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The Tarrant Regional Water District (TRWD) has lifted the Stage 1 Water Restrictions, effective Friday, May 4. Due to drought conditions, the restrictions were enacted on Aug. 29, 2011, for all of the TRWD's direct customers and indirect customers. The City of Burleson is an indirect customer.

In a May 3 letter to the affected cities, the TRWD said that recent rains and the resulting runoff have replenished the water supplies. The combined storage capacity in TRWD reservoirs is now above 95 percent.

"We appreciate the public's cooperation in conserving water during the last nine months of restrictions," Burleson City Manager Dale Cheatham said. "As you can see, those conservation methods, coupled with the recent rains, made a difference."

Stage 1 is enacted when the combined storage capacity of the TRWD reservoirs reaches 75 percent. The four reservoirs are Lake Bridgeport, Eagle Mountain Lake, Cedar Creek and Richland-Chambers. The TRWD also gets water from Lake Benbrook. Fort Worth draws water from Lake Worth.

The TRWD said that many water utilities across the Metroplex are pursuing the adoption of a permanent twice per week watering schedule as a year-round water conservation effort. Under the Stage 1 restrictions, landscape watering was only permitted twice a week. The TRWD encourages that conservation measure, citing that it would help reduce peak demands in the summer and increase the availability of water supplies over the long term. The use of drip irrigation, soaker hoses and hand watering are the most efficient methods of watering. Lawns don't need more than one inch of water every week to two weeks during this season.

Since 2009 the City of Burleson has banned watering with irrigation or sprinkler systems, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., year round. This includes residential and non-residential customers.