



AUDIENCE: Town of Kearny Residents and Water Use Stakeholders

COMMUNICATION PLAN ID: S008

DISTRIBUTION METHOD: Newspaper article, on-line web page, social media, water bill mailer, open meeting

SUMMARY: The Town of Kearny has received a reduced allotment of water from the Gila River Water Commissioner based on the Globe Equity Decree of 1935 necessitating water restrictions.

#### CURRENT SITUATION

The Town of Kearny has received an allotment of 76 acre feet based on the Globe Equity Decree of 1935. The Town of Kearny averages 280 acre feet of water usage annually. The Town of Kearny has approximately 6 months of water remaining based on the current allotment.

Based on the allotted amount and average annual usage it is necessary to implement water usage restrictions under our water management plan. The restriction will be Water Conservation Level 5WE and will include ALL following restrictions:

*Water Conservation Level 1WE-*: Water awareness and self-regulation.

- i. Water users are specifically encouraged to minimize waste for non-essential water uses.
- ii. Water users are specifically encouraged to limit landscape irrigation to a minimum, and limit irrigation times to the hours of 7:00 am – 7:00 pm.
- iii. Water users shall not wash paved areas such as drives, sidewalks, or similar hard surfaces, except for health or safety.

*Water Conservation Level 2WE*: Moderate Water Reductions. The following water uses are restricted or prohibited. In addition to the restrictions set forth in Subsection 1 above, no person shall:

- iv. Voluntarily restrict non-essential water usage, including but not exclusive to vehicle washing, irrigation, refill pools, spas, or wading pools.
- v. Residences, businesses, and other Town of Kearny Utilities customers whose respective addresses end in the numbers zero (0), two (2), four (4), six (6), or eight (8) shall not irrigate landscaping, with the exception of the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, and 30<sup>th</sup> days of the month, where irrigation shall be permitted.
- vi. Residences, businesses, and other Town of Kearny Utilities customers whose respective addresses end in the numbers one (1), three (3), five (5), seven (7), and nine (9) shall not irrigate landscaping, with the exception of the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>,



13<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, and 29<sup>th</sup> days of the month, where irrigation shall be permitted.

*Water Conservation Level 3WE:* Strict Water Reduction. The following water uses are restricted or prohibited. In addition to the restrictions set forth in Subsection 1 and 2 above, no person shall:

vii. Wash vehicles on days provided by irrigation guidelines in this Subsection, fill or refill pools, spas, or wading pools.

viii. Residences, businesses, and other Town of Kearny Utilities customers whose respective addresses end in the numbers zero (0) or five (5) shall not irrigate landscaping, with the exception of the 5<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, or 30<sup>th</sup> days of the month, where irrigation shall be permitted.

ix. Residences, businesses, and other Town of Kearny Utilities customers whose respective addresses end in the numbers one (1) or six (6) shall not irrigate landscaping, with the exception of the 1<sup>st</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, or 26<sup>th</sup> days of the month, where irrigation shall be permitted.

x. Residences, businesses, and other Town of Kearny Utilities customers whose respective addresses end in the numbers two (2) or seven (7) shall not irrigate landscaping, with the exception of the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, or 27<sup>th</sup> days of the month, where irrigation shall be permitted.

xi. Residences, businesses, and other Town of Kearny Utilities customers whose respective addresses end in the numbers three (3) or eight (8) shall not irrigate landscaping, with the exception of the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, or 28<sup>th</sup> days of the month, where irrigation shall be permitted.

xii. Residences, businesses, and other Town of Kearny Utilities customers whose respective addresses end in the numbers four (4) or nine (9) shall not irrigate landscaping, with the exception of the 4<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, or 29<sup>th</sup> days of the month, where irrigation shall be permitted.

xiii. Irrigate golf courses, or large areas of green landscape, including but not exclusive to large park areas and athletic fields, during the hours of 7:00 am – 8:00 pm. No restrictions apply if effluent is used.

xiv. Use aesthetic water fixtures.

xv. Use water from a fire hydrant except for emergencies, or other use associated with fire fighting activities, public health, or safety.



