

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DROUGHT EMERGENCY PLAN

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New Jersey Drought Emergency Plan

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NEW JERSEY DROUGHT EMERGENCY PLAN

This is an emergency planning tool to be used as needed in response to potential drought situations except those solely concerned with agriculture drought emergencies.

I. AUTHORITY

A. Applicable Legislation and Regulations.

1. Civil Defense and Disaster Control Act, N.J.S.A., Appendix A:9-30 et seq. (Chapter 251, P.L. 1942, as amended by Chapter 438, P.L. 1953)
2. Water Supply Management Act, N.J.S.A. 58:1A-1 et seq.
3. Emergency Water Supply Allocation Plan Regulations, N.J.A.C. 7:19A-1.1 et seq.
4. Water Emergency Surcharge Schedule Rules, N.J.A.C. 7:19B1.1 et seq.

B. Under the provisions of the foregoing, the Governor is authorized to proclaim by executive order, a state of water emergency and may limit the applicability of any state of emergency to specific categories of water supplies or to specific areas of the State in which a shortage exists or impends. The Governor is further authorized to designate another to take command of the water emergency and may delegate all powers he deems necessary including the following:

1. Adopt orders, rules and regulations for the purpose of implementing and enforcing the provisions of any Executive Orders issued pertaining to a drought emergency.
2. Impose further restrictions upon the non-essential use of water including the use of water conservation devices, as may be necessary.
3. Make additions or modifications to the Drought Emergency Plan.
4. Subject additional municipalities or purveyor service areas to the provisions of this Order and any orders, rules and regulations adopted by him/her.
5. Require purveyors to make or continue any water interconnections, and to develop, obtain or use any sources of water supply as may be designated by him/her.
6. Allocate or re-allocate water supplies in order that they may be shared equitably.

7. Order temporary, part-time or full-time closure of non-residential users where necessary to avoid a system failure.

C. The Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection or his designated representative during the duration of a state of emergency, to the extent not in conflict with applicable Federal law or regulations but notwithstanding any State or local law or contractual agreement, shall be empowered to:

1. Order any person to reduce by a specified amount the use of any water supply; to make use an alternate water supply where possible; to make emergency interconnections between systems; to transfer water from any public or private system or to cease the use of any water supply.

2. Order any person engaged in the distribution of any water supply to reduce or increase by a specified amount or to cease the distribution of that water supply; to distribute a specified amount of water to certain users as specified by the Commissioner; or to share any water supply with other distributors thereof.

3. Establish priorities for the distribution of any water supply.

4. Adopt rules and regulations as are necessary and proper to carry out the purposes of the Water Supply Management Act.

5. Direct any person engaged in the retail distribution of water to impose and collect a surcharge on the cost of that water as a penalty for the violation of any order to reduce water usage issued pursuant to the Water Supply Management Act.

6. Otherwise implement the Emergency Water Supply Allocation Plan Regulations N.J.A.C. 7:19A-1.1 et seq., adopted pursuant to the Water Supply Management Act.

D. The state of water emergency declared by the Governor shall remain in effect until the Governor declares by a subsequent order that the state of water emergency has terminated.

II. SITUATION & ASSUMPTIONS

A. SITUATION

1. With topographical features ranging from the mountainous northwest to the flat barrier island and a population density ranging from the most densely populated county in the United States to the desolate Pine Barrens, New Jersey presents unique problems in water management. Lakes, rivers and wells exist in all areas of the State but impoundments predominate the water supply for the metropolitan

areas of North New Jersey and deep wells provide most of the water supply in the south. Some areas receive water from the Delaware River which forms the western border. This wide range of population density and greatly differing sources of water supply can cause a shortage in one part of the State or water source while the remainder is unaffected. Because much of the State is heavily populated, a shortage in any of the sources requires careful managing in order to minimize the deleterious effects of a protracted drought. Alternate sources and interconnection systems provide the capability to withstand isolated shortages and droughts of limited duration.

2. It is the responsibility of government to prepare emergency plans to respond quickly to these drought conditions to reduce the threat to lives, property and industry. Planning for the management and control of a possible emergency water shortage situation or system failure is the responsibility of local municipalities. Guidance and requirements for plans prepared by purveyors are the responsibility of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

B. ASSUMPTIONS

1. The continuation of a drought situation will reduce water availability and will adversely impact on the State and its residents, industries, commercial and retail centers, fire fighting operations, public health services, educational and recreational facilities and government services.

2. This adverse impact may result in the curtailment of water to industry with resultant loss of jobs, the closing of schools, and restriction of the use of water to minimal levels essential for sustaining public health and welfare and for preventing loss of life and property due to fire.

III. PURPOSE

A. The purpose of this Drought Emergency Plan is to provide for the institution of conservation measures at all levels of State government and the private sector, to prolong the supply of water to drought-affected areas, and to provide supplies of water to drought-affected areas should no water be available through normal distribution systems in order to insure preservation of the public health, welfare and safety.

IV. ORGANIZATION

A. Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection - The State official serving as head of the Department of Environmental Protection or his designated representative. His authority and responsibilities for water emergencies are set forth in section I. C. above.

B. Water Emergency Task Force - That State body consisting of interagency representatives whose purpose is the following:

1. To assist the Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection in the formation of policy and render decisions during a water emergency.
2. Review and render decisions regarding applications for hardship exemptions from the ban on adjustable water uses.
3. Hear appeals of water purveyor's decisions regarding applications for hardship exemptions from the requirements of the water rationing plans.

The Chairman of the Water Emergency Task Force shall be designated by the Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection and shall have such powers as are delegated by the Governor and the Commissioner. The Task Force shall be composed of representatives of the following agencies:

The Department of Agriculture; The Department of Commerce, Energy & Economic Development; The Department of Community Affairs; The Department of Education; The Department of Environmental Protection; The Department of Health; The Department of Labor; The Department of Law & Public Safety; The Board of Public Utilities; and other agencies as designated by the Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection.

C. Drought Coordinator - The Drought Coordinator is the State official designated by the Governor to act as his principal assistant to supervise the administration and enforcement of the State Drought Emergency Program. During a declared state of emergency the Drought Coordinator has the responsibility for the following:

1. Adopting orders, rules and regulations for the purposes of implementing and enforcing the provisions of this plan.
2. Imposing further restrictions upon the non-essential use of water.
3. Requiring the use of water conservation devices.
4. Making additions or modifications to implement water rationing rules.
5. Subjecting additional municipalities or purveyor service areas to the provisions of the Executive Order declaring the emergency and any orders, rules or regulations adopted by him subject to the Governor's Executive Orders.
6. Requiring purveyors to make or continue any water interconnections, and to develop, obtain or use any sources of water supply as may be designated by him/her.
7. Allocate or re-allocate water supplies in order that they may be shared equitably.

8. Order temporary, part-time or full-time closure of non-residential users where necessary to avoid a system failure.

NOTE: The Drought Coordinator may provide for such exemptions or exclusions from any such order, rule or regulation adopted pursuant hereto in any case where: a) extraordinary hardship would otherwise result; b) no reasonable alternative exists; and c) where such exemption, or class of exemptions, will not interfere with the achievement of the purpose of the Executive Order declaring the emergency and ad further amended.

