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Residents of Burleson will be under Stage 1 water restrictions starting Monday, June 3. This is the second time that the Tarrant Regional Water District (TRWD) has implemented watering restrictions, based on storage capacity, since August 2011. Those restrictions ended May 4, 2012.

The primary focus of Stage 1 water restrictions is to significantly reduce outdoor watering, which can account for as much as 50 percent or more of the daily residential water used during the summer. 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. That restriction is in place because up to 30 percent of the water sprayed on lawns during the heat of the day can be lost to evaporation.

In Burleson, Stage 1 water restrictions means landscape watering is now limited to twice a week.

- Residential addresses that end in even numbers (0, 2, 4, 6, and 8) may water on Wednesday and Saturday;
- Residential addresses that end in odd numbers (1, 3, 5, 7, and 9) may water on Thursday and Sunday;
- Non-residential addresses (apartments, businesses, parks, medians, etc.) may water on Tuesday and Friday;
- There is no landscape watering on Monday.

Stage 1 water restrictions also mean:

- No hosing of paved areas (i.e. sidewalks, driveways, parking lots, tennis courts, patios, or other impervious surfaces) except to alleviate an immediate health/safety hazard;
- No hosing of buildings or structures other than for purposes of fire protection or surface preparation prior to painting;
- Vehicle washing limited to hand-held bucket or hose with positive-pressure shutoff nozzle for quick rinses. Commercial car washes are exempted from this requirement and may continue to operate within normal procedures.

Users are advised to not allow runoff or other water waste, for example:

- Failure to repair a controllable leak, including a broken sprinkler head, leaking valve, leaking or broken pipes or a leaking faucet;

- Operating a permanently installed irrigation system with a broken head, a head that is out of adjustment and the arc of the spray head is over the street or parking lot, or a head that is misting because of high water pressure;
- During irrigation, allowing water to run off a property and form a stream of water in a street for a distance of 50 feet or greater, or to pond in a street or parking lot to a depth greater than one-quarter of an inch;
- Reducing the frequency of draining and filling swimming pools;
- And, encouraging hotels and restaurants to only serve water upon request.

Allowed uses during Stage 1 water restrictions include:

- Foundations may be watered up to two hours on any day by handheld hose or using a soaker hose or drip system placed within 24 inches of the foundation that does not produce a spray of water above the ground;
- Newly installed shrubs (first year) and trees (two years) may be watered up to two hours on any day by handheld hose, drip irrigation, a soaker hose or tree bubbler;
- If new hydro mulch, grass sod, or grass seed is installed there are no watering restrictions for the first 30 days while it is being established (after that, the Stage 1 water restrictions apply).

The TRWD serves 1.8 million people in 11 North Texas counties. The TRWD's reservoirs include Lake Bridgeport, Eagle Mountain Lake, Cedar Creek and Richland-Chambers. The TRWD also gets water from Lake Benbrook and Fort Worth (Burleson buys its water from the City of Fort Worth) draws water from Lake Worth.

The TRWD said this is the fourth driest spring on record. The rainfall for the year is only 75 percent of normal. The TRWD reservoirs would need six-nine inches to get back to normal going into summer.

The TRWD's customers include Aledo, Bethesda Water Supply Corporation, Burleson, Crowley, Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport, Dalworthington Gardens, Edgecliff Village, Everman, Forest Hill, Grand Prairie, Haltom City, Haslet, Hurst, Keller, Kennedale, Lake Worth, Northlake, North Richland Hills, Richland Hills, Roanoke, Saginaw, Southlake, Trophy Club Municipal Utility District, Westlake, Westover Hills, Westworth Village and White Settlement.

To see the City of Burleson's Drought Contingency Plan, go to <http://tinyurl.com/ghynbd5>. For more information call the Municipal Service Center, 817-426-9830, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday.