

ORDINANCE 868

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ALTON, IOWA, BY AMENDING PROVISIONS PERTAINING TO WATER CONSERVATION MEASURES

BE IT ENACTED by the City Council of the City of Alton, Iowa:

SECTION 1. SECTION MODIFIED. Title 2, Chapter 3, Article 11 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Alton, Iowa, is repealed and the following adopted in lieu thereof:

ARTICLE 11 – WATER CONSERVATION MEASURES

11.01 POTENTIAL FOR WATER CONSERVATION. The City may from time to time have a need to implement water conservation measures, both on a voluntary and mandatory basis to ensure that an adequate supply of water is available for essential and emergency uses. Water conservation measures may be implemented for any reason determined by the City to be critical enough where the short- or long-term availability of water for public health, safety and protection is such that the general public's use of water should be limited to ensure an adequate supply for the benefit of the community as a whole. The implementation of water conservation measures shall be as outlined in this article.

11.02 USES SUBJECT TO LIMITATION. The City Administrator shall monitor water uses and in consultation with the City of Orange City, review conditions regarding the available water supplies, condition of water sources, and overall usage of the water system. If it is determined by the City Administrator or their designee that conditions are present that water conservation, either voluntary or mandatory, will be beneficial to the overall water system they shall declare the implementation of water conservation measures as outlined in article.

11.03 WATER CONSERVATION DECLARED. The City Administrator may declare a "Water Watch," "Water Warning," or "Water Emergency," collectively known as water conservation measures, as outlined in this article. The declaration of water conservation measures shall result in immediate notification of businesses and residents through all available means and methods available to the City.

11.04 WATER WATCH. A water watch shall be declared when the City's water system experiences water shortages due to a depleted water supply, equipment failure, or a significant increase in demand, any of which may pose a threat to the water system's ability to meet the demand and needs of the customers. This includes any condition where the water system is overstressed or is operating at 75 percent or greater of pumping capacity. Under a water watch the following conservation measures shall be undertaken by water users:

A. General. Users are encouraged to employ prudent restraint on water usage and to conserve water voluntarily utilizing any and all methods available to them.

B. Lawn Watering. Lawn watering shall be limited to a maximum of two times per week within the hours identified in Section 11.04(C) for commercial and residential users and according to the following schedule:

- (1) Residential users with an even numbered address shall limit watering of lawns to even numbered calendar dates.
- (2) Residential users with an odd numbered address shall limit watering of lawns to odd numbered calendar dates.
- (3) Commercial, industrial, governmental, and educational users shall limit watering of lawns and fields in staggered schedules.

C. Outdoor Watering Time Limitation. All outdoor water use, including watering of lawns, flowers, gardens, shrubs, and trees is not allowed between the hours of 12:00 p.m. (noon) and 5:00 p.m. in an amount not to exceed up to one inch per week, except for those uses identified in Subsection G(1) below.

D. Washing Vehicles. The washing of vehicles on residential properties is limited to Saturday and Sunday only.

E. Cleaning of Outdoor Surfaces. The washing or cleaning of outdoor surfaces including buildings, sidewalks, driveways, porches, or any other outdoor surface is strongly discouraged.

F. Commercial and Industrial Equipment. Nonessential cleaning of commercial and industrial equipment, machinery, and interior space is strongly discouraged.

G. Exceptions. The following exceptions shall be allowed:

(1) Watering of flower and vegetable gardens, trees, and shrubs less than four years old, and newly seeded or sodded areas that were placed prior to the issuance of a water watch shall be allowed to be watered.

(2) Washing of cars within commercial establishments is allowed without regulation.

11.05 WATER WARNING. A water warning shall be declared when the City's water system experiences water shortages due to a depleted water supply, equipment failure, or a significant increase in demand, any of which may pose a serious threat to the water system's ability to meet the demand and needs of the customers. This includes any condition where the water system is experiencing moderate to serious water shortages or is operating at 85 percent or greater of pumping capacity. Under a water warning the following conservation measures shall be undertaken by water users:

A. General. Users are encouraged to employ prudent restraint on water usage and to conserve water voluntarily utilizing any and all methods available to them.

B. Lawn Watering. Lawn watering shall be limited to a maximum of one time per week according to the following schedule:

(1) Residential users with an address ending in zero or one shall water lawns on Mondays only.

(2) Residential users with an address ending in two or three shall water lawns on Tuesdays only.

(3) Residential users with an address ending in four or five shall water lawns on Wednesdays only.

(4) Residential users with an address ending in six or seven shall water lawns on Thursdays only.

(5) Residential users with an address ending in eight or nine shall water lawns on Fridays only.

