

OUTDOOR IRRIGATION POLICY
Resolution 2021-03

The Board of Directors of Cottonwood Mutual Water Company, meeting at a duly called and noticed regular meeting of the Board, at which a quorum was present, does hereby adopt this Resolution approving this policy.

Adopted

September 8, 2021

Cottonwood Mutual Water Company currently has sufficient source, storage, and water rights to meet the current water demand of its customers. However, this ability to serve these water needs can change depending upon moisture received and the water use practices of the user. The inability to serve water due to lack of moisture is out of our control. However, we can ensure an adequate water supply by promoting water conservation measures, and by enforcing the water use limitations applicable to certain of our shareholders.

The water system of Cottonwood Mutual Water Company, including wells, storage tanks, transmission lines and water rights, has been sized based upon the use each of the connections requires. In our system, there are two different types of connections: those using water for indoor use only, and those using system water for both indoor and outdoor use.

When each connection was approved, very different requirements were imposed on the homeowner or developer, depending on the type of connection. As a rule of thumb, indoor water connections for both types of users are sized at 0.56 GPM source supply (well capacity), 400 gallons storage, and 0.45 acre-feet of water rights. Connections needing outdoor water, by contrast, are sized at an additional prorated amount based upon 3.39 GPM (assuming one acre of irrigation), 2,528 gallons of storage, and 1.66 acre-feet of water right. These requirements are based on the Utah Administrative Code, R309-510 Minimum Sizing Requirements. As can be seen, it is possible for someone irrigating an acre of property to use six times more water than the indoor connection will require, and place a proportionately higher demand on source, storage and delivery infrastructure.

Therefore, the system does not have the capacity to provide water for outdoor use to all of its shareholders. It is a disservice to all of our shareholders to risk a water supply shortage in order to accommodate outdoor water use by indoor only shareholders. As a company, we cannot allow shareholders with secondary water connections to use culinary water outdoors when secondary water use is curtailed, since this could put a strain on our ability to deliver water generally, and place an undue burden on our other shareholders.

In May 2013, Cottonwood Mutual Water Company authorized the use of culinary water by secondary water users on a temporary basis. We allowed these temporary connections for several reasons, but the primary reason was the availability of excess capacity because not all homes planned had yet been constructed. However, now that the service area is approaching build out, the ability for Cottonwood Mutual Water Company to allow outdoor watering to secondary water users is not possible.

In light of the foregoing, and in an effort to be proactive, Cottonwood Mutual Water Company has adopted this policy, consisting of the following:

1. Connection to the culinary system is not an option for shareholders having access to secondary water. Those shareholders having access to secondary water must connect to the secondary water system as the primary source of water for outdoor watering.
2. Shareholders having access to secondary water are not allowed to have dual connections or cross connections to the culinary and secondary water systems.
3. Shareholders having access to secondary water may utilize culinary water from time to time to supplement irrigation to their high value plant materials such as trees, shrubs, flowers, and vegetable garden plants provided such irrigation is done by hand through a garden hose attached to the home faucet which is back siphonage protected. No turf areas shall be irrigated with culinary water.
4. All shareholders are encouraged to use sound water conservation practices both indoors and outdoors.
5. Shareholders with no secondary water shall be allowed to use culinary water in the landscape provided that they meet the conditions of the Backflow Prevention and Cross Connection Control Policy adopted August 18, 2021.
6. All shareholders using water in the landscape, filling pools, jacuzzies, and fountains shall follow the Backflow Prevention and Cross Connection Control Policy adopted August 18, 2021.

Authorized and signed this _____ day of September, 2021 by the Cottonwood Mutual Water Company Board of Directors.


James Collins


[Doug Dingman \(Sep 9, 2021 13:30 MDT\)](#)

Doug Dingman


[Brent R Flamm \(Sep 13, 2021 08:18 MDT\)](#)

Brent Flamm


[Taylor Nielsen \(Sep 29, 2021 09:13 MDT\)](#)

Taylor Nielsen


[Jesse V Summers \(Sep 9, 2021 17:06 MDT\)](#)

Jesse Summers