# SANTA FE COUNTY

Resolution No. 2000 - 91

1797233

## A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A VOLUNTARY WATER CONSERVATION PLAN FOR THE COUNTY

WHEREAS, the County has been experiencing a drought and water resources need to be conserved; and

WHEREAS, water resources in the County are limited even without the drought; and

WHEREAS, residents of Santa Fe County, including the City of Santa Fe, utilize many of the same water supply sources, so the actions of each individual ultimately affect us all; and

WHEREAS, adopting voluntary conservation measures could assist in keeping the current drought from becoming a crisis for water users in the County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) that:

The Board of County Commissioners adopts the attached "Santa Fe County Voluntary Water Conservation Plan".

APPROVED, ADOPTED AND PASSED this 8th day of August, 2000.

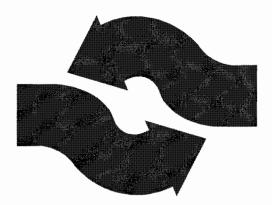
**Board of County Commission** Richard Anaya, Chairperson

Approved as to form:

Rebecca Bustamante, County Clerk

2 of the records of Santa Fe County.

Witness my Hand and Seal of Office Rebecca Bustamanta



1797234

## Santa Fe County Voluntary Water Conservation Plan

The following is a list of water saving practices that the Board of County Commissioners recommends all County residents follow at all times of the year in order to conserve water. These are recommendations, not requirements, adherence is voluntary.

### **Outdoor Water Saving Practices**

- Even addresses should water outdoor landscaping on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, and odd addresses should water Wednesday, Friday and Sunday. No one should water on Mondays.
- 2) Sweep sidewalks, driveways and other hard surfaces clean instead of using water.
- 3) Don't water from 10 AM to 4 PM. Don't water in the rain or when it's very windy. Don't water after a heavy rain wait until the plants need water again.
- 4) Adjust sprinklers so they only water things that grow, not the sidewalk or the street.
- 5) Landscape with drought-tolerant, native vegetation rather than plants that flourish in the humid climates of the eastern United States.
- 6) Don't overwater. Watch when water starts to runoff from the areas being watered, and turn off the sprinkler. Set timers on sprinklers to run only long enough to deliver water to the plants, not long enough to generate runoff.
- 7) Keep grass length fairly long; taller grass holds moisture better. Cut the lawn often so that only ½ to ¾ inch of grass is removed. Cutting off a lot of grass at once can cause grassblades to turn yellow from shock.

- 8) Water grass minimally during the first few cool weeks in the spring, this encourages deeper rooting.
- 9) Install drip irrigation systems. Drip sprinkler systems lose less water to evaporation than those that spray water up into the air. When you must use an above ground sprinkler, sprinklers which throw large drops in a flat pattern deliver more water to the plants and less water to the air than sprinklers with a high, fine spray.
- 10) Mulch flower and vegetable gardens, shrubs and other plantings so the soil holds moisture longer.
- 11) Add soil amendments before planting lawns, trees, shrubs, flowers and vegetables. Improving soil quality saves on water use later on.
- 12) Consider adding areas to your yard that are landscaped with low water use plants or something other than plants.
- 13) If you have a swimming pool, keep it covered when not in use. This prevents evaporation of the water and keeps the water from getting dirty and necessitating more frequent cleaning.

### **Indoor Water Saving Practices**

- 1) Replace fixtures with low-flow devices.
- 2) Repair leaks. A toilet leak wastes a lot of water. To check a toilet for leaks add a drop of dye to the tank, if the dye moves into the toilet bowl without the toilet being flushed, you have a leak.
- 3) Take a shower instead of a bath. A short shower uses less water than a bath. You can check this by plugging the tub next time you shower and seeing how much water you use.
- 4) Turn off the water while you brush your teeth, scrub your hands, wash your face, etc. An even better water saver for toothbrushing is to fill a glass with water, dip your toothbrush in the glass to wet it for brushing, use the water in the cup for rinsing your mouth and when you're all done swish your toothbrush around in the remaining water in the glass to rinse it off. Using this method you can brush your teeth and only use a cup or two of water.
- 5) Run only full loads in the washing machine or dishwasher. Washing dishes by hand uses the least amount of water, especially if you wash and rinse in a washtub rather than using running water.

- 6) Check the thermostat on your hot water heater. Extremely hot settings waste water and energy.
- 7) When washing the car fill a bucket with warm soapy water and use that to wash the car. Then only use the hose for a quick rinse.
- 8) Keep a container of drinking water in the refrigerator. Running water to wait for the water to get cold wastes water.
- 9) Don't waste water by flushing trash down the toilet or garbage disposal, throw it in the trash can.