D. Director, Office of Emergency Management - The officer in charge of the Office of Emergency Management of the N.J. State Police. He/she serves as the principal staff assistant to the Drought Coordinator for all drought emergency response operations and mission matters and is responsible for:

1. Determining immediately, the types of relief aid most urgently needed in each affected area.
2. Coordinating State relief activities with Federal Emergency Management Coordinator.
3. Assist with the implementation of the New Jersey Drought Emergency Plan and other disaster related plans as necessary.
4. Coordinating the administration of relief activities of State agencies, the Office of Emergency Management staff, the American Red Cross, the Salvation Army, church organizations, and other volunteer relief organizations through the respective agency heads.
5. Ensuring that all State agencies are carrying out their designated disaster assistance roles under the statutory authorities and policies governing their operations in coordination with the Water Emergency Task Force.
6. Receiving, consolidating and reporting drought damage assessment and enforcement information to the Governor in coordination with the Water Emergency Task Force.
7. Requesting and coordinating assistance from other states under State mutual-aid agreement and from the Federal Government when the resources of New Jersey are inadequate to cope with an emergency, in coordination with the Water Emergency Task Force.
8. Processing all project applications for drought relief projects and the accompanying document required by Federal-State Agreements from State and political subdivisions.

9. Assisting county and municipal governments performing drought relief activities.
10. Reviewing all drought relief applications under Federal-State Agreements and recommending approval or disapproval.
11. Certifying that applications meet Federal requirements and the terms of the Federal-State Agreement.
12. Maintaining records of applications to ensure that they are submitted within the prescribed time limit.
13. Advising and assisting other State staff officers in the operation aspects of their activities in connection with drought emergency response requirements.
15. Directing the collection of data and narrative information to respond to the needs generated by the drought disaster, and if required, for the Governor's request for drought assistance from the Federal Government.
16. In the event of a county declared emergency, monitor county assistance and enforcement activities and assist if required.

E. Drought Emergency Organizational Structure:

See Appendix I

V. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. The Emergency Water Supply Allocation Plan Regulations, N.J.A.C. 7:19A establishes the prioritized allocation of water supplies which will be implemented by the Department of Environmental Protection with the assistance of other State and local agencies once a water emergency is declared. It also establishes the "Phases" which denote the severity of the water emergency and upon which the prioritized allocation of water supplies and restrictions are based. It should be noted that Phase IV is a disaster phase and emphasis must be placed on providing for a source of potable water that can be guaranteed. Therefore, resources necessarily associated with water delivery should be managed in anticipation of the possibility of Phase IV being declared. The following is a prioritized list of water uses as reflected in the rules and regulations on water shortages.

1. Essential uses for public safety, health and welfare including fire protection.
2. Essential uses for food preparation.
3. Essential residential uses.
4. Commercial and industrial uses impacting jobs.
5. Nonessential municipal, commercial and industrial uses.
6. Nonessential residential uses (specifically outdoor uses).

B. Prior to actual declaration of a water emergency by the Governor, the Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection may call for actions to be taken under its non-emergency powers in order to reduce the likelihood of impact of any impending emergency. Where such situations involve a lack of precipitation, the Commissioner may identify the affected area of the State as being in a “Drought Warning” condition. The purpose of declaring a drought warning is to bring the possibility of an emergency to the attention of the public, encourage their voluntary conservation, and prepare them for more severe conditions if the situation deteriorates.

C. In those areas where the Delaware River Basin Commission exercises authority, the Commission may declare a drought warning in the affected parts of New Jersey. When the Delaware River Basin Commission, in accordance with its rules and procedures, declares a drought emergency based on the storage in New York City’s Delaware Basin reservoirs, thereby impacting the New Jersey portion of the Delaware River Basin, the Governor must also declare a water emergency in the New Jersey portion of the Basin. The Department of Environmental Protection shall coordinate the implementation of N.J.A.C. 7:19A and 7:19B with the Delaware River Basin Commission.

D. Pursuant to the “Agricultural Retention and Development Act,” P.L. 1983, C.32, agricultural activities on land in a municipally-approved program shall be exempt from N.J.A.C. 7:19A unless the Governor declares that the public safety and welfare require otherwise.

E. Once a water emergency is declared by the Governor, the Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection shall immediately determine the severity of the water emergency and order the implementation of the activities specified in the appropriate phase or phases outlined below. Reservoir levels, stream flow, water quality conditions, ground water levels, time of year and other relevant criteria will be considered in determining the phase and the proper point of transition from one phase to another during an emergency.

F. Drought Emergency Phases

1. Phase I. Available water supply levels are determined to be below normal.

a. Voluntary water conservation will be encouraged and all agencies of State and local government will initiate an intensive campaign to inform the general public of the worsening drought situation. Such public awareness campaigns will stress specific water saving measures for curtailing residential and industrial water usage.

b. A ban on some or all “adjustable water uses” may be instituted at this time including the following:

1. The watering of all plant growth, except commercially grown food crops, sod at commercial sod farms and nursery stock at nurseries or retail outlets.
2. The noncommercial washing of vehicles, except by businesses engaged exclusively in car washing or in those instances where a threat to public health may exist.
3. The washing of streets, driveways, sidewalks, or paved areas.
4. The serving of water in restaurants, clubs or eating places unless specifically requested by the patron.
5. The use of water for flushing sewers by municipalities or any public or private entity except as deemed necessary and approved in the interest of public health or safety by municipal health officials.
6. The use of fire hydrants by fire companies for testing and fire department drills except as deemed necessary in the interest of public safety and specifically approved by the municipal governing body and the purveyor.
7. The use of fire hydrants by municipal road departments, contractors and all others, except as necessary for fire fighting or protection purposes.
8. The use of water for all outdoor recreational purposes.
9. Any other uses of potable water may be designated by the Water Emergency Task Force as adjustable. Such designations shall be made by rule or order and shall be effective immediately upon adoption by the Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection and shall be published in the New Jersey Register as soon thereafter as possible.
10. Exemptions from the "adjustable water uses" may be designated by the Water Emergency Task Force as provided for in N.J.A.C. 7:19A-9.1.

c. Variables affecting the application of a ban on "adjustable water uses" include but are not limited to the following:

1. Severity of the water emergency
2. Time of the year.
3. Climatic conditions.

d. Exemptions from the "adjustable water uses" listed above may be designated by the Water Emergency Task Force and any person wishing to be exempt from the ban on "adjustable water uses" may file for the same in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:19A-9.1.

e. Procedure for the selective curtailment during a water emergency

1. The Department of Environmental Protection shall require the purveyors and self-supplied water users to submit appropriate information during Phase I, in order to prepare for possible water curtailment.

2. The data shall be revised and updated to incorporate new data or consumption as appropriate

f. The State, in coordination with local governments, agencies of the Federal Government and adjacent state governments, will explore the development of alternative and/or new fresh water sources to augment and expand the existing State-wide reservoir systems and capacities. Provision for the funding of such activities will be necessary through legislative enactment. The objectives of such activities are to uncover and develop previously untapped water sources.

g. If the Phase I activities fail to achieve water demand management objectives, Phases II through IV shall be implemented in a manner that reflects the existing water supply conditions.

