

LEVEL II WATER CONSERVATION REQUIREMENTS

WLS-056

PURPOSE

This certification form documents compliance with the County’s well ordinance relative to water conservation measures and limits to groundwater extraction that are required for certain water well permit applications submitted after October 4, 2022 within the Public Trust Review Area. This form ensures property owners are aware of and understand that water conservation requirements are ongoing and are transferable to subsequent property owners upon change of property ownership.

PROCEDURE

The applicant or owner for water supply well permits within the Public Trust Review Area must complete and comply with water conservation requirements per Sonoma County Code section 25B-13, including groundwater extraction limits, and Level I and II water conservation requirements. Table 1. below details which water requirements apply depending on the well class defined in 25B-4(e).

Completion of these requirements can be documented with this form including the owner’s signature and date and submitting the completed form and supporting documents to Permit Sonoma through [Citizen Access](#). Permit Sonoma, or its representatives, may request additional information or conduct site inspections to verify that water conservation measures have been complied with.

Table 1. Water conservation requirements dependent on well class.

| Well Class | Level I Water Conservation | Level II Water Conservation | Groundwater Extraction Limits |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| Low Water Use Well | Yes | No | Cumulative extraction limited to 2.0 acre feet per year |
| Well for Existing Use | Yes | Yes | Cumulative extraction limited to the existing use ¹ Vineyard and orchard irrigation limited to existing use or 0.6 acre feet per acre per year. |
| Net Zero Groundwater Increase | Yes | Yes | Cumulative extraction limited to existing use augmented by water conservation offsets defined through an approved Net Zero groundwater use plan. Vineyard and orchard irrigation limited to existing use or 0.6 acre feet per acre per year. |

¹ Existing use is groundwater used for legally established land uses that existed as of October 4, 2022.

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| | | | |
|------------------------------|-----|----|---|
| Surface Water Diversion Well | Yes | No | Yes – as specified in an appropriative water right with the CA Division of Water Rights |
| Public Water Well | No | No | Maybe – as specified in discretionary approval for the public water well or public water system |

LEVEL I WATER CONSERVATION AND BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES CHECKLIST

Level I Water Conservation requirements apply to all water supply wells (excluding public water wells) in all areas of the County. A separate form, Permit Sonoma form WLS-051, has been developed for Level I water conservation requirements. This separate form should be completed and submitted.

WELL CLASSIFICATION AND CUMULATIVE GROUNDWATER EXTRACTION

Water conservation requirements and extraction limits depend on the class of well. Please select the class of well, defined in Sec. 25B-4(e), that best represents the proposed well and water use of the parcel. Select only one.

Note, the amount of groundwater extraction allowed for wells classified as “Well for Existing Use” or “Net Zero Groundwater Increase” will be determined in coordination with Permit Sonoma. Typically, the existing water use will be established through application of standard water use rates detailed in Appendix A of Permit Sonoma [Policy and Procedure 8-2-1 Water Supply, Use and Conservation Assessment Guidelines](#). Site specific water use assessments, supported by metered data or a site specific demand analysis, may also be provided.

Well for Low Water Use. A water well where the cumulative groundwater use from all wells on the parcel, including the proposed well, is and will be limited to two (2) acre feet or less per year. Cumulative groundwater extraction from all wells on the parcel, including the proposed well, will be limited to two (2) acre feet or less per year.

Well for Existing Use. A water well where the cumulative groundwater use from all wells on the parcel, including the proposed well, is and will be limited to the amount of groundwater used for legally established land uses that existed as of October 4, 2022. Cumulative groundwater extraction from all wells on the parcel, including the proposed well, will be limited to _____ acre feet per year, equivalent to the amount of groundwater used for legally established land uses that existed as of October 4, 2022.

Net Zero Groundwater Increase. A water well where the cumulative groundwater use from all wells on the parcel may increase but not result in a net increase in groundwater use from the local aquifer through implementation of water conservation measures, rainwater catchment or recycled water reuse system, water recharge project, agricultural practices that increase infiltration and soil moisture capacity, local groundwater management project, or participation in a streamflow augmentation project authorized by the California Department of Fish and

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Wildlife or National Marine Fisheries Service. Cumulative groundwater extraction from all wells on the parcel, including the proposed well, will be limited to _____ acre feet per year, and all conservation measures specified in the water conservation plan demonstrating zero net increase in groundwater use, attached to this form, shall be fully implemented and maintained.

