



News Release

Brazos River Authority

QUALITY • CONSERVATION • SERVICE

For Immediate Release

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BRAZOS RIVER AUTHORITY ADVISES CUSTOMERS OF SYSTEM-WIDE STAGE 1 DROUGHT PRECAUTIONS

Waco, TX – December 5, 2012 -- The Brazos River Authority has informed all customers accessing water from the BRA System of reservoirs that a Stage 1 *Drought Watch* has been declared for the reservoir system including lakes Possum Kingdom, Granbury, Whitney, Aquilla, Limestone, Belton, Stillhouse Hollow, Granger, Georgetown, Somerville and Proctor. This notice also applies to lakeside residential and commercial use water permit holders.

The goal of the Stage 1 Drought Watch is a voluntary reduction of 5 percent of the water use that would have occurred in the absence of any drought contingency measure and to raise awareness of the developing drought situation.

The BRA has requested that customers who obtain their water supply from any BRA System reservoir consider the following actions:

- Activate their individual Drought Contingency Plan,
- Increase public education efforts on ways to reduce water use,
- Notify customers of actions being taken, and
- Any other actions appropriate in their individual situation.

The BRA's Drought Contingency Plan (DCP) provides for several lake level triggering criteria, based on four levels of potential drought conditions. Should Stage 2 triggering criteria be met, both BRA customers and the general public will be notified, and customers will be asked to reduce water consumption by ten percent or more depending on conditions at that time. To view the full Drought Contingency Plan, click [here](#).

The BRA is required by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to prepare a Drought Contingency Plan and to update that plan every five years. The DCP outlines steps to ensure there is sufficient water available to meet all needs of those receiving water through the BRA during times of drought. The BRA Board of Directors approved an updated DCP in October. The new DCP includes four stages: Drought Watch, Warning, Emergency and Pro-rata Curtailment. Each stage is marked by trigger points measured either by a lake level or by the water storage capacity. The System's Stage 1 is triggered when the combined storage capacity reaches 1,514,536 acre-feet (af).

The purpose of the Stage 1 Drought Watch is to alert the public of the current drought situation and ***promote careful use*** of water. Should the current drought conditions continue, it is likely that a Stage 2-Drought Warning will be issued early in 2013. Stage 2 is triggered when the combined storage capacity reaches 1,140,639 acre-feet.

Should the reservoir system reach Stage 2 triggering criteria, *Drought Warning Conditions* are initiated and a 10 percent or more reduction in water use is recommended for both BRA customers and the general public.

The BRA continually monitors weather forecasts, streamflow and lake levels throughout the Brazos River basin. While not all reservoirs have reached trigger levels as laid out in the DCP, the BRA asks that everyone keep in mind the extreme conditions are affecting the majority of the state and conservation is recommended for all areas. For information on water conservation, visit www.brazos.org/conservation.asp.

Customers notified of the Stage 1 – Drought Watch are:

Possum Kingdom:

- Brazos Electric Power Coop
- Double Diamond/The Cliffs
- City of Graham
- Hill Country Harbor Village
- North Ridge Corporation
- Ranch Owner's Association
- TXU Electric Company
- Fort Griffin Special Utility District
- Sportsman's World Municipal Utility District.
- Stephens County Rural Water Supply Company
- BASA Resources Inc.
- Possum Kingdom Water Supply Company
- City of Abilene
- Citation Oil & gas
- City of Lubbock
- Patterson Petroleum, INC.
- City of Stamford
- Carr-Thomas Ranch
- Vulcan Const. Materials, L.P.

Granbury

- Acton Municipal Utility District
- DeCordova Bend Estates Owners
- City of Granbury
- LSF Development Corp.
- Johnson County Rural Water Supply Corporation
- City of Keene
- LENMO INC.
- Monarch Utilities I, L.P.
- Pecan Plantation Owners Association

- TXU Electric Company
- REX R. Worrell
- King Ranch Turfgrass, L.P.
- Granbury Recreational Association
- Bluegreen Southwest One, L.P.
- Wolf Hollow I, L.P.

Whitney

- Double Diamond, Inc.
- City of Cleburne
- Fred T. Owen, JR.
- City of Whitney

Aquilla

- Aquilla Water Supply District
- Lake Whitney Water Company

Belton

- 439 Water Supply Corp.
- Bell County Water Control & Improvement
- Bell County WCID #1
- City of Belton
- Bluebonnet Water Supply Corp.
- Coryell City Water Supply District
- Fort Gates Water Supply Company
- City of Gatesville
- The Grove Water Supply Corporation
- City of Harker Heights
- City of McGregor
- Moffat Water Supply Corporation
- City of Temple
- Wildflower Country Club, Inc.

Granger

- East Williamson County Water
- Sun City Georgetown

Lake Limestone

- NRG Texas Power
- Luminant-Oak Grove
- South Limestone County Water Supply Corporation
- Texas Municipal Power Agency
- Wellborn Special Utility District
- Sawdust Ranch, LTD

Lake Stillhouse Hollow/Lake Georgetown

- City of Round Rock
- City of Georgetown
- City of Liberty Hill
- City of Harker Heights

- City of Lampasas
- Chisholm Trail Special Utility District
- Jonah Special Utility District
- Brushy Creek Municipal Water District
- Central Texas Water Supply Company
- Kempner Water Supply Company
- Dog Ridge Water Supply Company
- Jarrell-Schwertner Water Supply Company
- High Gabriel Water Supply Company
- Salado Water Supply Company
- Country Harvest
- Jerry Glaze
- United States Army Corps of Engineers

Downstream Customers

- ALCOA
- NRG Energy
- DOW Chemical
- Gulf Coast Water Authority
- City of Lorena
- Key Energy Services, LLC
- City of Rosebud
- Sugar Tree, Inc.
- Parker County SUD
- All Seasons Turf Grass
- Horizon Turf Grass, Inc.
- Island Condominium Owner's
- Bosque Generation, L.P.
- South Texas Water Co.
- City of Richmond
- City of Rosenberg
- City of Marlin
- City of Sugar Land
- Pecan Grove Municipal Water District

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 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 BRA owns and operates one regional water treatment system. In 2004, the BRA purchased the City of Taylor's water treatment plant immediately implementing plans for a \$14 million expansion that would allow the plant to serve as a regional treatment plant.

In addition to the regional plant, the BRA contracts to provide potable water to the Lee County Fresh Water Supply District No. #1 and the Sandy Creek Water Treatment Plant in Leander.

For further information on the Brazos River Authority, please contact Judi Pierce, Public Information Officer at 254-761-3103.