

Chapter 13.24 WATER CONSERVATION*

Sections:

* Prior ordinance history: Ord. 1994-10-584.

13.24.010 Purpose.

Customers of the city of White Salmon water service area are encouraged to implement and practice water conservation every day and for every water use application. Irrigation of lawns and gardens creates a large demand on the available municipal water supply. Thus, the city encourages its customers to consider landscaping concepts that require the least amount of domestic water for landscape maintenance. From May 1st through October 31st each year, the city council deems it necessary and appropriate for the city to mandate the implementation of restrictive water conservation measures for users of city water. These measures are designed to maintain adequate water storage in the city's reservoirs for consumptive use and to maintain adequate fire line flow.

(Ord. 2006-7-780 § 1(part), 2006)

13.24.020 Conservation prohibited acts.

Each user of city water shall conserve water and prevent waste, to preserve an adequate supply for all users and to prevent soil erosion and damage to sidewalks, curbs, and streets. Water used for irrigation shall be applied through efficient sprinkling devices. The waste of water through open hoses or open faucets, leaky faucets, or flush valves, roof sprinkling, or allowing any water to discharge or flow onto or across any public or private property is unlawful.

(Ord. 2006-7-780 § 1(part), 2006)

13.24.030 Water use limitations.

- A. From May 1st through October 31st each year, there shall be no watering of lawns, gardens or any other landscaping, whether natural or planted except between hours of six a.m. to nine a.m. and from six p.m. to nine p.m. with properties with an even-numbered address permitted to irrigate only on even-numbered days and properties with an odd-numbered address permitted to irrigate only on odd-numbered days. Properties with no address shall be permitted to irrigate only on odd-numbered days.
- B. All orchard irrigation is prohibited at any time.
- C. No driveway flushing is permitted at any time.
- D. No vehicle washing is permitted at any time without a functional automatic shutoff nozzle, except within established commercial car washes.
- E. No structural, machinery, or equipment washing is permitted at any time without a functional automatic shutoff nozzle or mechanism.

(Ord. 2006-7-780 § 1(part), 2006)

13.24.040 Exceptions and special permits.

- A. Notwithstanding Section 13.24.020, drip irrigation systems are permitted to function between the hours of nine p.m. and nine a.m. for a total duration of not more than six hours on alternating days in accordance with the specifications therefore in Section 13.24.030.
- B. Special Permit for Handicapped Persons. The clerk-treasurer is authorized to issue an annual permit (effective for twelve months) to handicapped persons who are unable to effect irrigation consistent with Section 13.24.030 and cannot afford a drip irrigation system. In order to obtain a special permit, the person shall submit to the clerk-treasurer a sworn statement in the following form:

I, _____, am unable to irrigate during the hours of 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. or 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. due to the following handicap:

I am unable to afford a drip irrigation system.

I swear under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that the foregoing is true and correct. Signed at White Salmon, Washington on the ____ day of _____, 20____.

Signature_____

Printed Name:_____

- C. Special Permit for New Landscape Establishment. A person desiring to establish new landscaping is authorized to obtain from the clerk-treasurer a single special permit per twelve-month period for waiver of the alternate day requirements of Section 13.24.030. Notwithstanding, irrigation shall occur during the hours specified in that section. The special use permit to establish new landscaping is valid for a period of six weeks.

(Ord. 2006-7-780 § 1(part), 2006)

13.24.050 Water emergency.

Whenever the mayor determines, on the basis of the water storage reserves or emergency circumstances, that the amount of water available and the probable use of water makes it appropriate to conserve water to protect the citizens and property in the city, the mayor is hereby authorized to declare a water emergency and thereafter prohibit any and all of the following uses:

- A. Watering Lawns and Landscaping. The sprinkling, watering, or irrigation of shrubbery, trees, lawns, grass, grounds, plants, or any other vegetation;
- B. Washing Mobile Equipment. The washing of automobiles, trucks, trailers, trailer houses, railroad cars, or any other type of mobile equipment;
- C. Cleaning of Equipment. The washing and cleaning of any industrial equipment, machinery, sidewalks, driveways, filling stations, aprons, porches, and other outdoor surfaces;
- D. Cleaning Businesses. Cleaning buildings, the washing of the outside of buildings, including dwellings or accessory buildings;
- E. Ornamental Fountains. The operation of ornamental fountain or any other structure making a similar use of water;
- F. Swimming Pools. The filling of any swimming or wading pool.

(Ord. 2006-7-780 § 1(part), 2006)

13.24.060 Declaration of water emergency.

- A. The mayor shall cause each declaration made pursuant to this chapter to be publicly announced through the local media, city website, posting, and any other method reasonably calculated to communicate the water emergency declaration to the public. The mayor's water emergency declaration shall describe the action taken by the mayor, including the times and dates effective and shall specify the particular use of water which will be prohibited.
- B. Whenever the mayor finds that the conditions which gave rise to the water prohibition no longer exist, he/she shall declare the prohibition terminated.

(Ord. 2006-7-780 § 1(part), 2006)

13.24.070 Violation and penalties.

It is unlawful for any person to violate any provisions of this chapter. "Person" includes any person, firm or corporation. Any person violating any provision of this chapter shall be first given two warnings. After two warnings, any person violating any provision of this chapter shall be deemed to have committed an infraction, and upon conviction shall be penalized an amount of two hundred dollars on the first conviction and three hundred dollars on the second conviction and four hundred dollars for each conviction thereafter. For violations outside of the city limits, the violator's water service may be terminated in the event of a violation after the second warning. The water shall thereafter be turned back on only after payment of the applicable fine(s) specified above and payment of any applicable hook-up fees and other charges.

(Ord. 2006-7-780 § 1(part), 2006)