

# DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN

SOUTH RAINS SPECIAL UTILITY DISTRICT - EMORY, TX

CCN#10487

PWS# 1900009

September 8, 2025

## INTRODUCTION AND POLICY STATEMENT

To safeguard the water supply, maintain facility integrity, and ensure public health and safety, South Rains Special Utility District (SRSUD) adopts this Drought Contingency Plan. These regulations address non-essential water usage during shortages or emergencies. Violations may result in penalties as defined later in this document.

## COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND EDUCATION

### PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

The local community had opportunities to contribute input through public notices in the Rains County Leader newspaper.

### PUBLIC EDUCATION

SRSUD regularly communicates plan details and drought response measures to the public through meetings, utility bill inserts, and website updates.

## COORDINATION WITH REGIONAL PLANNING

SRSUD, located in Region D of the Regional Water Planning Group (RWPG), has submitted this plan to the RWPG.

## AUTHORIZATION AND APPLICATION

The General Manager, or a designee, is empowered to implement the plan when necessary. The plan applies to all individuals and entities using SRSUD water.

## DEFINITIONS

- Aesthetic Water Use: Ornamental uses such as fountains and water gardens.
- Commercial and Institutional Water Use: Water essential for commercial, non-profit, and governmental operations.
- Conservation: Practices that reduce, reuse, or improve water efficiency.
- Customer: Any person or organization utilizing SRSUD water.
- Domestic Water Use: Personal and household needs.
- Even/Odd Number Address: Classification by street number for scheduling purposes.
- Industrial Water Use: Water used in production processes.
- Landscape Irrigation Use: Water for lawns, gardens, parks, and medians.
- Non-Essential Water Use: Activities not necessary for health or safety, such as vehicle washing, ornamental fountains, and irrigation (unless otherwise specified).

## INITIATION AND TERMINATION CRITERIA



The General Manager monitors conditions and activates or rescinds response stages when specific triggers are met. Triggers are based on water storage and usage data from the City of Emory.

#### STAGE 1: MILD WATER SHORTAGE

- Initiation: Lake Tawakoni storage  $\leq$  728,300 acre-feet or 433 msl, daily demand  $\geq$  1.45 million gallons for 30 days or 1.7 million gallons on one day, or daily demand  $\geq$  60% of safe operating capacity for 30 days or 75% on one day.
- Termination: Triggers must cease for 10 consecutive days.

#### STAGE 2: MODERATE WATER SHORTAGE

- Initiation: Lake Tawakoni storage  $\leq$  705,400 acre-feet or 432 msl, daily demand  $\geq$  1.7 million gallons for 30 days or 1.93 million gallons on one day, or daily demand  $\geq$  70% of safe operating capacity for 30 days or 90% on one day.
- Termination: Triggers must cease for 10 consecutive days; Stage 1 resumes.

#### STAGE 3: SEVERE WATER SHORTAGE

- Initiation: Lake Tawakoni storage  $\leq$  663,200 acre-feet or 431 msl, daily demand  $\geq$  1.93 million gallons for 30 days or 2.177 million gallons on one day, or daily demand  $\geq$  80% of safe operating capacity for 30 days or 85% on one day.
- Termination: Triggers must cease for 10 consecutive days; Stage 2 resumes.

#### STAGE 4: EMERGENCY WATER SHORTAGE

- Initiation: Major system failures, contamination, Lake Tawakoni storage  $\leq$  632,400 acre-feet or 430 msl, daily demand  $\geq$  2.177 million gallons for 30 days or 2.419 million gallons on one day, or daily demand  $\geq$  90% of safe operating capacity for 30 days or 100% on one day.
- Termination: Triggers must cease for 10 consecutive days; Stage 3 resumes.

### DROUGHT RESPONSE STAGES AND NOTIFICATIONS

The General Manager will notify the public through direct mail, newspaper, and website. TCEQ will also be notified.

#### STAGE 1: MILD WATER SHORTAGE (10% VOLUNTARY REDUCTION)

- Voluntary restriction of landscape irrigation to designated days/hours by address.
- District operations follow Stage 2 restrictions.
- Encouragement of water conservation and limiting non-essential use.

#### STAGE 2: MODERATE WATER SHORTAGE (30% REDUCTION)

- Irrigation and vehicle washing restricted to specific days/hours.
- Swimming pools may only be filled on designated days/hours.
- Ornamental fountains restricted except for aquatic life.
- No washing down hard surfaces or buildings except for fire protection.

#### STAGE 3: SEVERE WATER SHORTAGE (50% REDUCTION)

- All Stage 2 restrictions remain.



- Irrigation permitted only with hand-held hoses, buckets, drip systems, or automatic sprinklers; hose-end sprinklers prohibited.

#### STAGE 4: EMERGENCY WATER SHORTAGE

- All prior restrictions remain.
- No irrigation of landscaped areas or vehicle washing permitted.

#### WATER ALLOCATION PLAN

##### RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS

- Allocations based on household size, starting at 6,000 gallons per month for 1-2 people, increasing with additional residents.
- Procedure in place for reporting household size changes.
- Surcharges applied for exceeding allocations, rising with each additional 1,000 gallons over the limit.

##### COMMERCIAL CUSTOMERS

- Monthly allocations set at 75% of previous annual average.
- Adjustments possible by request or appeal. Surcharges apply for usage above allocations and are cumulative.

##### INDUSTRIAL CUSTOMERS

- Allocations start at 90% of baseline, reduced to 80% after 90 days.
- Adjustments available for changes in operations or conservation. Surcharges match those for commercial customers.

#### ENFORCEMENT

- Intentional violations are misdemeanors with fines from \$100 to \$500.
- Habitual violators may have water service discontinued, with reconnection fees and required assurances.
- Citations can be issued by authorized personnel, with due process for alleged violators.

#### VARIANCES

The General Manager may grant temporary variances for prohibited water uses if essential for health, safety, or fire protection, and if compliance is technically infeasible or alternatives achieve equivalent reductions. Variance requests must be submitted in writing, reviewed, and include necessary details. Variances expire with the end of the plan and cannot be retroactive.

#### SEVERABILITY

If any part of this plan is invalidated by a court, the remaining provisions remain in effect.

Passed and Approved on this 8<sup>th</sup> day of Sept., 2025 by the Board of Directors of South Rains Special Utility District, Emory, TX.

APPROVED:



JEFF CHRISTIAN, PRESIDENT



SHERRI MCCALL, SECRETARY/TREASURER