation, and anytime on Mondays. • Properties located on the SOUTH side of Hwy 62 & Hunter Parkway – irrigate only on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. • Properties located on the NORTH side of Hwy 62 & Hunter Parkway – irrigate only on Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays. • Outreach on water use and fixing leaks, limited gardening, etc.
Stage II	Mandatory Restrictions: Demand exceeds system capacity, or water from the town storage reservoir (Lake O) is needed to meet demand)	Effect change in water demand to lower town-wide water use; Significant public outreach on plant limitations and/or drought conditions and water supply outlook.	<p><u>Maintain all Stage I curtailments plus:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Properties located on the SOUTH side of Hwy 62 & Hunter Parkway – irrigate only on Tuesdays and Saturdays. • Properties located on the NORTH side of Hwy 62 & Hunter Parkway – irrigate only on Wednesdays and Sundays. • Town Parks irrigation limited to the minimum needed to keep grass alive.
Stage III	Demand remains above system capacity and tank levels are not sustained after Stage I and Stage II actions or when Lake O water depth falls 2 feet below peak storage for the year, or Lake O depth falls below 6.5 feet.	Make a significant and real impact on real water use and water demand; Significant public education on serious limitations with plant capacity and/or water supply.	<p><u>Maintain all Stage II curtailments plus:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water Waste Ordinance activated, including emergency rate structure reducing base water use allocation and increasing cost of water (may require more frequent meter readings for use and leak detection). • Largest outdoor water users significantly curtailed. • Restaurants only serve water upon customer request. • Restrictions apply to all outdoor irrigation including drip systems, hoses, hand-watering. • Properties located on the SOUTH side of Hwy 62 & Hunter Parkway – irrigate only on Saturdays. Properties located on the NORTH side of Hwy 62 & Hunter Parkway – irrigate only on Sundays.

Stage	Trigger Condition	Goal	Actions
Stage IV	Demand remains above system capacity and tank levels are not sustained after Stage III actions, or when Lake O water depth falls 3 feet below peak storage for the year, or Lake O depth falls below 5 feet.	Significantly reduce water demand as much as possible Significant public outreach and enforcement	Maintain all Stage III curtailments plus: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No outdoor irrigation, except Town Parks may continue watering at minimum levels to keep grass alive and provide gathering and play space

Additional efforts and restrictions or limitations on water use and management of the Lake O water levels to be maintained may be considered by the Town Council as necessary and appropriate for the preservation of the public health, safety and welfare during times of limited water supply. The Council may also consider alternative approaches with parks irrigation

Enforcement

Enforcement of this Water Conservation and Management Plan is per the Ridgway Municipal Code (RMC) and other enforcement provisions for the Town of Ridgway, including but not limited to **RMC Section 2-4: Administrative Enforcement of the Ridgway Municipal Code:**

Under the existing Code Section for Administrative Enforcement, the general process, in part, is as follows, and is only provided here to provide notice to the Ridgway Community:

First Violation – Optional Verbal or written notice, or written Notice of Violation

Second Violation – written Notice of Violation

Third Violation – Administrative Citation pursuant to RMC 2-4-13

RMC 2-4-13:

(B) If the responsible party fails to correct the violation cited, commits the same violations again, or fails to correct a violation as specified in accordance with an administrative enforcement order of the AHO, subsequent administrative citations may be issued for violations of the same code section. The penalties assessed for each administrative citation issued for violations of the same code section or sections shall not exceed the following amounts regardless of the number of violations per citation:

(1) First administrative citation: one hundred and fifty dollar (\$150.00).

(2) Second administrative citation: five hundred dollars (\$500.00).

(3) Third and each subsequent administrative citation: nine hundred and ninety-nine dollars (\$999.00).

(C) Payment of the penalty shall not excuse the failure to correct the violations nor shall it bar further enforcement action by the Town.

In addition, other remedies may be pursued, including but not limited to: **RMC 9-1-3: Limitations on the Use of the Water and Sewer System**, as follows:

RMC 9-1-3, in part:

(B) The Mayor may promulgate emergency regulations restricting the use of Town water for irrigation or other uses subject to confirmation or amendment by the Town Council.

(C) The Town Council may declare by resolution a moratorium on taps or line extensions for the entire water or sewer systems or any part of them at any time due to limitations on system capacity or other circumstances which require such action.

(D) The Town shall have the right to temporarily interrupt service without notice for the purpose of making repairs, taps, extensions or for other reasons as necessary for the proper operation and maintenance of the water and sewer systems. If practical, reasonable notice shall be given to the customer.

(E) No customer located outside of the corporate limits of the Town may significantly increase the amount or degree of his use of Town water or sewer service beyond the extent of his use at the effective date of this Section.

(F) The Town Council may set regulations governing the use of water for irrigation and sprinkling by resolution.

Other Ridgway Municipal Code provisions, as added or amended, may apply.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 12th day of September 2018.

ATTEST

TOWN OF RIDGWAY

Pam Kraft, MMC,
Town Clerk

John Clark,
Mayor