Surface Water Diversion Well. A water well that serves as a point of surface water diversion for an appropriative water right regulated by the California State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Water Rights. Diversion limits and regulations specified in appropriative water rights application(s) _____, regulated by the California State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Water Rights, shall be fully complied with. Relevant documentation is attached.

Public Water Well. A public water well for which environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act is complete. All limits to groundwater extraction specified in conditions of approval and mitigation measures for the public water well or public water system shall be complied with. Relevant documentation is attached.

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The applicant or owner for a well classified as “Well for Existing Use” or “Net Zero Groundwater Increase” and within the Public Trust Review Area must complete and comply with Level II water conservation requirements per Sonoma County Code section 25B-13(c). If the well is classified as a “Well for Existing Use” or “Net Zero Groundwater Increase”, please complete the checklist below.

Note, the Supplemental Instructions portion of this form explains how to complete supporting water conservation plans and other documentation.

1. All water closets within all existing habitable spaces on the project parcel meet current water efficiency standards defined in the 2022 CALGreen Code or most current version, or have an efficiency of 1.6 gallons per flush or less.
 - Not applicable, the site does not have any water closets.
 - Applicable, water closets meet standards.

2. All urinals within all existing habitable spaces on the project parcel meet current water efficiency standards defined in the 2022 CALGreen Code or most current version, or have an efficiency of 0.125 gallons per flush or less.
 - Not applicable, the site does not have any urinals.
 - Applicable, urinals meet standards.

3. All commercial, industrial, and institutional sites shall submit and implement a water conservation plan that details best management practices to reduce groundwater use to the maximum extent feasible.
 - Not applicable, the site is not commercial, industrial, or institutional.

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☐ Applicable, all conservation measures specified in the water conservation plan attached to this form shall be fully implemented and maintained.

- 4. All agricultural sites with agricultural water use greater than 2 acre feet shall submit and implement an agricultural water conservation practices plan that includes irrigation design, scheduling, maintenance, soil moisture or plant stress monitoring, and other agricultural water conservation best management practices. Enrollment in an agricultural practices monitoring and certification program, approved by the Permit Sonoma Director, shall fulfill this requirement.

☐ Not applicable, agricultural water use is less than 2 acre feet per year.

☐ Applicable, all conservation measures specified in the water conservation plan attached to this form shall be fully implemented and maintained.

☐ Proof that the site is enrolled in the following agricultural practices monitoring and certification program is attached. The program name is:

- 5. Submit and implement a frost protection plan. Enrollment in a frost water demand management program, approved by the State Water Resources Control Board, Permit Sonoma Director, or Sonoma County Agricultural Commissioner shall fulfill this requirement. Sites that do not use water for frost protection are exempt from this requirement.

☐ Not applicable, agricultural water use is less than 2 acre feet per year or does not use water for frost protection.

☐ Frost protection plan attached.

☐ Proof that the site is enrolled in the following frost protection program is attached. The program name is:

- 6. Vineyards and orchards shall limit growing season groundwater use to the existing use prior to, October 4, 2022, supported by metered data or a site-specific irrigation demand analysis; if no existing use data or analysis is provided then a default limit of 0.6 acre-feet per acre per year or less shall apply.

☐ Not applicable, the site is not a vineyard or orchard.

☐ Site -specific irrigation demand analysis is attached, total growing season demand for _____ acres of vineyard and orchard is _____ acre feet per year.

☐ Default limit of 0.6 acre -feet per acre per year shall apply, total growing season demand for _____ acres of vineyard and orchard is _____ acre feet per year.

FUTURE SITE DEVELOPMENT

☐ I understand that water conservation requirements are ongoing and attest that future development and operation of the site shall comply with all applicable water conservation requirements, including groundwater extraction limits and Level II water conservation requirements listed above. I understand that ongoing compliance may be verified and monitored through groundwater use metering and permit review. Future Building and Grading Permit applications submitted for review and approval subject to these water conservation requirements must adequately identify on the Cover Sheet the well classification serving the

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parcel in order to verify that all applicable water conservation requirements have been adhered to in the proposed design.

