

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**BRAZOS RIVER AUTHORITY RESCINDS  
STAGE 2 - DROUGHT WARNING  
FOR EAST WILLIAMSON COUNTY REGIONAL WATER SYSTEM AT LAKE GRANGER**

Waco, TX – October 06, 2023 – The Brazos River Authority has withdrawn the Stage 2 Drought Warning for the East Williamson County Regional Water System. The river authority informed customers accessing potable drinking water from the system on October 5 that due to changes in weather conditions and reduced treated water use, the **Stage 2 Drought Warning** is no longer necessary.

The **Stage 2 Drought Warning** was declared on August 24, 2023, when a trigger set by the Brazos River Authority Drought Contingency Plan was met. The trigger point is a total daily water consumption of ninety percent (90%) of the EWCRWS production capacity for a period of 30 consecutive days.

BRA contract holders receiving water from EWCRWS include:

- The city of Taylor,
- Lone Star Regional Water Authority, and
- Jonah Water Special Utility District.

Over the last several weeks, there has been a significant reduction in total daily water consumption, with treated water production averaging about 60 percent (60%) of the EWCRWS production capacity. The reduced water consumption trend is expected to continue with the transition to fall, cooler weather, and recent rainfall.

The BRA continually monitors the EWCRWS water production and demands as well as weather forecasts, streamflow and lake levels throughout the Brazos River basin. Though **Stage 2 Drought Warning** has been rescinded, **Stage 1 Drought Watch** remains in effect for all 11 BRA System reservoirs. Stage 1 Drought Watch is intended to provide awareness of the existing drought conditions and achieve a voluntary five percent (5%) reduction of the water use that would have occurred in the absence of any drought contingency measures.

The BRA reminds everyone that these extreme conditions are impacting water supplies and urges everyone to do their part by implementing conservation measures as directed by their water provider.

A copy of the Brazos River Authority's Drought Contingency Plan can be found at [www.brazos.org/DCP](http://www.brazos.org/DCP) or by contacting the BRA at (254) 761-3100.

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**About the Brazos River Authority**

The Brazos River Authority, with headquarters in Waco, is the oldest river authority in Texas. Created by the Texas Legislature in 1929, the Authority's 42,000 square-mile territory includes all or part of 70 counties, extending from the Texas-New Mexico border west of Lubbock to the Gulf of Mexico near Freeport.

The BRA built, owns, and operates three reservoirs (Lakes Possum Kingdom, Granbury, and Limestone). In addition to these water supply reservoirs, the BRA contracts with the Corps of Engineers for the water supply storage space at eight federal multi-purpose flood control and water conservation reservoirs (Lakes Whitney, Belton, Proctor, Somerville, Stillhouse Hollow, Granger, Georgetown and Aquilla).

The Brazos River Authority operates a regional wastewater system for the cities of Temple-Belton. The BRA also operates wastewater treatment plants for the cities of Clute-Richwood, Sugar Land, and Hutto. The BRA owns and operates a potable water treatment system, the East Williamson County Regional Water System, for the City of Taylor.

The BRA engages in water quality monitoring activities throughout the Brazos River basin. As a member of the Texas Clean Rivers Program, the BRA samples and tests water from more than 100 locations throughout the basin on either a monthly, quarterly or annual basis. For further information on the Brazos River Authority, please contact Judi Pierce, Public Information Officer at 254-761-3103.