*Water Conservation Level 4WE: Severe Water Restrictions. In addition to the restrictions set forth in 1, 2, and 3 above, the following water uses are further restricted or prohibited. No person shall:*

- a. Conserve water for essential uses, including but not exclusive to bathing, cooking, laundry, and other cleaning.
- b. Irrigate landscape.
- c. Irrigate golf courses or similar large green areas, as described in Subsection 16-11-4-C-3 above. No restrictions apply if effluent is used.
- d. Wash vehicles, paved areas, or use fire hydrants on a non-emergency basis. No restrictions apply to vehicles that must be washed for public health, or safety or welfare.
- e. Use water for any non-essential use.

*Water Conservation Level 5WE: Water Curtailments. The following water uses are restricted or prohibited. No person shall:*

- f. Do any acts prescribed in Subsections 1 through 4 above.*
  - g. Use any potable water for irrigation.*
  - h. Use fire hydrants unless for public health, safety, or welfare.*
  - i. Use potable water for dust control on public or private property, public or private streets, or capital improvement projects.*
  - j. Use potable water in violation of any other restriction deemed prudent and necessary by the Kearny Town Council for the purpose of protecting the welfare of the citizens of the Town.*
- 2. Reduction in anticipated water use. The foregoing water conservation levels shall be utilized to achieve the following respective reductions in anticipated water use:**
- a. Water Conservation Level 1: 0% reduction in anticipated water use**
  - b. Water Conservation Level 2: 5% reduction in anticipated water use**
  - c. Water Conservation Level 3: 10% reduction in anticipated water use**
  - d. Water Conservation Level 4: 20% reduction in anticipated water use**
  - e. Water Conservation Level 5: 30% reduction in anticipated water use**

Our goal is to reduce community water usage by at least 30% to buy the Town time to complete repairs to well sites that are not subject to the Globe Equity Decree.

#### HOW THIS WILL BE ENFORCED

Monitoring and Detection –

**Patrols:** Police and Public Works will be tasked with patrolling the community looking for behaviors that are not in compliance with the emergency order as well as leaks in the water supply system.

**Data Analysis:** Town Administration Staff will review monthly usage reports, residents who fail to reduce water usage by at least 30% over their usage from the same month in the



previous year will be notified of non-compliance and requested to reduce their water usage.

**Citizen Reporting:** Citizens may report illegal irrigation or water usage to the Town Hall or Police Department.

Enforcement Actions –

**Informal Notice:** First violation, door hanger or other interaction educating the public on the situation and requirements to comply with the Emergency Order.

**Notice of Violation:** Second violation, formal warning explaining further enforcement actions that will be taken.

**Citation:** Subsequent violation(s), criminal citation including fines up to service cutoff.

Community means we are all in this together. The last thing we want to do is write citations to the good people of Kearny, we are depending on each other to work our way through this water emergency, and we encourage you all to do your part. Town Staff is working on alternative water supplies, should an adequate supply be found we will lift or reduce these restrictions. Thank you all in advance for your efforts with respect to water consumption reductions.

#### FAQ

1. Can I water my landscaping?
  - a. NO! Potable water may not be used for irrigation on any landscaping.
  - b. For smaller plants, bathwater or laundry water may be an option.
2. What happens if I am Cited?
  - a. Our goal is education and voluntary compliance, however the situation requires us to enforce these restrictions, failure to comply with the order will result in citations that carry heavy fines and can lead to service disconnection.
3. I have a pool, can I fill it?
  - a. Not with water supplied by the Town of Kearny, if you can find an alternative water source you may fill the pool.
4. What about businesses?
  - a. Businesses may NOT irrigate, other uses of water for normal business operations remain available, however we strongly encourage all parties to do everything possible to reduce water usage.
5. What about parks, ball parks, and school facilities?
  - a. No public spaces or school facilities may be irrigated using potable water while this order is in effect.
6. What about animals located in the Kearny Sherriff Possie's coral area?
  - a. Residents who are able to relocate livestock to areas where water restrictions do not exist are encouraged to do so, all keepers of livestock are expected to do everything in their power to conserve water in the corral area.
7. What about commercial water sales for dust suppression or industrial activities?



