



## **Continuous Water Consumption and Local Drought Policy**

It is the policy of the Coweta County Water and Sewerage Authority (“Authority”) to comply with the laws and regulations imposed by the State of Georgia and any local variances restricting water use, particularly during times of declared drought. The water use restrictions and exceptions in this policy are consistent with the EPD Drought Rule. Codifying these water use restrictions and exceptions is required by O.C.G.A. §12-5-7(a.1)(3) and is necessary to consistently, fairly, and lawfully enforce water use restrictions at the local level as part of the public water system’s drought response efforts. This policy aims to protect public health, safety, environment, and general welfare by adopting and enforcing water use restrictions that ensure adequate water supplies for customers of the public water system and avoid or relieve any local water shortages during drought.

As a water steward of Coweta County, the Authority encourages customers to locate leaks to preserve the local water sources. If customers are unable to immediately locate a leak, the Authority requests that customers cut their water off at the main source during the hours they would not use it (i.e. work hours or during the night). In addition to reducing the customer’s water bill, cutting the water off will help preserve local water sources. The Authority appreciates your understanding and cooperation in helping ensure that water does not continue to go to waste due to leaks and is only used as necessary.

### **Grace Period**

Customers shall have a 30-day grace period from the date of notification of a customer-side leak to have it repaired. Failure to repair the leak within the grace period may result in the disconnection of water services.

### **Restriction on Water-Wasting Activities**

The following are always prohibited under non-drought, and all declared drought response levels, as water-wasting activities:

- Neglecting to repair any visible leaks including leaking faucets and/or toilets inside the home
- Failing to repair any broken or missing sprinkler heads
- Failing to install correctly, maintain, or use the legally required rain-sensor shutoff for a landscape irrigation system
- Failing to repair a water service line, customer-side connection to the water meter, outdoor water spigot, or yard hydrant with a visible leak within 30 days
- Using a water hose without a water shut-off nozzle
- Operating water features such as fountains, reflecting pools, and waterfalls when water is regularly misting, splashing, or otherwise escaping outside the feature’s basins
- Leaking pool auto-fillers
- Leaking koi pond fillers

Customers can find additional information, including how to identify and/or locate a leak, on the Authority’s website at [www.cowetawater.com](http://www.cowetawater.com) or by calling the office at 770-254-3710.