2. Phase II. The severity of the water shortage is a substantial threat to the public health and welfare.

a. Non-residential users, which are all users of water except those in single family homes or multiple family homes with individual meters, shall be subject to the water emergency rate schedule as provided by N.J.A.C. 7:19B.

b. Water rationing shall be instituted at a maximum daily rate of 50 gallons of water per person for residential users. Residential users are those users of water who are in single family homes or multiple family homes with individual meters.

c. Based on the limitations on water use imposed during Phase II or a subsequent Phase of an emergency and the number of customers served by an affected water purveyor, each such purveyor shall be assigned a water use allocation target. The affected purveyors shall be required to make good faith efforts to remain within these targets. Such targets may be modified in subsequent Phases of the emergency.

d. Any person wishing to be exempt from the requirements of these limitations may file an application for a hardship exemption in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:19A-9.2.

3. Phase III. Crisis level of Potable water.

a. This stage requires further rationing of water supplies to all sectors and the selective/partial curtailment of industrial water users in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:19A-6.

b. Selective curtailment of large industrial users shall be based on the following:

1. Water consumption per work site.
2. Number of employees per work site.
3. Essential nature of the industry.
4. Other pertinent data.

c. After considering the essential nature of the industry and other pertinent data, the first priority for curtailment shall be those industries with high water use and a low number of employees per work site relative to water use.

4. Phase IV. Disaster stage.

a. Public health and safety cannot be guaranteed. Water quality is a major concern.

b. Maintenance of health facilities shall be at emergency levels.

c. Industrial use shall be further curtailed and selective closings shall occur. Interruptions in water service may be necessary.

d. Further deterioration of the water supply may require relocation of large sections of the population and closing of all commercial and industrial facilities.

G. Restrictions, limitations, surcharges, orders, allocations, curtailments, selective closings, and all administrative and enforcement actions should be undertaken equable and with the welfare of the general public foremost in mind. Implementation of the Plan may require imposing seemingly unnecessary actions on a small portion of the population in order to more effectively enforce those actions of the surrounding population at large. An example might be a restriction on using private wells to water lawns when use of reservoir

supplied municipal system water for lawn watering is prohibited because this would facilitate uniform enforcement and project to the public the appearance of uniform enforcement. The Water Emergency Task Force has responsibility for hearing appeals. Prior Water Emergency Task Force decisions and judicial review of those decisions have set precedents on specific uses and the general basis for granting exemptions.

H. Executive Orders and Administrative Orders issued to implement water emergencies and water use restrictions will be distributed to counties and municipalities via the State Emergency Management organization in accordance with the following procedures.

1. A letter or memorandum of transmittal will be addressed to each County Emergency Management Coordinator and be signed by the State Deputy Director, Office of Emergency Management. This transmittal document will state that there are three (3) copies of the orders for county government, one copy each for the County Clerk, County Prosecutor and the Chief Executive, and three (3) copies of each municipality in the county, one copy each for the Major, Municipal Clerk and the Chief of Police.
2. The transmittal document and order copies will be hand delivered to each County Emergency Management Coordinator by a member of the State Police attached to the appropriate Regional Emergency Management Office and a signed receipt obtained.
3. The copies for county officials will be distributed by the County Emergency Management Coordinator and a receipt of delivery obtained for each.
4. The copies for each municipality will be distributed to each municipal police department and a receipt of delivery obtained for each set of copies. The three sets will then be distributed by the municipal police department. If a municipality does not have a police department delivery shall be made to the municipal clerk and a receipt of delivery obtained.
5. Distribution of the orders shall be made within 8 hours of receipt and all receipts of delivery shall be mailed to the State Office of Emergency Management before close of business the next working day.

VI. RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Planning and Direction:

1. The New Jersey State Office of Emergency Management is responsible for the preparation of the New Jersey Drought Emergency Plan and for providing guidance to county and municipal Emergency Management Coordinators for preparation of drought emergency plans for their jurisdictions. The New Jersey State Office of Emergency Management will respond to requests for implementing assistance from County Emergency Management Coordinators. Assistance

rendered will include coordination of available State agency assistance in transportation, traffic control, temporary lodging, water supply, mass care centers and evacuated area security operations. The New Jersey State Office of Emergency Management shall review drought disaster plans, and make recommendations for revisions and/or approvals.

2. County Emergency Management Coordinators have overall responsibility for supervising the preparation of municipal drought emergency plans within their respective jurisdictions and for coordinating their implementation as required by the situation.

3. Municipal Emergency Management Coordinators have the primary responsibility for drafting drought emergency plans in consonance with the planning guidance provided in Appendices III through XI inclusive. Drafts of municipal plans will be submitted through the County Emergency Management Coordinators to the New Jersey State Office of Emergency Management for review and approval or revision as may be directed. Municipal Emergency Management Directors are responsible for implementation and supervision of their Drought Emergency Plans and, in this connection, will make water relief determinations and coordinate the activities of municipal police agencies and volunteer groups performing local control operations.

4. The State Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is responsible for managing the water supply through a uniform water diversion permit system and fee schedule; a monitoring, inspection and enforcement program; a program to study and manage the State's water resources and plan for emergencies and future water needs; and regulations to manage the waters of the State during water supply and water quality emergencies.

B. Control & Regulation of Water Supplies (Emergency Status)

1. Municipal Emergency Management organizations have primary responsibility for local control of supplemental water supplies within their municipality under the direction of the Mayor or chief elected official.

2. All municipalities and counties wholly or partly within the affected areas must allocate manpower and resources available within their respective jurisdiction for a) enforcement of the Emergency Water Supply Allocation Plan Regulations, N.J.A.C. 7:19A-1.1 et seq. and the Water Emergency Surcharge Schedule Rules, N.J.A.C. 7:19B-1.1 et seq. b) the prohibitions set forth in an Executive Order, and such other orders as may be subsequently issued. Violations of such prohibitions of the Emergency Water Supply Allocation Plan Regulations and the Water Emergency Surcharge Schedule Rules, including failure to pay excess use charges or other charges imposed pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:19A-1.1 et seq. or N.J.A.C. 7:19B-1.1 et seq., the refusal to permit access of purveyor personnel or otherwise to provide necessary billing information as required by the Emergency Water

Supply Allocation Plan regulations, shall be prosecuted by the municipal and/or county officials under the penalty provisions of the Civil Defense and Disaster Control Act, N.J.S.A. Appendix A:9-49, in accordance with the Penalties Enforcement Act, N.J.S.A. 2A:58. Municipal police officers may, at the discretion of the municipality, issue warnings to first time offenders in the event violations are nominal.

3. The New Jersey State Police, county police and police forces from neighboring communities will provide manpower and local control in communities without a police force and/or where local police may require assistance.

4. Emergency Management Auxiliary Police, under the control and supervision of a municipal police chief, may be called upon to supplement police efforts.

C. Security

1. The municipal police forces have primary responsibility for security and the maintenance of law and order within their municipalities.

2. The New Jersey State Police and county police will respond to requests for security assistance in communities where there is no local police force, or where support is requested.

3. The New Jersey National Guard, with concurrence from the State Police and on order of the Governor or Chief of Staff, New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans' affairs, will assist in providing disaster area security. Requests for such support will be made through appropriate channels by the County Emergency Management Coordinator.

D. Mass-Care Centers

1. The municipal governments, through the local Emergency Management Coordinator, have primary responsibility for the establishment of mass-care centers (e.g., water depots, expedient sanitary facilities, field showers).