- a. No commercial sales may continue under this order, a water stand is being constructed using Kearny Lake Water to support these activities.
8. What about the watering of the Kearny Golf Course?
  - a. The golf course has its own well; we do not control the water usage at the Golf Course.
9. What can I do to reduce my water usage?
  - a. From Google Ai:

Residents can significantly reduce water usage through a combination of simple habit changes, routine maintenance, and strategic home upgrades. Since nearly **70% of residential water** in some regions is used outdoors, focusing on landscaping often yields the highest savings. [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]

### 1. High-Impact Outdoor Habits

- **Optimal Watering Times:** Water between **\*\* sundown and sunrise\*\*** (ideally 4 a.m. to 8 a.m.) to minimize evaporation loss, which can save up to **50%-65%** compared to midday watering.
- **"Deep and Infrequent" Watering:** Instead of daily light sprinkles, water deeply once or twice a week to encourage roots to grow deeper, making plants more drought-resistant.
- **Mower Maintenance:** Set lawnmower blades to at least **3 inches**. Taller grass shades the soil, reducing evaporation and saving **500 to 1,500 gallons** per month.
- **Mulching:** Apply a **2-3 inch layer** of organic mulch around plants and trees. This retains soil moisture and can save hundreds of gallons annually.
- **Broom Over Hose:** Use a broom instead of a hose to clean driveways and sidewalks. This saves roughly **6 gallons every minute** the hose isn't running. [4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11]

### 2. Indoor Efficiency & Habits

- **Bathroom (Highest Indoor Use):**
  - **Turn off the tap** while brushing teeth or shaving to save up to **8-10 gallons** per instance.
  - **Shorten showers** by just two minutes to save approximately **5 gallons** per shower.
  - **Catch "warm-up" water** in a bucket while waiting for the shower to get hot; use it for plants or pets.
- **Kitchen & Laundry:**
  - **Run full loads only** in dishwashers and washing machines.
  - **Scrape, don't rinse:** Modern dishwashers are designed to handle food residue; skipping the pre-rinse saves about **24 gallons** per load.
  - **Defrost in the fridge:** Avoid using running water to thaw frozen food. [6, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18]

### 3. Maintenance & Upgrades



- **Fix Leaks Promptly:** A leaky toilet can waste **hundreds of gallons** a day. Use food coloring in the tank to test for leaks—if color appears in the bowl without flushing, there is a leak.
- **Install Aerators:** Inexpensive faucet aerators can reduce water flow by up to **60%** without sacrificing pressure.
- **WaterSense Upgrades:** Replacing an old toilet with a [WaterSense](#) model (1.28 gallons per flush) can save a family **13,000 gallons** per year.
- **Smart Irrigation:** Weather-based controllers or rain sensors automatically skip watering cycles during rain, potentially cutting outdoor use by **50%**. [4, 13, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22]

#### 4. Alternative Water Sources

- **Rain Harvesting:** Use rain barrels to collect water from gutters for garden use. A 1,000-square-foot roof can yield **625 gallons** from just one inch of rain.
- **Greywater Reuse:** Reuse non-soapy water from cooking vegetables or rinsing produce to water indoor and outdoor plants. [8, 15, 16, 23, 24]

Useful links for water use reduction:

- [1] <https://www.azwater.gov>
- [2] <https://www.topdogplumberboise.com>
- [3] <https://walnutvalleywater.gov>
- [4] <https://walnutvalleywater.gov>
- [5] <https://fairvieworegon.gov>
- [6] <https://www.iewaterkeeper.org>
- [7] <https://www.tlcincorporated.com>
- [8] <https://www.almanac.com>
- [9] <https://www.natorp.com>
- [10] <https://www.sjwd.org>
- [11] <https://www.azwater.gov>
- [12] <https://www.madsewer.org>
- [13] <https://www.cityofprineville.com>
- [14] <https://h2obham.org>
- [15] <https://www.regionalh2o.org>
- [16] <https://www.americanrivers.org>
- [17] <https://mokherplumbing.com>
- [18] <https://sustainability.txst.edu>
- [19] <https://www.cityofprineville.com>
- [20] <https://www.volusia.org>
- [21] <https://www.actonwater.com>
- [22] <https://www.twdb.texas.gov>
- [23] <https://wateruseitwisely.com>
- [24] <https://extension.umn.edu>