

PERMANENT

MASTER

RESOLUTION 91-3

TO ADOPT A POLICY FOR WATER CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES

FOR

THE CITY OF DUNNELLON

AS OUTLINED IN CONSUMPTIVE USE PERMIT REF. No. 208339

WHEREAS the City of Dunnellon desires to establish a policy for water conservation activities we are currently using, and

WHEREAS, the city desires to outline a plan for future implementation of water conservation activities, and

WHEREAS, SWFWMD (Southwest Florida Water Management District) requires a consumptive use permits to be pulled every five years, or upon activation of a new well, and

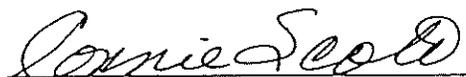
WHEREAS, this permit must contain an outline of the cities water conservation activities and future plans to implement water conservation measures, and

WHEREAS, the City of Dunnellon is currently applying for a Consumptive Use Permit for the cities potable drinking water,

THEREFORE, let it be resolved that the document entitled WATER CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES OUTLINE FOR THE CITY OF DUNNELLON DATED FEBRUARY, 1991 be approved as presented.

  
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Mayor, Austin Porter

Attest:

 12-13-91  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk, Connie Scott

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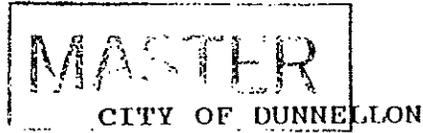
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WATER CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES OUTLINE  
FOR  
THE CITY OF DUNNELLON  
FEBRUARY, 1991

Consumptive Use Permit Ref. No. 208339

Prepared By:

HENIGAR & RAY, INC.  
640 East Highway 44  
Crystal River, Florida 32629



WATER CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES

CUP PERMIT 208339

PUBLIC SUPPLY SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

INTRODUCTION

The following information provides statements which briefly describe the water conservation activities presently being used by the City of Dunnellon and those activities which the City plans to implement. Consideration in determining appropriate water conservation activities for the City included activities as described in the "Guidelines for Water Conservation Plans to Accompany Applications for Public Supply Consumptive Use Permits", May 13, 1988, SWFWMD; "Water Conservation Opportunities for Local Governments", Technical Information Planning Series 88-1, SWFWMD; and "Water Shortage Planning for Local Governments", Technical Information Planning Series 88-3, SWFWMD.

Specific characteristics of the City and the service area were considered in the determination of the proposed conservation activities, including institutional and implementation factors, demographics of the service area, current usage and per capita consumption, treatment and distribution system characteristics, environmental and water quality factors. Activities for water conservation beyond those which are presently utilized by the City are limited by financial resources.

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WATER CONSERVATION METHODS:

Although the City of Dunnellon is limited in the selection of water conservation activities, the following methods are practical efforts in providing reduction in long-term water demands.

PUBLIC INFORMATION:

This lower cost activity can be implemented with direct mail, bill stuffers, posters and public meeting announcements. Each customer will be exposed to information on water conservation methods he or she can practice. Actual water conservation is expected to be low. However, the awareness of the public will aid in acceptance of other activities.

EVALUATION OF CODES AND REGULATIONS:

Codes and regulations relative to water use can be reviewed and implemented as policy and practice. Codes or regulations, specifically detailing the rights to water usage, fees, penalties and the City's authority to require water conservation can be implemented. Cost of this activity is predicated by the amount of involvement by professional services, public notices and meetings.

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FISCAL INCENTIVES:

Since October of 1989, the City increased its water rates from \$1.10 to \$1.50 per 1,000 and also increased its minimum bills for all categories, either residential or commercial. This increase in a way promotes water conservation since the user will try to correct leaky faucets and water misuse in order to prevent high water costs. Of all the water conservation activities presented herein, this is the most effective because it creates water conservation consciousness among the City's water clients.

LEAK DETECTION AND SYSTEM MAINTENANCE:

Presently, the City administers a system repair program on essentially an emergency as-needed basis. Objectives should be developed to categorize repairs necessary for better system and operation conditions. Annual programs and budgeted projects are now being established and completed when feasible. As route meter readings and system cleaning is conducted, efforts are made to identify leaks, and possible repairs for the maintenance program. In addition, the City is compiling a series of master water system maps to be used in operation and maintenance programming, as well as system analysis.

Although the documentation, inspection and management tasks of this activity is administered by City personnel, and therefore, <sup>not</sup> appreciably impacts the City's cost, the actual implementation of

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repairs, capital improvements, and detailed investigations is a relatively high expense. To offset the expense of the program, the current loss of system capacity can be appreciably reduced and the associated revenue from the additional capacity realized can be obtained from additional future customers.

METER MAINTENANCE, TESTING AND CALIBRATION:

A more frequent inspection, maintenance, testing and calibration program is being implemented to routinely remove and replace meters with tested and calibrated units. This process of exchange can be conducted with City personnel and not increase operating costs. Maintenance cost to test, rebuild and calibrate meters will increase. However, the increased revenues realized by accurate meter registration should help offset this cost and help to conserve water by proper allocation.

PLUMBING CODE:

Several aspects of building codes have direct and indirect impact on water use. Water for such uses as washing, flushing and landscape watering can be reduced by requiring installation of equipment and use of construction techniques that reduce water needs. By amending the existing ordinances, the City can achieve these changes. Some of the items that the City should consider under the Plumbing Code ordinance are listed below:

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- a) Flow Control Devices: Aerators on sink taps, self-closing taps, etc.
- b) Reduced flow shower heads.
- c) Reduced water-use toilets.
- d) Reduced water-use appliances: automatic dishwashers, modern clothes washing machines, etc.
- e) Pipe insulation.

LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION ORDINANCE:

The establishment of Landscape Irrigation Ordinance can counter the over-watering of lawns and other landscaping plants by requiring the following:

- a) Equipping irrigation systems with automatic cutoff devices interfaced with rain gauge or soil moisture measuring devices.
- b) Calibration of water quantity used to match the needs of the plants.
- c) Repairing leaks; and
- d) Specifying allowable days and times of day on which to irrigate.

This ordinance should be required for all new irrigation systems.

Additional water conservation methods and activities should be reviewed, from time to time, by the City and incorporated into the

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conservation program, when feasible. The city should continue to look to the SWFWMD for planning resources and regional water conservation policy.