2. The County Emergency Management Coordinator will assist municipal mass-care operations, when requested by the local Emergency Management Coordinator, by providing facilities to the municipality and coordinating assistance.

3. The New Jersey State Office of Emergency Management will monitor mass-care operations throughout the State and coordinate the assistance provided by State departments, voluntary agencies and privately owned resources.

E. Disease surveillance - The New Jersey State Department of Health is responsible for monitoring drought related diseases, reporting status to Drought Coordinator and making recommendations. It shall manage and perform health and welfare through county Emergency Management Coordinators, municipal Emergency Management Coordinators

and local health officials.

F. Emergency Information - The Governor's Press Secretary presents periodic releases and bulletins to the news media. If necessary, he/she arranges for the Governor to broadcast releases over the Emergency Broadcast System.

G. Emergency Communications - The New Jersey State Office of Emergency Management utilizes a variety of communication networks for providing alert/warning notifications to the public as well as maintaining contact with State, county and municipal government Emergency Management officials.

H. Water Depots - The county and municipal governments have the primary responsibility for supervising and conducting water depot operations within their jurisdictions. If these operations cannot be carried out by county and municipal government, assistance should be requested from the New Jersey State Office of Emergency Management through the County Emergency Management Coordinator.

I. Welfare Services - The New Jersey Department of Human Services, supported by volunteer relief agencies, provides and administers State, county and municipal welfare programs.

J. Temporary Housing - The New Jersey Department of Community Affairs administers the federally funded Temporary Housing Program. The American Red Cross, acting within their jurisdiction, has the capability of providing emergency temporary housing for disaster victims.

K. Food Services - The New Jersey Department of Agriculture, supported by the New Jersey Department of Health, the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (National Guard), and volunteer relief agencies, in coordination with the Emergency Management Coordinator, will insure that adequate, healthful and safe surplus food commodities are equitably distributed to eligible disaster victims.

L. Unemployment Assistance - The New Jersey Department of Labor will provide special attention to workers laid off as a result of plant closing through its Unemployment Insurance Program.

M. Industry - The New Jersey Department of Labor and the New Jersey Department of Commerce, Energy and Economic Development are responsible for identifying those industries that are essential to the health, welfare, and safety of the residents of the State of New Jersey. Those could include but not limited to: food processing and distribution centers, pharmaceutical manufactures and energy producers. This information will be provided upon request, to the Drought Coordinator and to the Director, Office of Emergency Management.

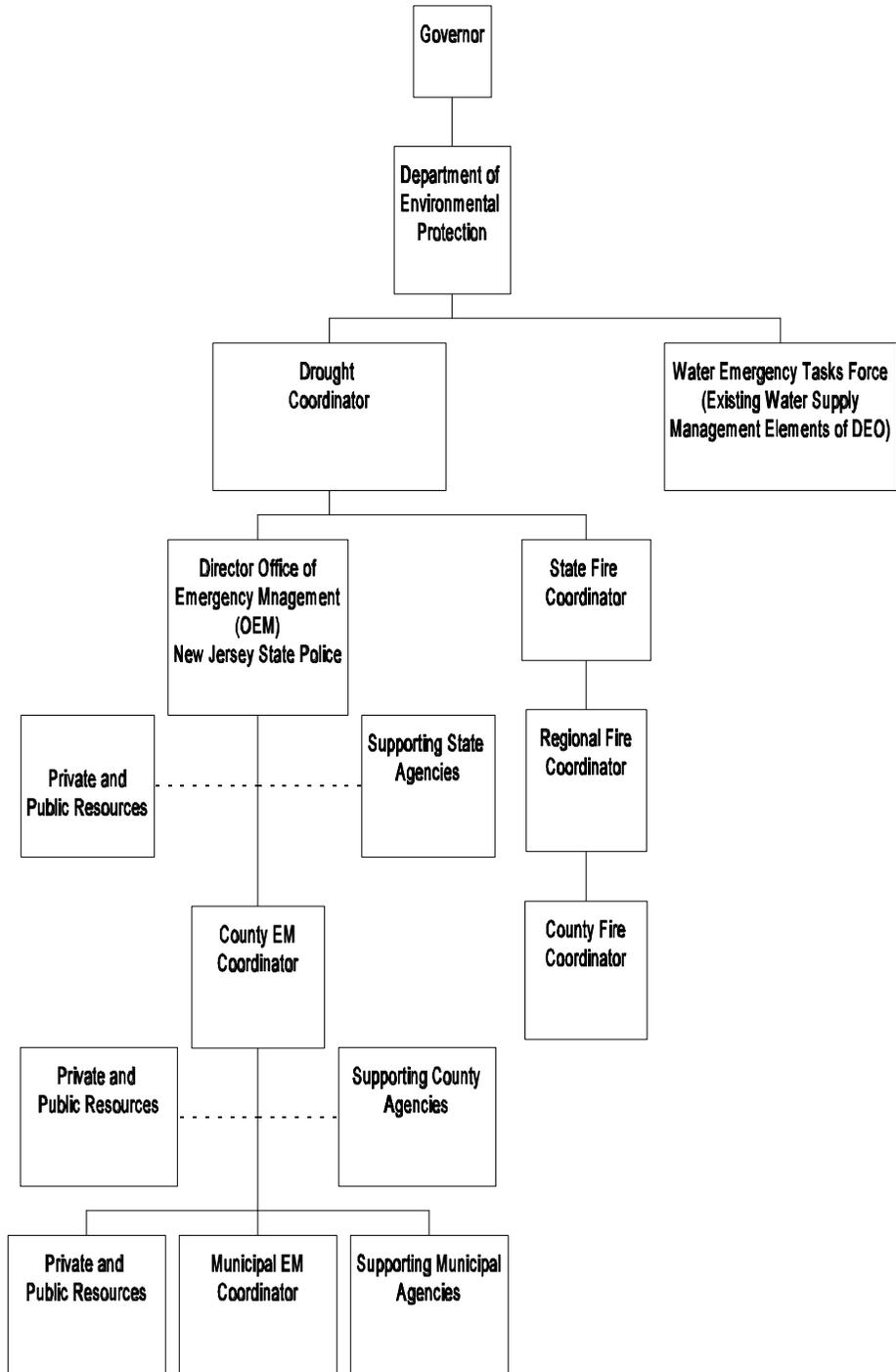
N. Crisis Counseling - The New Jersey Department of Labor, supported by the New Jersey Department of Human Services, the New Jersey Department of Health, and volunteer relief agencies, will provide family and unemployment counseling, casework

services and mental health and assistance to victims of disaster.

O. Legal/Consumer Services - The New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety, supported by the New Jersey Department of Public Advocate, will provide investigators, attorneys, advice, arbitration and litigation for victims of a disaster.

P. Tax Assistance - The New Jersey Department of the Treasury provides tax consultants to advise disaster victims on matters involving tax issues.

Q. Water Management - The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection directs and controls the water systems and their use of available water supplies. Modifications of all potable water systems shall be approved by this agency.



