



Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
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January 8, 2016

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR
NO. 2016-04

TO : ALL PROVINCIAL GOVERNORS, CITY AND MUNICIPAL MAYORS, DILG REGIONAL DIRECTORS, THE REGIONAL GOVERNOR OF THE AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO (ARMM) AND ALL OTHERS CONCERNED

SUBJECT : **ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING GUIDELINES ON WATER CONSERVATION**

PAGASA Advisory as contained in DILG Memorandum Circular No. 2015-118, dated October 7, 2015, informs that the El Niño phenomenon may intensify until the 1st Quarter of 2016.

Relative thereto, and consistent with the Water Code of the Philippines, which states that water is vital to national development and that it has become increasingly necessary for the government to intervene actively in improving the management of water resources, all Local Chief Executives, Presiding Officers and Members of the Sanggunians are encouraged to:

1. Cause the immediate enactment of an ordinance establishing guidelines on water conservation;
2. Look into all the water cycle stages in formulating policies, from rainfall or other sources to strategic collection, appropriate use, adequate treatment and proper discharge;
3. Increase awareness campaigns and activities within their respective jurisdictions, on the wise and responsible use or reuse of water; and
4. Ensure strong political leverage in the implementation and enforcement of water conservation rules and regulations.

A sample Water Conservation Ordinance is available at the following link: <http://bit.ly/1R66IRm>, for easy reference.

All DILG Regional Directors and the Office of the ARMM Regional Governor are hereby directed to cause the widest dissemination of this Memorandum Circular, within their respective jurisdictions.

For strict compliance.


MEL SENEN S. SARMIENTO
Secretary 



ORDINANCE NO. _____

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAMS IN
<NAME OF LGU>**

Be it ordained by the *Sangguniang Panlungsod/Bayan* of the <name of LGU> in session duly assembled:

SECTION 1. Title

This Ordinance shall be called the “Water Conservation Ordinance of <name of LGU>.”

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy

It shall be the policy of <name of LGU> to intervene actively in improving the management of water resources, through the implementation of various programs aimed towards the conservation of all water resources.

SECTION 3. Scope and Application

This Ordinance shall cover all possible programs geared towards the protection, conservation and preservation of all water sources of <name of LGU>.

SECTION 4. Creation of a Water Conservation Committee (WaterCom)

A Committee on Water Conservation or “WaterCom” shall be created in the City/Municipality of <name of LGU> to ensure the proper implementation of this Ordinance and to coordinate with all agencies necessary in implementing the same. Said Committee shall meet at least once every quarter or as frequent as necessary.

The WaterCom shall be composed of the following:

1. Chairperson: Local Chief Executive
2. Members (as applicable):
 - a. SP/SB Committee on Environment and Ecology
 - b. SP/SB Committee on Health and Sanitation
 - c. Local Planning and Development Officer
 - d. Local Environment and Natural Resources Officer
 - e. Local Health Officer
 - f. Representatives from two (2) environmental groups dealing with water resources
 - g. Representative from the Academe
 - h. Representative from the local water utilities
 - i. Other representatives as may be determined by the Committee

SECTION 5. Water Conservation Programs

The City/Municipality of <name of LGU> shall actively encourage the civil society, the academe and the business sector in undertaking environment-related activities, specifically in organizing, educating, motivating and disseminating information to the people in order to address water-related issues and problems.

The WaterCom shall be the lead in all information, education and communications (IEC) campaign strategies.

Water conservation programs shall include, but may not be limited to, the following:

1. Conduct of Barangay-based public education and information programs to disseminate the importance of water;
2. Legislation on the regulation of requirements for water conservation in residential, commercial, industrial and institutional establishments, in compliance to existing sanitation and water conservation laws;
3. Promotion of the use of rainwater harvesting facilities in all Barangays;
4. Installation of water saving devices like water aerators, specifically at the household level;
5. Conduct of tree-planting and other reforestation activities in partnership with environmental organizations;
6. Integration of lectures on water conservation and water demand management concepts in all schools;
7. Adoption of technologies promoting water conservation, which may include water conserving gardens, grey water reuse in irrigation, et cetera;
8. Monitoring of the safety and potability of all local water resources;
9. Cleanup, rehabilitation and restoration of rivers, creeks and other tributaries and water sources; and
10. Development of IEC materials on water conservation.

SECTION 6. Water Conservation and Public Information Action Plan

The WaterCom shall formulate a 5-Year Water Efficiency and Public Information Action Plan that shall embody all the water conservation programs that may be determined by the same.

SECTION 7. Monitoring and Evaluation

The WaterCom shall cause the monitoring and evaluation of the implementation and effectiveness of the different water conservation programs identified in the Water Conservation and Public Information Action Plan.

Communication of the results of the monitoring and evaluation to the appropriate agencies or offices shall be conducted every semester.

SECTION 8. Inter-agency and Inter LGU Linkages

For purposes of this Ordinance, the City/Municipality of <name of LGU> shall closely coordinate with adjacent local government units for a more comprehensive and collaborative solution to water supply and conservation problems.

It shall also coordinate with the local water utility and other agencies, such as the DENR, that are in charge with water utilization and water conservation.

SECTION 9. Funding

The City/Municipality of <name of LGU> may appropriate or raise funds to subsidize necessary expenses for the establishment and/or operation and maintenance

of water conservation facilities through appropriate local property taxes and enforcement of a service fee system.

Further, the City/Municipality of <name of LGU> may pursue funding assistance from both local and foreign sources, either public or private, through mutual agreements subject to existing accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

SECTION 10. Separability Clause

In the event that any part or provision of this Ordinance is held unconstitutional or invalid, other parts or provisions not otherwise affected shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 11. Repealing Clause

All other ordinances, or provisions thereof, inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION 18. Effectivity

This Ordinance shall take effect after ____ days after publication in a newspaper of local circulation.