



GPHBINST 11101.3

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GROUP HUMBOLDT BAY INSTRUCTION 11101.3

Subj: GROUP HUMBOLDT BAY HOUSING WATER USE POLICY

Ref: (a) USCG Housing Manual, COMDINST M11101.3
(b) Group Humboldt Bay Housing Manual GPHBINST, M11101.1

1. PURPOSE: To provide policy and issue instructions to implement water use conservation and monitoring practices within Group Humboldt Bay's Military Family Housing (MFH) and Unaccompanied Personnel Housing (UPH) Areas.
2. ACTION: Commanding Officers and Officers-in-Charge shall ensure all personnel are aware of the contents of this instruction. Members shall ensure all persons, dependants and guests, residing within their residence are aware of, and follow, the contents of this instruction.
3. DIRECTIVES AFFECTED: This instruction is designed to supplement reference (b).
4. DISTRIBUTION: All Group Humboldt Bay units.
5. DISCUSSION: Group Humboldt Bay provides family and unaccompanied quarters to qualified enlisted and officer personnel assigned to the Eureka and Fort Bragg Housing sites. Due to recent increases in utility costs, as well as increased drought conditions throughout California, the following measures are being implemented to ensure stewardship of both the American taxpayer's dollars and our natural water resources.
6. POLICY AND PROCEDURES: Group Humboldt Bay is responsible for the administration, assignment, utilization and operations of military housing at the Eureka and Fort Bragg Housing sites, specific regulations governing MFH/UPH are provided in the Group Humboldt Bay Housing Manual, reference (b). Members shall heed the following doctrine regarding water use within their homes:
 - a. **Definitions**:
 - (1) *Required use*: water consumed to ensure satisfactory sanitary & hygienic conditions of: persons & pets (bathing, brushing teeth, toiletry use), clothes, dishes, and general cleaning. Vegetable garden watering will be considered a required use for the purposes of this instruction.

- (2) *Excessive use*: water consumed beyond what is necessary for any required, landscaping or luxury use. Excessive use will be determined based on the average use of the site, and data supplied by the local service provider. The housing staff will identify excessive use through monitoring of actual usage rates in conjunction with the local service provider.
 - (3) *Landscaping use*: water used to hydrate landscaping materials, including; grass, trees, shrubs, and ornamental flowers. Vegetable gardens will be considered a required use for the purposes of this instruction.
 - (4) *Luxury use*: water used to wash vehicles, sidewalks or home facades, fill hot-tubs or for children's play equipment (slip & slides, pools, sprinklers).
 - (5) *Abuse*: water used in disregard to the processes described here-in.
- b. **Policy**: The primary objective for implementing these water restrictions is to maximize water conservation while minimizing disruption and impact to individual tenants. Conservation tips are listed in paragraph (6-d) below and in reference (b) Chapter 5, Section H, pg. 5-8, 9.
- (1) Tenants shall take necessary conservation steps to minimize water consumption during required use activities.
 - (2) Tenants with addresses ending in an even number shall be allowed landscaping water usage on even numbered dates. Tenants with addresses ending in an odd number shall be allowed landscaping water usage on odd dates. Landscaping use shall not be conducted mid-day to minimize evaporation. Additionally, automated devices (ie. sprinklers), when used, shall be oriented in a manner to ensure minimal run-off to streets, buildings, etc.
 - (3) All residents shall minimize luxury use to the maximum extent possible. Washing of sidewalks, home facades, etc, shall be done only if necessary and only through hand washing and/or pressure washing when practical. Vehicle washing shall not exceed a maximum of once per week. Water consumption for children's play equipment use should be coordinating between neighbors when feasible.
- Policy Use Example: A member living at 1283 Rescue Way will be permitted 'required use' as needed including watering food-bearing vegetable plants. They will be permitted to water their lawn and flowers, refill bird feeders & ornamental features only on odd dates of the month. They should wash their vehicle no more than four times per month and limit washing exterior home features to periods when a broom will not suffice.
- c. **Enforcement & Repercussions**: Housing staff will monitor actual water quantity use in conjunction with the local service provider and Group Supply Department. Tenants should also police themselves and each other, reporting abuse to the housing staff. The Local Housing Officer will counsel any tenant identified as an excessive or abusive consumer. Subsequent tenant violations may be prosecuted as a damage to government facilities and be subject to financial restitution or eviction from government housing per reference (a) and (b).

d. **Conservation Tips:**

- Water gardens and lawns early in the morning rather than mid-day.
- Submit work requests for leaky toilets and fixtures as soon as they are detected.
- Take quick showers rather than full-tub baths.
- Don't let the water run when brushing your teeth, washing your face or shaving.
- Run your clothes & dishwasher only with full loads whenever possible.
- Stopper the sink when rinsing fruits and vegetables.
- Installing a high-efficiency clothes washer can save up to 30% on water and 50% on energy.
- When cleaning fish tanks, use the dirty water to water your houseplants – it's rich in nitrogen and phosphorus.
- When washing cars, use a trigger nozzle that automatically turns off.
- Select the correct water level for laundry loads.
- Don't water when it's windy.
- Sweep rather than hose off sidewalks, patios, decks and driveways.
- Position sprinklers so that they are not spraying the house, sidewalk or street.
- Use drought-tolerant or native plants in the garden.
- Use mulch around plantings to hold in moisture.
- Consider using drip irrigation methods for trees and shrubs.

7. FORMS/REPORTS: Members wishing to report violations to this policy shall submit them via the "Housing Complaint Form," GRPHUMB-002, found in reference (b).
8. ENVIROMENTAL ASPECT AND IMPACT CONSIDERATIONS: Environmental considerations were examined in the development of the policies governing this instruction.



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