NEW JERSEY STATE DROUGHT EMERGENCY PLAN

DROUGHT PLANNING MATRIX - APPENDIX II

RESIDENTIAL	FIRE PROTECTION	COMMERCIAL RETAIL	INDUSTRIAL	PUBLIC SECTOR/OFFICE BUILDINGS	EDUCATIONAL/RECREATIONAL	PUBLIC HEALTH
<p>Restrict usage to essential hygiene, cooking & drinking. Dish and washing machines full load only. No running water shaving & dental. Limited commode use. Limit showers. Install water saving devices. Inspect & repair all water devices. Limit adjustable water uses: lawn watering, car washing, sidewalk washing recreational uses</p>	<p>Minimize washing of vehicles. Use surface water to fight fires. Stop using hydrants for tests, drills & non-firefighting uses.</p>	<p>Janitorial & maintenance use non-potable water. Limit adjustable water use: watering plant growth, vehicle washing sidewalk washing, non-requested water service in restaurants</p>	<p>Provide requested water use and employment data to DEP. Limit adjustable water uses: water plant growth, washing vehicles, washing paved areas, flushing sewer systems Inspect and repair all water devices.</p>	<p>Limit adjustable water uses: washing vehicles, water plant growth, washing streets & sidewalks, using hydrants for non fire-fighting uses.</p>	<p>Artificial fountains off. No additional water for pools, hot tubs, ice rinks, etc. Restrict adjustable water uses: watering plant growth, washing vehicles, driveways, sidewalks. Restrict toilet facilities. Install water saving devices.</p>	<p>Monitor & test water quality. Enforce emergency regulations. Increase disease surveillance. Sample water consumed at health care facilities.</p>
<p>50 GPD per person. Dishwashers off. Intensify inspection & maintenance. Restrict all adjustable water uses. No pool use.</p>	<p>Close State parks and forests. Use non-potable water (pools) to fight fires. Use Chemical suppressants. Identify high risk areas. Increase fire prevention surveillance. Establish water depots & fire breaks.</p>	<p>Alternate sanitation sources for refuse & cargo containers. Intensify inspection & maintenance of water systems. Ban all adjustable water uses. Implement water emergency rate schedule.</p>	<p>Intensify inspection & repair of water devices. Investigate non-potable water sources for plant operations. Restrict all adjustable water uses. Implement water emergency rate schedule.</p>	<p>Food service facilities use disposable utensils. Modify food programs to use less water. Intensify inspection & maintenance of water systems. Ban all adjustable water uses. Implement water emergency rate schedule.</p>	<p>Close campgrounds. Discontinue activities at recreational facilities. Secure school showers-no Phys. Ed. Intensify inspection & maintenance of water systems. Postpone sporting events. Ban all adjustable water uses.</p>	<p>Reduce hospital patient load. Postpone elective procedures. Identify alternative sources of water. Cease all continuous running water. Intensify inspection & maintenance of water system.</p>
<p>Limit washing to essential garments. Comply with all local restrictions and precautions.</p>	<p>Initiate mutual aid agreements with departments outside drought area for tanker supplies. Expand fire breaks. Extensive public education efforts.</p>	<p>Commercial laundries reduce operations (health & essential industry items only). Food service establishments use disposable goods for serving. Hotels/motels secure showers & baths Restrict steam cleaning & horticultural operation on potable water.</p>	<p>Selective curtailment based on water use & workers affected. Shut down high fire risk activities unless fire protection assured without potable water supply.</p>	<p>Reduce toilet facilities used. Limit toilet flushing. Cease cafeteria food service. No water use for cooling towers or air conditioners.</p>	<p>Modify school lunch. Use disposable utensils for food service. Eliminate maintenance use of water. Maintain recreational facilities.</p>	<p>Hospitals cease new admissions where practical. Transfer patient with special treatment requirements. Utilize disposable patient care items-sheets-garments-gowns etc. Use disposable food service items. Flush for fecal waste only. Continue disease surveillance.</p>

<p>Seek alternate housing for sensitive personnel. Treat water before consumption. Tap water for sanitary purpose only. Recommend alternate water sources. Comply with public advisories. Water outages may occur if shortage deteriorates.</p>	<p>Use surface water. Control fires with fire breaks. Let buildings burn unless non-potable water is available. Backfill system with surface water.</p>	<p>Restaurants and bars use outside water or close. Shut off air conditioning units using potable water. Close laundromats. If conditions worsen-close restaurants, bars, hotels, & motels. Only essential food supply & retail services remain open</p>	<p>Selective closings. Critical industries operating only. Maintain minimum fire safety. If conditions worsen-general shutdown.</p>	<p>Modify working hours of non-essential programs. Shift locations of work to alternate sites. If conditions worsen-shut off water to public buildings. Utilize all State resources in management of disaster area. Close offices and relocate personnel.</p>	<p>Provide alternate drinking water. Monitor all flushing fixtures. Provide portable toilets. Keep schools open for emergency purposes.</p>	<p>Reduce patient load to emergencies only. Intensify disease and water surveillance. User alternate potable water sources. Toilet flushing severely limited. Relocate population if necessary.</p>
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APPENDIX III
NEW JERSEY STATE DROUGHT EMERGENCY PLAN

RESIDENTIAL

Execution

All residents within the drought affected areas described in the Executive Order declaring the emergency shall comply with the orders issued by the State Drought Coordinator. Residential users means those users of water who are in single family homes or multiple family homes with individual water meters.

Mission

Residents will conserve water and alter hygienic habits. Changes in food preparation will be implemented.

Participation

Everyone in the drought-affected area.

Responsibilities

1. To eliminate all non-essential uses of water.
2. To utilize water supplies sparingly in order to extend availability of water.
3. To cooperate with local officials and to comply with local, county, and State mandates.
4. To assist local officials through volunteer services.
5. To assist neighbors, especially the elderly or handicapped, in acquiring adequate potable water supply and to comply with local restrictions on water usage.

Phase I

1. Residents should restrict water usage to that essential for use in hygiene, cooking, sanitation and drinking.
2. Appliances which utilize large quantities of water should be operated only with a full load.
3. There should be no long term running of water from the tap. This includes shaving, brushing of teeth, and drinking of water. (Keep a vessel in the refrigerator for cold drinking water).

4. Showering should be restricted to less than 3 minutes and combined where possible (such as small children).
5. Flushing of toilets should be restricted to an “as necessary basis.” Use collected rain water, laundry water or dishwater whenever possible.
6. Install water saving devices, e.g., toilet dams.
7. Institute inspection and maintenance of home water systems.
8. A ban on some or all of the following “adjustable water uses” may be instituted at this time.
 - a. The watering of all plant growth except commercially grown food crops, sod at commercial sod farms and nursery stock at nurseries or retail outlets.
 - b. The noncommercial washing of vehicles, except by businesses engaged exclusively in car washing or in those instances where a threat to public health may exist. Cleaning of windshields, lights and other safety related equipment is authorized.
 - c. The washing of driveways, sidewalks or paved areas.
 - d. All outdoor recreational water use.

Phase II

1. Water rationing shall be instituted at a maximum daily rate of 50 gallons of water per person for residential users.
2. Eliminate the use of dishwashers.
3. Intensify inspection and maintenance of home water systems.
4. Restrict pool use of additional water.
5. Ban all adjustable water uses not banned in Phase I.

Phase III

1. Limit washing to essential garments (e.g., undergarments).
2. Check with local officials or listen to local radio stations for further restrictions or precautions.

