

Baca Grande Water and Sanitation District

Drought Procedures

Drought conditions will be defined according to the US Drought Monitor. (<https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>) The data for Saguache County will be used to determine the drought level impacting the District. The drought conditions on US Drought Monitor will be reviewed monthly. Saguache County is currently listed at Drought level 0 or “abnormally dry” as of 04/18/2023. Once Drought Level 2 “Severe Drought” is reached, and maintained for a period of two months, the District will implement this drought policy.

Drought Level 2 “Severe Drought”

- Notices sent to customers stating severe drought conditions
 - Recommend maximum water conservation & reduce irrigation as much as possible
 - Water conservation tips: Indoor/Outdoor
 - Check all plumbing for leaks and repair if necessary
 - Use full loads in your washing machine and dishwasher
 - Install aerators on faucets to reduce flow, and use low-flow shower heads
 - Use automatic timers for outdoor watering
 - Water at night time to reduce evaporation
 - Used drip irrigation and soaker hoses instead of sprinklers
 - Add mulch around plants and trees to retain moisture
 - Choose native plants and drought-resistant landscaping techniques that require less water.
 - Report water waste when you see it happening

Drought level 3 “Extreme Drought” Once Drought Level 3 “Extreme Drought” is reached, and maintained for a period of two months, the District will implement the following measures.

- Implement irrigation restrictions
 - Even number properties can only water on even days of the month
 - Odd number properties on odd days of the month
 - Limit commercial irrigation to 3x a week between hours of 9pm and 6am
 - POA – golf course, parks & Casita Park entrance
 - Increase the fee for Tier 2 water
 - *Implement a 50% drought increase
 - Monitor high usage accounts – Monthly High Usage Reports
 - Send notices to high users requesting water conservation

Drought Level 4 “Exceptional Drought” Once Drought Level 4 “Exceptional Drought” is reached, and maintained for a period of two months, the District will implement the following measures.

- Water use limited to indoor only
- No bulk water sales
- No commercial irrigation
 - POA – golf course, parks & Casita Park entrance
- Monitor high usage accounts – Monthly High Usage reports
 - Monitor for consistent (2 months +) high users

- Fines up to \$50 per 1,000 gallons for Tier 2 water usage
- Potential disconnection

Mobile Home Estates (MHE) Well

Use in drought conditions

All actions from the above scenarios will apply to MHE, with the addition of the actions outlined below.

Drought Level 2 “Severe Drought”

- Use will be limited to Mobile Home Estates, camper village and POA Buildings

Drought level 3 “Extreme Drought”

- 50% of demand will come from Well 17&18

Drought Level 4 “Exceptional Drought”

- Switch to Well 17 & 18 for 100% of demand
- MHE will only be used if necessary
 - If volumetric limit is reached at Well 17 & 18 and/or level of wells are to low

Once the District’s Drought Level increases, it will not be decreased until lower Drought Level conditions are maintained for a two-month period.