PROJECT INFORMATION

Well Permit Record # _____

Property Address _____

Assessor Parcel Number of proposed well _____

Assessor Parcel Number(s) of other parcels served by the proposed well _____

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

Phone _____ Email Address _____

OWNER AGREEMENT

By signing this document, the property owner certifies to Permit Sonoma that the information in this form is true, and that all groundwater extraction limits and Level II Water Conservation Requirements specified in Chapter 25B-13 have been, or will be, complied with. The property owner further agrees to comply with all applicable County codes, and the rules and regulations set forth by Permit Sonoma including, but not limited to, maintaining water systems in good working order, replacing and installing new fixtures with fixtures that meet current water efficiency standards defined in the CALGreen Code, complying with water efficient landscape regulations, complying with other applicable permit conditions, and notifying subsequent property owners of water conservation requirements.

Owner Name(s) _____

Owner Phone _____ Email Address _____

Mailing Address _____

Owner Signature _____ Date _____

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LEVEL II WATER CONSERVATION - SUPPLEMENTAL INSTRUCTIONS

Instructions and further procedures on requirements of water efficient water closets, water conservation plans, frost protection plans, and irrigation demand analyses are provided below.

If you have additional questions, please email PermitSonoma-Well-Septic@sonoma-county.org.

TOILETS AND URINALS

Toilets account for approximately 20% of indoor water use of homes and 80% or more in commercial sites. Upgrading old toilets to efficient models is one of the simplest methods to reduce water use at residential and commercial sites.

Toilets sold after 1992 are at most 1.6 gallons per flush (gpf). Toilets sold after 2014 are 1.28 gpf or less (California standard). If the gpf rating is not easily seen, remove the toilet tank lid, and a gpf rating or date may be stamped on the lid's underside or inside the toilet tank.

Level II Water conservation requirements specify that all water closets shall have an efficiency of 1.6 gpf or less, and all urinals shall have an efficiency of 0.125 gpf or less.

WATER CONSERVATION PLANS – COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL, AND INSTITUTIONAL SITES

Permit Sonoma's Policy and Procedure #8-2-1 Water Supply, Use and Conservation Assessment Guidelines should be followed in preparation of the water conservation plan. Conservation measures must consider and include all reasonably feasible measures to conserve water, including but not limited to:

1. Water efficient landscaping.
2. Water efficient fixtures and appliances.
3. Water efficient cleaning and sanitation equipment.
4. Water use meters including sub-meters with leak detection monitoring.
5. Graywater and process water reuse.
6. Rainwater capture.
7. Stormwater infiltration basins and other low impact development features.

AGRICULTURAL WATER CONSERVATION PRACTICES PLAN

Agricultural sites must submit and implement an agricultural water conservation practices plan that includes irrigation design, scheduling, maintenance, soil moisture monitoring or plant stress monitoring, and other agricultural water conservation best management practices. Appendix B of Permit Sonoma's [Policy and Procedure 8-2-1, Water Supply, Use and Conservation Assessment Guidelines](#) should be followed in preparation of the agricultural water conservation practices plan.

Enrollment in an agricultural practices monitoring and certification program, approved by the Permit Sonoma Director, shall fulfill this requirement. Approved programs are listed on Permit Sonoma's [Water Wells – Water Conservation and Best Management Practices](#) page.

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FROST PROTECTION PLAN

Agricultural sites must submit and implement a frost protection plan. Enrollment in a frost water demand management program, approved by the State Water Resources Control Board, or Permit Sonoma Director shall fulfill this requirement. Sites that do not use water for frost protection are exempt from this requirement.

All sites that use water for frost protection must register with the [Sonoma County Agricultural Weights & Measures](#).

Approved water demand management programs are listed on the [State Water Resources Control Board's Frost Protection Regulation Russian River Watershed](#) page.

INDIVIDUAL FROST PROTECTION PLAN

Sites that choose to develop and implement a site-specific frost protection plan must complete registration with Sonoma County Agricultural Weights & Measures, and submit a frost protection plan that describes the following components:

1. Proof of registration with Sonoma County Agricultural Weights & Measures.
2. Conservation measures such as pruning techniques to delay bud break and maintenance of cover crop to increase air circulation.
3. Long term and/or planned water conservation measures such as installation of fans, water storage, or replanting with late bud break varieties.
4. Methods and climate monitoring stations that will be used to determine when frost water application shall commence and cease for each frost event for each frost protection block.
5. Sought flow rate per unit area in inches per hour, and total flow rate in gallons per minute for each frost protection block.
6. How frost water application rates and volumes will be monitored.
7. How frost event impacts will be monitored including observations of impacts to vines and yield.
8. How monitoring results will be used for adaptive management of frost protection practices.

VERSION: | 03/22/2024

Intranet

Internet