Phase IV

1. Residents in private homes who need special care or diets requiring a pure water supply should consider relocating or vacationing if possible to other areas which are not impacted by the drought.
2. Elderly or handicapped persons who may be unable to obtain water supply from trucked sources should register with local health departments or other local officials.
3. Residents should boil water from the tap prior to consumption (including rinsing vegetables). Boil for 10 minutes.
4. Home distillation units are available commercially.
5. Because of non-potability, water from tap may be utilized for sanitary purposes only.
6. Check with local officials or listen to local radio stations for water use in bathing and other non-consumptive uses.
7. Bottled water to be made available in certain areas.
8. As conditions deteriorate further, the following actions may be directed.
 - a. Utilize water for sanitary purposes only. Listen to local radio station for instructions concerning possible boiling of water for use. Water pressure will be determined.
 - b. Bottled water to be made available in certain areas.
 - c. DO NOT ATTEMPT TO BOIL FOR CONSUMPTION - GO TO LOCAL WATER DEPOTS FOR ALLOTMENTS OF POTABLE WATER.
 - d. Water outages may occur, causing sanitation disruption.
 - e. Alternate locations for sanitation may be made available as directed by local officials.

APPENDIX IV

N.J. STATE DROUGHT EMERGENCY PLAN

FIRE PROTECTION

Execution

All regional, county and municipal Fire Coordinators and Fire Chiefs in coordination with appropriate regional, county and municipal Emergency Management Coordinators within the drought-affected areas described in the Executive Order declaring the emergency shall comply with the orders issued by the Drought Coordinator.

Mission

To maximize the use of non-potable water, foam, dry powder and any other non-potable water suppressants to control fires.

Participation

All fire companies or departments, paid or volunteer. New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

Responsibilities

1. Provide best available fire protection.
2. Educate public to minimize fire incidents.
3. Direct business and industry to reduce or eliminate fire-hazardous operations where necessary.
4. Locate and prepare access to all non-potable sources of water that might be utilized.
5. Identify suppressants e.g., foam, dry power.
6. The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Parks and Forests is responsible for management of the State forests and parks and their fire hazard protection.

Phase I

1. Stop wash down of vehicles and equipment except as necessary for operational safety.
2. Utilize surface water in fighting fires.
3. A ban on some or all of the following “adjustable water uses” may be instituted at this time.

a. The use of fire hydrants by fire companies for testing or fire department drills except as deemed necessary in the interest of public safety and specifically approved by the municipal governing body and the purveyor.

B. The use of fire hydrants by municipal road departments, contractors and all others, except as necessary for fire fighting or protection purposes.

Phase II

1. The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection may close State and county parks and forests where fire hazards may exist.
2. Begin utilizing non-potable sources to fight fires and to fill fire tankers.
3. Utilize chemical fire suppressants.
4. Identify abandoned buildings and other fire prone areas.
5. Establish a system of non-potable surface water delivery (temporary pipes).
6. Use public and private swimming pools as a source of water.
7. Assist with the establishment of water depots.
8. Where practical, utilize fire breaks.
9. Increase surveillance for fire protection.

Phase III

1. Initiate mutual aid agreements with assisting fire departments outside of the drought-affected area for fire fighting tankers.
2. Expand the use of fire break methods to control fires by demolishing abandoned buildings and other small structures of minimal value.
3. Begin an extensive public education effort to minimize fire incidents.

Phase IV

1. Water quality is suspect. Follow recommendations in the Public Health Appendix.
2. Where no water is available, control fires by use of fire breaks.
3. Consider letting buildings burn unless non-potable water is available; use alternate methods to curtail fire.

4. Where feasible and the situation warrants, backfill existing pipelines with non-potable surface water for fire fighting purposes (coordinate backfilling with purveyor and health department).

APPENDIX V

N.J. STATE DROUGHT EMERGENCY PLAN

COMMERCIAL/RETAIL

Execution

All commercial/retail establishments within the drought-affected area described in the Executive Order declaring the emergency shall comply with the orders issued by the State Drought Coordinator.

Mission

All commercial and retail establishments will conserve water and, where feasible, alter operating procedures. Recycling of water, importation of water and termination of operations may be necessary to conserve water.

Participation

1. All commercial and retail establishments in the drought-affected area.
2. All members of Chambers of Commerce in the drought affected area.

Responsibilities

1. Mitigating actions on the part of commercial and retail establishments are phased to reduce impact and correspond to actions in other sectors.
2. Chamber of Commerce may initiate programs to assist merchants in conserving water usage, and still remain open as long as possible.

Phase I

1. Janitorial and maintenance services in all buildings are to procure and utilize non-potable water.
2. A ban on some or all of the following “adjustable water uses” may be instituted at this time.
 - a. The watering of all plant growth except commercially grown food crops, sod at commercial sod farms and nursery stock at nurseries or retail outlets.
 - b. The noncommercial washing of vehicles, except by businesses engaged exclusively in car washing or in those instances where a threat to public health may exist. Cleaning of windshields, lights and other safety related equipment is authorized.

- c. The washing of driveways, sidewalks or paved areas.
- d. The serving of water in restaurants, clubs or eating places unless specifically requested by the patron.

Phase II

1. Ban all adjustable water uses not banned in Phase I.
2. Seek other sources of sanitation for refuse containers, cargo containers and general equipment.
3. Intensify inspection and maintenance of water systems.
4. Subject to water emergency rate schedule as provided by N.J.A.C. 7:19B.

Phase III

1. Commercial laundries are to continue service for essential industries and health related facilities only.
2. Restaurants, bars and food establishments are to utilize disposable utensils.
3. Hotel and motels are to shut off water to showers and baths.
4. Restrict operation of horticultural establishments on public water supplies.
5. Restrict all commercial steam cleaning.

Phase IV

1. Restaurants and bars will secure an adequate (as determined by health authority) outside supply of potable water or cease operations.
2. All air conditioning units using potable water will be shut off.
3. Refrigeration units for food supply storage will remain in operation.
4. Laundromats will close.
5. As conditions deteriorate further, the following actions may be directed.
 - a. All hotels and motels will close unless an alternate source of potable water is secured.
 - b. Only food supply wholesale and retail services utilizing alternate sources of water will remain open.

APPENDIX VI

N.J. STATE DROUGHT EMERGENCY PLAN

INDUSTRIAL

Execution

All industries within the drought-affected areas described in the Executive Order declaring the emergency and others which may be added by additional Executive Orders shall comply with the orders issued by the State Drought Coordinator.

Mission

To curtail industrial water usage, whenever possible, to meet conservation and drought phase guidelines established by the State Drought Coordinator.

Participation

All personnel associated with industry within the affected area, whether in operations, maintenance or construction.

Responsibilities

1. Industry is responsible:
 - a. To examine their internal operations in order to meet the water reduction levels.
 - b. To repair leaks, curtail unnecessary use and substitute non-potable water into their internal systems where possible (e.g., cooling systems, boiler use, etc.).
 - c. To examine possibilities of operating on a reduced or shortened work week (e.g., 4 days of 10 hours each).
 - d. To determine if certain water-consuming operations can be “batched”, i.e., performed only during certain hours of the day or on certain days of the week.
 - e. To direct plant maintenance engineers to develop and follow immediately a steam trap check program which can conserve water (when applicable).
 - f. To cooperate with government officials where possible, in providing potable water to the residential sector, and designated commercial establishments.

