

## **Chapter 220. Water and Sewer**

### **Article I. Use of Water**

#### *Section 1. Water Connections*

No person shall without permission of the Water Supply Director, make an opening in or connection with, or turn off or draw off water from, a water pipe, stand pipe, well or reservoir owned by the Town, or in accordance with a written permit from the Water Supply Director in case of fire in the neighborhood, allowing water to be taken from the premises, or use the water for any purpose other than that for which he pays; or unscrew or open a hydrant attached to the water pipes of the Town; or, excepted in accordance with the regulations of the Department of Public Works discharge water through a hand held hose; nor shall any person interfere with the registering apparatus of water meter put in by the Town or damage or injure such meter.

### **Article II. Water Systems, Malicious Interference With**

#### *Section 1. Diversion of Water*

If any person or persons shall wantonly, maliciously, intentionally or negligently divert the water, or any part thereof, of any of the water source or sources, used by the Town of Bridgewater for water supply purposes, or shall corrupt the same or render it impure, or destroy or injure any dam, aqueduct, well, stand pipe, conduit, hydrant, machinery or other property held, owned or used by the said Town, every such person or persons shall forfeit and pay to the Town, three times the amount of the damages that shall be assessed therefore, to be recovered by any proper action. And every such person may, on complaint and conviction of either of the wanton and malicious, negligent or intentional acts aforesaid, be punished by a fine, not exceeding that allowed by law.

### **Article IV. Water Use Restrictions**

#### *Section 1. Authority*

This Ordinance is adopted pursuant to the police powers granted to the Town to protect public health and welfare and its powers under M.G.L. c. 40, §21 et seq. and is implemented pursuant to the Town's authority to regulate water use pursuant to M.G.L. c. 41, §69B. This Ordinance also implements the Town's authority under M.G.L. c. 40, §41 A, conditioned upon declaration of water supply emergency issued by the Department of Environmental Protection.

## *Section 2. Purpose*

The purpose of this Ordinance is to protect, preserve and maintain the public health, safety and welfare whenever there is in force a State of Water Supply Conservation or State of Water Supply Emergency by providing for enforcement of any duly imposed restrictions, requirements, provisions or conditions imposed by the Town or by the Department of Environmental Protection.

## *Section 3. Definitions*

Person shall mean any individual, corporation trust, partnership or association, or other entity.

State of Water Supply Emergency shall mean a State of Water Supply Emergency declared by the Department of Environmental Protection under M.G.L. C. 21 G, § 1517.

State of Water Supply Conservation shall mean a State of Water Supply Conservation declared by the Town pursuant to this Ordinance.

Water Users or Water Consumers shall mean all public and private users of the Town's public water system, irrespective of any person's responsibility for billing purposes for water used at any particular facility.

## *Section 4. State of Water Supply Conservation*

The Town, through its Department of Public Works Director or his designee, with the advice of the Water and Sewer Board, may declare a State of Water Supply Conservation upon a determination that a shortage of water exists and conservation measures are appropriate to ensure an adequate supply of water to all water consumers. Public notice of a State of Water Conservation shall be given under section 6 of this ordinance before it may be enforced.

## *Section 5. Restrictions*

A declaration of a State of Water Supply Conservation shall include one or more of the following restrictions, conditions, or requirements limiting the use of water as necessary to protect the water supply. The applicable restrictions, conditions or requirements shall be included in the public notice required under section 6.

- a) Odd/Even Day Outdoor Watering: Outdoor watering by water users with odd numbered addresses is restricted to odd numbered days. Outdoor watering by water users with even numbered addresses is restricted to even numbered days.
- b) Outdoor Watering Ban: Outdoor watering is prohibited.
- c) Outdoor Watering Hours: Outdoor watering is permitted only during daily periods of low demand to be specified in the declaration of a State of Water Supply Conservation and public notice thereof
- d) Filling Swimming Pools: Filling of swimming pools is prohibited.
- e) Automatic Sprinkler Use: The use of automatic sprinkler systems is prohibited.

## *Section 6. Publication of Restriction*

Notification of any provision, restriction, requirement or condition imposed by the town as part of a State of Water Supply-Conservation shall be published on the Town's web site or by such

other means reasonably calculated to reach and inform all users of water of the State of Water Supply Conservation. Any restriction imposed under section 5 shall not be effective until such notification is provided. Notification of the State of Water Supply Conservation shall also be simultaneously provided to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection.

*Section 7. Termination of Restriction*

A State of Water Supply Conservation may be terminated by the Department of Public Works Director, or his designee, upon a determination that the water supply shortage no longer exists. Public notification of the termination of a State of Water Supply Conservation shall be given in the same manner required by section 6.

*Section 8. Department of Environmental Protection Declaration*

Upon notification to the public that a declaration of a State of Water Supply Emergency has been issued by the Department of Environmental Protection, no person shall violate any provision, restriction, requirement, condition of any order approved or issued by the Department intended to bring about an end to the State of Emergency.

*Section 9. Automated Lawn Sprinkler*

Automatic lawn sprinklers are not allowed to be connected to the Town's water supply at any time.