(6) Commercial, industrial, governmental, and educational users shall limit watering of lawns and fields in staggered schedules.

C. Outdoor Watering Time Limitation. All outdoor water use, including watering of lawns, flowers, gardens, shrubs, and trees is not allowed between the hours of 12:00 p.m. (noon) and 5:00 p.m. in an amount not to exceed up to one inch per week.

- D. Pools. Filling and refilling of private pools is not allowed except for the replacement of water loss due to evaporation or overflow caused by use. Such replacement is limited to 75 gallons in a 24-hour period.
- E. Outdoor Vegetation. Watering of all outside vegetation is limited to one once per week, except for those types of vegetation identified in Subsection I below.
- F. Washing Vehicles. The washing of vehicles is prohibited except for washing which occurs within a commercial car or truck wash facility, as outlined in Subsection I below.
- G. Cleaning of Outdoor Surfaces. The washing or cleaning of outdoor surfaces including buildings, sidewalks, driveways, porches, or any other outdoor surface is prohibited.
- H. Commercial and Industrial Equipment. Nonessential cleaning of commercial and industrial equipment, machinery, and interior space is prohibited.
- I. Tank load water sales may be curtailed or eliminated.
- J. Exceptions. The following exceptions shall be allowed:
 - (1) Watering of flower and vegetable gardens, trees, shrubs less than four years old, and newly seeded or sodded areas that were placed prior to the issuance of a water watch shall be allowed to be watered.
 - (2) Washing of cars within commercial establishments is allowed without regulation.

11.06 WATER EMERGENCY. A water emergency shall be declared when the City's water system experiences water shortages due to a depleted water supply, equipment failure, or a significant increase in demand, any of which may pose a severe threat to the water system's ability to meet the demand and needs of the customers. This includes any condition where the water system is experiencing moderate to serious water shortages or is operating at 95 percent or greater of pumping capacity. Under a water emergency the following conservation measures shall be undertaken by water users:

- A. General. Users are required to employ prudent restraint on water usage and to conserve water utilizing any and all methods available to them.
- B. Lawn Watering. Lawn watering of any residential, commercial, industrial, educational, or governmental facility is prohibited.
- C. Pools. Filling and refilling of private pools is prohibited.
- D. Outdoor Vegetation. Watering of all outside vegetation prohibited, except for those types of vegetation identified in Subsection I below.
- E. Washing Vehicles. The washing of vehicles is prohibited except for washing which occurs within a commercial car or truck wash facility, as outlined in Subsection I below.
- F. Cleaning of Outdoor Surfaces. The washing or cleaning of outdoor surfaces including buildings, sidewalks, driveways, porches, or any other outdoor surface is prohibited.
- G. Commercial and Industrial Equipment. Cleaning of equipment, surfaces, or areas not essential to the production of goods or providing of services for any commercial and industrial use is prohibited.
- H. Tank load water sales shall be eliminated.
- I. Exceptions. The following exceptions shall be allowed:

(1) Watering of vegetable gardens, flowers, and shrubs less than four years old shall only be watered by watering can between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. each day.

(2) Washing of cars within commercial establishments is allowed without regulation.

11.07 REDUCTION IN FLOW OF WATER. The City reserves the right to restrict flow to any customer who has been determined to be using water in any manner in violation of these water conservation measures following the City providing written notice to the customer and providing the customer an opportunity for a hearing.


11.08 EXCEPTIONS TO WATER CONSERVATION. Reclaimed or recycled water including water that has been used for washing or cooling, may be used without restriction. Additionally, water derived from sources other than the municipal water supply may be collected and used without restriction.

11.09 PENALTY. In the event that a water user violates the provisions of this article they shall be subject to a municipal infraction as outlined in this Code of Ordinances. Each violation and each day that a violation occurs shall be considered a separate offense. In addition to a municipal infraction the City may choose to implement a premium rate charge of ten percent for the month following any violation of this article.

SECTION 2. SEVERABILITY CLAUSE. If any section, provision, or part of this ordinance shall be adjudged invalid or unconstitutional, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of the ordinance as a whole or any section, provision, or part thereof not adjudged invalid or unconstitutional.


SECTION 3. WHEN EFFECTIVE. This ordinance shall be in effect from and after its final passage, approval, and publication as provided by law.

Passed and approved by the Council the 22nd day of June, 2021



Dan Vande Griend, Mayor

ATTEST:



Dale Oltmans; City Administrator

First Reading: Waived

Second Reading: Waived

Third Reading: June 22, 2021

I certify that the foregoing was published as Ordinance 868 on the 30 day of June 2021.

Dale Oltmans; City Administrator