Phase I

1. Submit requested information to Department of Environmental Protection concerning water consumption and employment.
2. A ban on some or all of the following “adjustable water uses” may be instituted at this time.
 - a. The watering of all plant growth except commercially grown food crops, sod at commercial sod farms and nursery stock at nurseries or retail outlets.
 - b. The noncommercial washing of vehicles, except by businesses engaged exclusively in car washing or in those instances where a threat to public health may exist. Cleaning of windshields, lights and other safety related equipment is authorized.
 - c. The washing of driveways, sidewalks or paved areas.
 - d. The use of water for flushing sewers except as deemed necessary and approved in the interest of public safety by municipal health officials.

Phase II

1. Intensify inspection and maintenance of water systems.
2. Investigate non-potable water sources for selected use in plant operations, including sanitation systems and boiler use.
3. Ban all adjustable water uses not banned in Phase I.
4. Subject to water emergency rate schedule as provided by N.J.A.C. 7:19B.

Phase III

Selective curtailment of industrial water users based on water consumption per work site, number of employees per work site, essential nature of the industry, and other pertinent data.

Phase IV

1. Industrial use shall be further curtailed and selective closings shall occur.
2. As conditions deteriorate further, it may be necessary to shut down, but maintain minimum fire safety procedures and equipment maintenance using non-potable water.

APPENDIX VII

N.J. STATE DROUGHT EMERGENCY PLAN

PUBLIC SECTOR/OFFICE BUILDINGS

Execution

All owners, operators, lessees, lessors, tenants, maintenance and operational personnel as well as all Commissioners, Secretaries Freeholders, Directors, County Executives, Mayors and other public officials within the drought-affected areas described in the Executive Order declaring the emergency and others which may be added by additional Executive Orders, shall comply with the orders issued by the State Drought Coordinator.

Mission

Government and business will conserve water and take all necessary measures to provide for the public health, welfare and safety.

Participation

All personnel associated with any office in the affected areas.

Responsibilities

Mitigating actions by government are phased to coincide with the severity of the situation and those actions taken by other sectors of the community.

Phase I

1. A ban on some or all of the following “adjustable water uses” may be instituted at this time.
 - a. The watering of all plant growth except commercially grown food crops, sod at commercial sod farms and nursery stock at nurseries or retail outlets.
 - b. The noncommercial washing of vehicles, except by businesses engaged exclusively in car washing or in those instances where a threat to public health may exist. Cleaning of windshields, lights and other safety related equipment is authorized.
 - c. The washing of driveways, sidewalks or paved areas.
 - d. The use of water for flushing sewers by municipalities or any public or private entity except as deemed necessary and approved in the interest of public health or safety by municipal health officials.

e. The use of fire hydrants for testing or drills except as deemed necessary in the interest of public safety and specifically approved by the municipal governing body and the purveyor.

f. The use of fire hydrants by municipal road departments, contractors and all others, except as necessary for fire fighting or protection purposes.

Phase II

1. Cafeteria and food service facilities should use disposable utensils unless they supply their own adequate (as determined by health authority) water from outside the drought area for cleaning.
2. Modify food programs utilizing water (e.g., no soups or hot foods that require water).
3. Turn off drinking fountains (e.g., use disposable cups).
4. Intensify inspection and maintenance of water systems.
5. Ban all adjustable water uses not banned in Phase I.
6. Subject to water emergency rate schedule as provided by N.J.A.C. 7:19B.

Phase III

1. Reduce number of toilet facilities utilized. Toilets shall be flushed as needed.
2. Cease food preparation in office cafeterias and food service facilities.
3. No water for use in central air conditioning units. Room units are exempted. Water for use in cooling towers is prohibited.

Phase IV

1. Modify working hours of personnel in drought areas except those involved in health, welfare of public safety programs.
2. Where feasible, employees will be shifted to work locations outside of the drought area.
3. As conditions deteriorate further, the following actions may be directed.
 - a. Complete shut off of water intake into selected state, county and municipal buildings except for fire safety and maintenance.

- b. No water in office buildings except fire safety.
- c. Utilizing all resources in management of disaster area.
 - (1) Provide potable water for drinking and cooking to the affected population.
 - (2) Oversee public health and sanitation in affected area.
 - (3) Provide assistance to public safety forces.
 - (4) Coordinate activities of drought assistance organizations.
 - (6) Provide emergency response activities as needed.
- d. Close office buildings and relocate businesses to areas outside drought area when possible.

APPENDIX VIII

N.J. STATE DROUGHT EMERGENCY PLAN

RECREATION

Execution

All Boards of Health and all owners of the affected facilities within the drought-affected areas described in the Executive Order declaring the emergency and others which may be added by additional Executive Orders shall comply with the orders issued by the State Drought Coordinator.

Mission

To conserve and extend available water supply through cessation or restriction of recreational activities in the affected area.

Participation

New Jersey Department of Health
Regional and County Health Departments
Local Boards of Health
Owners/operators of recreational facilities
New Jersey Department of Community Affairs
New Jersey Division of Parks and Forestry

Responsibilities

1. Provide safe recreation for the general public when feasible.
2. To minimize the adverse economic impacts on professional and amateur sports.
3. To conserve water in the drought affected areas.
4. To make an inventory of available surface and well water (potable and non-potable).

Phase I

1. Any swimming pool, ice skating rink, health spa, water park other similar recreation facility may be closed if adequate make-up water cannot be provided.
2. Local health officials will identify sources of surface and ground water (e.g., golf courses, parks, campgrounds).

3. Professional and amateur sports facilities will seek alternate sources of water.
4. Restrict toilet facilities; install water saving devices (e.g., toilet dams).
5. A ban on some or all of the following “adjustable water uses” may be instituted at this time.
 - a. The watering of all plant growth except commercially grown food crops, sod at commercial sod farms and nursery stock at nurseries or retail outlets.
 - b. The noncommercial washing of vehicles, except by businesses engaged exclusively in car washing or in those instances where a threat to public health may exist. Cleaning of windshields, lights, and other safety related equipment is authorized.
 - c. The washing of driveways, sidewalks or paved areas.

Phase II

1. Discontinue activities at recreational facilities.
2. Close public and private campgrounds.
3. Utilize water reservoirs, impoundments and wells, which heretofore had been for recreational use.
4. Postpone professional and amateur sporting events.
5. Intensify inspection and maintenance of water systems.
6. Ban all adjustable water uses not banned in Phase I.
7. Modify food service to conserve water.

Phases III and IV

1. Maintain reduced usage of closed facilities during drought emergency to prevent deterioration.
2. Youth camps will provide portable toilets for campers and staff, if necessary to keep camps open.

APPENDIX X

N.J. STATE DROUGHT EMERGENCY PLAN

DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Execution

All New Jersey colleges and universities within the drought-affected areas described in the Executive Order declaring the emergency and others which may be added by additional Executive Orders, shall comply with the orders issued by the State Drought Coordinator.

Mission

All students, professors, teachers, workers, etc. associated with or attending any college or university will conserve water. Changes in athletic programs and food preparation will be implemented.

Participation

Everyone in or associated with the college or universities.

Responsibilities

1. The Chancellor of the New Jersey Department of Higher Education shall appoint the Director of the Office of Facilities, Planning and Construction as the Departmental Drought Coordinator for all colleges and universities in New Jersey.
2. To eliminate all non-essential uses of water.
 - a. Turn off decorative fountains.
 - b. Cease watering lawns and grounds.
 - c. Control showers after athletic activities, eliminating such activities when necessary.

