



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**BRAZOS RIVER AUTHORITY RESCINDS
STAGE 1 DROUGHT STATUS FOR SEVERAL RESERVOIRS**

WACO, Texas – June 16, 2026 – The Brazos River Authority (BRA) has announced that *Stage 1 – Drought Watch* has been rescinded for seven of the nine reservoirs placed under the status in March. With recent rains and inflows, water supply storage in *Lakes Belton, Stillhouse Hollow, Whitney, Georgetown, Somerville, Aquilla, and Limestone* has filled, and drought conditions are not expected to return in the near future. The removal of drought designation allows customer cities, industries and agriculture that receive water supply from these reservoirs to change or remove restrictions they currently have in place for water supply use.

The Stage 1 – Drought Watch declaration, issued on March 27, 2026, remains in effect for Lakes Possum Kingdom and Proctor. The BRA will continue to monitor conditions throughout its water supply system and will provide notification if future changes to drought designations become necessary.

The goals of Stage 1 – Drought Watch are:

- to raise awareness of the developing drought situation and
- to achieve a voluntary 5% reduction of the water use that would have occurred in the absence of any drought contingency measures.

Contract holders that obtain water supply from any of the reservoirs that remain under the Stage 1 - Drought Watch are asked to:

1. Continue activation of their individual Drought Contingency Plans.
2. Increase public education efforts on ways to reduce water use,
3. Notify their customers of actions being taken, and
4. Any other actions they deem appropriate for their situation.

Additional information on Stage 1 – Drought Watch implementation can be found on page 5 of the [BRA Drought Contingency Plan on the BRA website](#). Current drought information is also available in the [same section of the website](#).

The Brazos River Authority monitors water supply and drought conditions within the basin and will notify both contract holders and the public when changes under the plan are made or additional action is required. For more information, please call 888-922-6272 or email information@brazos.org.

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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 BRA'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 America 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 U.S. Army 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 BRA 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 operates a potable water treatment plant serving the city of Leander and owns and operates a regional system, the East Williamson County Regional Water System, for the City of Taylor.

The organization 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.