

*For Immediate Release*

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**BRAZOS RIVER AUTHORITY KICKS OFF 50<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY PARTY  
FOR LAKE GRANBURY AND THE DeCORDOVA BEND DAM WITH LOCAL POSTER CONTEST**

Granbury, TX – March 3, 2020 – On May 2, the Brazos River Authority will celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the completion of Lake Granbury and the DeCordova Bend Dam with a 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, old-fashioned picnic in the park highlighted by the organization's 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Water Safety Awareness Day. Scheduled to run from 9 a.m. to 1 pm. at the DeCordova Bend Park, 7710 Rainey Court, the anniversary will include food, fun and freebies, including a free kid's life jacket giveaway.

Included in the festivities will be a kids-only fishing tournament featuring trophy prizes for the largest fish caught each hour. The first 100 entrants in the competition will receive a free fishing pole. There will be an antique boat and car display, tours featuring views of the downstream side of the dam and an estimated 30 other booths featuring local organizations and displays by first responders. There will also be a historic photo presentations of the dam's construction. The BRA will be giving away more than 300 free kids' life jackets, and there will be free hot dogs and birthday cake while supplies last.

Construction on Lake Granbury began in December 1966 with a groundbreaking ceremony at the site of the DeCordova Bend Dam. Construction was completed in late 1969 and a formal dedication attended by hundreds was held during the spring of 1970.

To kick off the anniversary festivities, the Brazos River Authority is holding a *poster art contest* encouraging local artists of all ages to illustrate their views of the lake and the dam with a theme of "50 years in Hood County."

Local artists of all ages are encouraged to enter their artwork in any medium that won't smear using a poster of no more than 18 x 24 inches. Entry categories are by age: Kindergarten – Grades 5, Grades 6 – 8, Grades 9 – 12, and adult. Posters will be judged by a committee of local representatives with trophy prizes awarded at the May 2<sup>nd</sup> event at the lake. Winners will also be offered the opportunity to tour the DeCordova Bend Dam.

Entry forms and contest rules may also be obtained from the Lake Granbury office or via email request at [information@brazos.org](mailto:information@brazos.org). Entries should be sent to or dropped off at the BRA's Lake Granbury Office, 4552 Mambrino Highway, Granbury, Texas 76048. The *deadline for entries is 5 p.m. April 17.*

"We have an exciting event planned to commemorate our 50<sup>th</sup> year in Hood County," said David Collinsworth, general manager/chief executive officer of the Brazos River Authority. "There will be something for everyone at DeCordova Bend Park and we hope that all of Hood County will come out to enjoy the event."

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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 and the Brushy Creek Regional Wastewater System for the City of Round Rock. The BRA also operates wastewater treatment plants for the cities of Clute-Richwood, Sugar Land, and Hutto. The BRA owns and operates 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 River 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.