Phase I

1. Issue a letter to all New Jersey colleges and universities informing them of the appointment of the Department of Higher Education's Departmental Drought Coordinator and his functions. Enclose a copy of the Executive Order declaring the emergency and any others that have been issued.
2. Request each college and university to identify their internal Institutional Drought

Coordinator and forward a detailed plan for achieving required reduction in water use if within the designated drought area.

3. Limit showers.
4. No unused running water.
5. Inspect and repair all devices using potable water.
6. A ban on some or all of the following “adjustable water uses” may be instituted at this time.
 - a. The watering of all plant growth except commercially grown food crops, sod at commercial sod farms and nursery stock at nurseries or retail outlets.
 - b. The noncommercial washing of vehicles, except by businesses engaged exclusively in car washing or in those instances where a threat to public health may exist. Cleaning of windshields, lights and other safety related equipment is authorized.
 - c. The washing of driveways, sidewalks or paved areas.

Phase II

1. All colleges and universities designated within the water rationing plan will submit to the Chancellor and to the governing body and chief executives of their municipality a phased detailed Emergency Plan in reaction to a total failure of water supply system.
2. Curtail use of drinking fountains.
3. Adjust flushing valves to use less water in urinals and toilets.
4. Intensify inspection and maintenance of water systems.
5. Use air conditioners with a closed system or cooling towers only.
6. Ban all adjustable water uses not banned in Phase I.

Phase III

1. Coordinate the distribution of information from the New Jersey Department of Health and the State Office of Emergency Management regarding health problems and the spread of disease.
2. The Chancellor will encourage the use of college and university facilities and equipment to inform and educate the public on the prevention of a health disaster.

3. The Institutional Drought Coordinator will be encouraged to publish information in local newspapers.
4. Modify food service programs to eliminate unnecessary food services and use disposable utensils.
5. No refilling of cooling towers for air conditioning or cooling.

Phase IV

1. The Chancellor will continue to serve as an information center for New Jersey colleges and universities relaying critical information.
2. Drinking water will be available at designated areas on an emergency controlled basis.
3. Alternate sanitary facilities will be provided.
4. Suspend classes or programs or relocate out of drought area as appropriate.
5. Use water for sanitary use only when water quality is questionable.
6. As conditions deteriorate further, the following actions may be directed.
 - a. Bottled water for drinking to be picked up at designated distribution points.
 - b. Minimum essential maintenance of system operations only.
 - c. Portable toilets will be required at any college or university that must remain open.

ANNEX XI

N.J. STATE DROUGHT EMERGENCY PLAN

PUBLIC HEALTH

Execution

All owners/operators of health care facilities, medical centers and health clinics within the drought-affected areas described in the Executive Order declaring the emergency, and others which may be added by additional Executive Orders, shall comply with the orders issued by the State Drought Coordinator in conjunction with regulatory agencies e.g., State Department of Health and local boards of health.

Mission

To protect the health, safety and general well being of the citizens within this State, with special emphasis on meeting the needs of the special segments of our population such as the old, the young and the infirm.

Participation

New Jersey Department of Health
Regional and county health departments
Local boards of health
Owners/operators of health care facilities
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

Facts Bearing On The Situation

The effect of the limited availability of water on public health is classified into two major groups, as follows:

1. Critical: That portion of the population receiving professional medical care. Approximately 5 percent of the population may fall into this category. The per capita daily water use requirements in hospital or similar institutions, however, is from 6 to 10 times greater than that used by the general public. Water use is increased since sanitation procedures are more frequent and more intensive in medical facilities in order to control nosocomial (institutionally derived) disease outbreaks, and to protect a population which is more highly susceptible to infection, and required to reside in a semi-public environment.

2. The Physically Healthy Populations

(a) Institutionalized: Those who are located in educational, mental/penal institutions. This would account for approximately 20 percent of the population.

(b) General Public: Those persons who live in private homes, apartments and hotels which account for the remaining 80 percent of the population.

NOTE: Daily water usage among those in an institutionalized setting is somewhat higher than private sector usage since personal hygiene and environmental sanitation needs increase as the available per capita square footage of living space decreases.

Responsibilities

1. Potable water sources are to be monitored by the Department of Environmental Protection and the State Health Laboratory, both chemically and bacteriologically. Monitoring and testing of water quality will be intensified as indicated to insure potability. This is of particular importance with surface water supplies so that water treatment plants are prepared to contend with the introduction or increase of pollutants.
2. Local, regional and county health departments have been alerted as to the water usage restriction standards specified in the Executive Order declaring the emergency and any other orders that have been issued.
3. Local Health Authority will monitor conservation methods employed by retail food establishments, long term care facilities and county institutions. State Health Department will monitor conservation methods by wholesale food establishments, hospitals, and state institutions. Priorities for monitoring shall be established by the Health Authority according to the facilities' water usage.
4. Health Officers and sanitarians will respond to reports of deterioration of water quality including but not limited to changes in color, odor, turbidity and or taste. Once complaints have been substantiated, the local health official in conjunction with the water purveyor and Department of Environmental Protection will conduct a sanitary survey. Once the problem has been identified, the Public Health Official will be responsible to make safety recommendations to the Public.
5. In order to monitor the public health impact of the drought conditions on the general public, the hospital infection control practitioner will establish base line data on communicable disease admitted through the emergency room. Should the incidence of communicable disease increase over the normal base for the community, the infection control practitioner shall report directly to the Division of Epidemiology and Disease Control.

Phase I

1. Positive efforts will be made to reduce water use wherever possible in burdened communities. Conservation methods shall include but not be limited to the following:
 - a. Reduction of laundering bed sheets, towels, wash cloths and personal clothing. Window curtains and cubic curtains on an as needed basis only.
 - b. All leaking plumbing fixtures shall be repaired and water saving devices such as low flow toilet and shower heads should be employed where possible.
 - c. Showering should be restricted to less than 3 minutes. Waterless hand cleaners should be employed for routine patient care procedures.
 - d. Increase use of disposable medical devices where applicable.
 - e. Increase dry mopping where needed. Ready to use all purpose cleaners shall be employed on patient floors.
 - f. Institutions that have back-up well water supplies shall activate these supplies and insure that potable water standards are met.

Phase II

1. Infection control surveillance activities will focus on increase in nosocomial infections and report cluster outbreaks to the Division of Epidemiology and Disease Control.
2. Temperature Fahrenheit on all air conditioning units shall be raised to 78 degrees Fahrenheit.
3. Arrangements will be made for alternative sources of water such as tank trucks and stockpiling of bottled water.
4. Secure and utilize non-potable water for maintenance services and flushing toilets.

Phase III

1. Dialysis patients will be referred to clinics outside the critical area.
2. Eliminate showers with the exception of surgery. One basin of water per person for sponge bath/am care.
3. Ice will only be permitted for emergency care.

4. The administrators of each facility will secure secondary water sources from outside the effected area.

Phase IV

1. All elective surgical cases will be canceled.
2. The possible increase in the presence of organic matter in the public water supply may result in a boil water order prior to consumption. The boiling procedures include; 10 minutes at a full boil or the use of chemicals to purify the water (bleach, 8 to 10 drops per gallon allowed to stand at least 30 minutes) before using.