



## **WATER CONSERVATION POLICY**

### **Introduction.**

In order to conserve a natural resource and help to ensure the sustainability of this resource, it is important that the City of Anoka regulate the use of its water supply. The purpose of this policy is to establish regulations for the use of the City water supply. These regulations also establish penalties for violation of the City Code that is associated with water conservation regulations and this policy. The goal of implementing these regulations is to reduce the peak water demand on the system and reduce the potential for not meeting the water demands of the City for domestic use and for fire protection.

### **I. Watering Restrictions**

- A. Upon the determination of City staff that water restrictions are necessary to protect water reserves, or to protect the public's health, safety and/or welfare, the City staff may order the restriction or ban of watering, using City supplied water, which shall include but not be limited to the use of irrigation systems for the watering of grass, trees and shrubs.
- B. The person in whose name the account for City water is kept by the City for each property within the City shall be responsible to maintain compliance with this policy on such property. Upon any violation of the restrictions imposed by this policy or relative City Code, the City may issue written warnings and fines. For cases of repeat or continued violations, the City may prosecute or terminate water service to the subject property. Service may be restored upon payment of all fines and associated service restoration fees.

### **II. Water Use/Sprinkling and Irrigation Regulations**

#### **A. Restrictions:**

Tier #1: May 1<sup>st</sup> through August 31<sup>st</sup> Odd/Even Restrictions and no lawn watering between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

*Ex. All properties with odd number addresses may water on odd numbered calendar days and all properties with even numbered addresses may water on even numbered calendar days.*

Tier #2: May 1<sup>st</sup> through August 31<sup>st</sup> lawn watering on all properties is totally restricted. Tier #2 restrictions shall be established by order of the Public Services Director after notification to the City Manager and the Mayor – City Council.

#### **B. General Exceptions:**

Tier #1:

- Private wells
- City of Anoka watering of public use facilities, i.e. parks, athletic fields, golf course, other property which requires more frequent watering in order to prevent unreasonable damage
- Hand watering of plants, flowers, gardens or trees using a hose
- Other exceptions: washing of vehicles, filling swimming pools, children playing in a hose operated sprinkler or water toy

Tier #2:

- Private wells
- Hand watering of plants, flowers, gardens or trees using a hose
- Other exceptions: children playing in a hose operated sprinkler or water toy

**C. Exceptions by Permit:**

The Department of Public Services may, by permit, authorize exemptions to Tier #1 & Tier #2 for new sod and seed, for a period of up to thirty (30) days.

**D. Implementation of Restrictions:**

The implementation of restrictions will always be Tier #1, unless ordered by the Director of Public Services after notification to the City Manager and the Mayor-City Council.

If Tier #2 is implemented, notice will be published in the City's official newspaper, on the City electronic message board, the City website and posted on City property.

**III. Penalties for Violation**

Penalties for violation(s) of the Water Conservation Policy or relative City Code are per year as follows:

- 1<sup>st</sup> violation Written warning
- 2<sup>nd</sup> violation \$25.00 fine
- 3<sup>rd</sup> violation \$50.00 fine
- 4<sup>th</sup> violation \$100.00 fine
- 5<sup>th</sup> violation \$200.00 fine
- 6<sup>th</sup> violation Criminal prosecution and/or termination of service.

\*Fines will be annually reviewed and revised per the City's Master Fee Schedule.

**IV. Effective Date of Policy**

This policy will become effective January 1, 2009.

**Policy History**

Initially Adopted: 08.18.2008