

UWA-7000

9111611

ORDINANCE NO. 1731

AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO WATER CONSERVATION

WHEREAS, water is a valuable natural resource that should always be used wisely, and

WHEREAS, the City of Centralia supplies water to the citizens of the City and surrounding areas, and

WHEREAS, water is essential to serve the health and safety needs of our community, and

WHEREAS, the City of Centralia desires to implement a plan for the conservation of water by all City water customers in the event of a water shortage or other emergency, and

WHEREAS, unrestricted water use for non-essential purposes during water emergencies may endanger the adequacy of the City's supply for essential needs; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to have the ability to implement water use restrictions and respond to City water supply emergencies; and

WHEREAS, education and conservation efforts should initially be on a voluntary basis, NOW, THEREFORE,

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CENTRALIA, WASHINGTON, DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1.

Section 15.04.270 and 15.04.320 of the Centralia Municipal Code are hereby repealed, and the sections following thereafter shall be renumbered accordingly.

Section 2.

A new chapter 15.05 of the Centralia Municipal Code is hereby enacted to provide as follows:

RECORDED AT REQUEST OF:
City of Centralia
PO Box 609
Centralia, WA 98531
91 OCT 29 AM 11:59

GARY E. ZANDELL, AUDITOR
LEWIS COUNTY, WA.

BY Zandell

15.05 Water Conservation Program.

15.05.010 Declaration of Purpose. The conservation and efficient use of water is found and declared to be a public purpose of highest priority. It will result in preservation of natural resources, enhancement of public health, safety and welfare, and a reduction in public costs for the construction of enlarged water and sewer facilities.

15.05.020 Level I Water Supply Problem. At the discretion of the Water and Wastewater Utilities Administrator ("Administrator") for the City of Centralia, a "Level I" water supply problem may be declared. During a Level I water supply problem, the Administrator may request voluntary water conservation measures by notice to and education of the customers of the Centralia Water Utility, particularly with regard to "nonessential uses" as defined in C.M.C. 15.05.050 and 15.05.060.

15.05.030 Level II Water Supply Problem. In the event of a system failure or other situation in which water usage exceeds the rate of resupply, the Administrator may declare a Level II water supply problem. During a Level II water supply problem, the Administrator shall implement voluntary water conservation measures, up to and including reduced or altered lawn watering schedules.

15.05.040 Level III Water Emergency. In the event of a system failure or other situation in which water supply fails to meet the demand for water, and voluntary conservation measures remain ineffective or would be expected to be inadequate, the Administrator may request a declaration by the Centralia City Council that a Level III water emergency exists. In the event of a Level III water emergency, no person or customer shall sprinkle, water, or irrigate any shrubbery, trees, lawns, grass, ground covers, plants, vines, gardens, vegetables, flowers, or any other vegetation, except as authorized by Council declaration. In

addition, no person or customer shall cause or permit water to run to waste in any gutter or drain.

15.05.050 Non-Essential Residential Uses. The following residential water uses are hereby determined to be nonessential and are prohibited during a Level III water emergency:

- (a) The use of water to wash any motorbike, motor vehicle, boat, trailer, airplane, or other vehicle, except at a commercial self-contained washing facility.
- (b) The use of water to wash down any sidewalks, walkways, driveways, parking lots, tennis courts or other hard-surfaced area, or building or structure.
- (c) The use of water to fill, refill or add to any indoor or outdoor swimming pools or jacuzzi pools except for neighborhood fire control, where the pools have recycling water systems and evaporative covers, or where the use of the pool is required by a medical doctor's prescription.
- (d) The use of water in a fountain or pond for aesthetic or scenic purposes except where necessary to support fish life.

15.05.060 Non-Essential Commercial or Industrial Uses. The following commercial or industrial water uses are hereby determined to be nonessential and are prohibited during a Level III water emergency:

- (a) The use of water to serve a customer in a restaurant unless requested by the customer.
- (b) The use of water for scenic and recreational ponds and lakes, except for the minimum amount required to support fish life.

- (c) The use of water from hydrants for construction purposes, fire drills, or any purpose other than firefighting.
- (d) The use of water by a golf course to irrigate any portion of its grounds except those areas designated as tees and greens.
- (e) The use of water for dust control.

15.05.070 Service Disconnections. If the Administrator determines that any customer has failed to comply with any provisions of this Ordinance relating to a Level III water emergency, then one written warning notice shall personally be delivered to a responsible occupant of the customer's residence. If there is no responsible occupant present, then the notice shall be posted at the front entrance of the residence. If the customer fails to respond to the notice within the time limit set forth therein, then the Administrator may authorize disconnection of the customer's water service. Lewis County Environmental Health Services shall be notified in the event of a water disconnection pursuant to this paragraph. Service so disconnected shall be restored only upon payment of a turn-on charge, hereby fixed at \$20.00 during office hours or \$40.00 after office hours, or as otherwise specified by law, and any other costs incurred by the City of Centralia in the discontinuance of service, and the giving of suitable assurances to the City of Centralia that the action causing the discontinuance will not be repeated.

In addition to the foregoing, the City of Centralia may, prior to restoration of service, install a flow-restrictive device on the customer's service. The flow-restrictive device shall be removed at the expiration of the Level III water emergency, and may be removed earlier at the discretion of the Administrator upon petition of the customer.

15.05.080 Variances. The Administrator may, in writing, grant temporary variances for prospective uses of water otherwise prohibited after determining that due to unusual circumstances failure to grant such variance would cause an emergency condition affecting health, sanitation, or fire protection of the applicant or the public.

- (a) The City Council shall ratify or revoke any such variance at its next scheduled meeting. Any variance so ratified may be revoked by later action of the City Council.
- (b) No variance shall be retroactive or otherwise justify any violation of this Ordinance occurring prior to issuance of said temporary variance.

Section 3.

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the remaining portions of this Ordinance. The City Council of the City of Centralia declares that it would have passed each phrase thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more such provisions be declared unconstitutional.

Section 4.

This Ordinance shall become effective five days after its passage and publication as required by law.

PASSED by the City Council of the City of Centralia, Washington, and APPROVED by its Mayor, at a regularly scheduled open public meeting thereof this 22nd day of October, 1991.


MAYOR



ATTEST:

Richard Lee Neely
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

[Signature]
City Attorney