

# **Drought Response Watering Restriction for Firm Water Customers**

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**Water Operations Committee Meeting**  
**Feb. 21, 2024**



# **Drought Response: Watering Restriction**

- **Due to prolonged severe drought conditions, staff recommends a change to the current Drought Contingency Plan for Firm Water Customers**
- **Reducing outdoor water use provides the greatest benefit to managing combined storage**

# **Watering Restriction Requirements**

- **Anytime combined storage of lakes Buchanan and Travis drops below 900,000 acre-feet, firm customers that received at least 10% of their annual water supply from the Colorado River basin in the prior calendar year shall implement watering restrictions that limit the irrigation of lawns and landscapes to no more than once per week**
- **Restrictions will remain in place until the combined storage increases to at least 1.1 million acre-feet**

# Watering Restriction Enforcement

- **Failure to adopt and implement the watering restriction could subject the customer to penalties:**
  - First documented violation: written notice of violation
  - Second documented violation: penalty of up to \$2,000
  - Third and subsequent violation: penalty of up to \$10,000
  - Each day in which the violation is observed is considered a separate violation

# Communications

- **This watering restriction was posted for comment on Friday, Jan. 26**
- **Staff has been talking to customers about the watering restrictions and answering any questions they have**
- **We have received several comments to date from our customers**

# Watering Restriction Schedule

- **February 2024**
  - LCRA Board takes action to impose a maximum once-per-week watering schedule
- **May 2024**
  - Municipal wholesale water customers shall demonstrate adoption of the watering restrictions and implementation by May 1



