



PRESS RELEASE — March 18, 2014

Communications: 972-624-3156

Austin Ranch East continues Phase 3 Drought Contingency Plan

THE COLONY, Texas — The City of The Colony partners with many of our neighboring communities in a regional water conservation alliance. The alliance was established to protect our natural resources during extreme drought periods.

Drought Contingency Plans specify the criteria and procedures for declaring a water emergency and implementing drought or emergency response phases in accordance with the Texas Administrative Code and the city's contracts with its water providers.

While much of The Colony's water is bought from Dallas Water Utilities or produced inside the city limits, the City of Plano supplies treated water to the Austin Ranch portion of The Colony, which lies south of State Highway 121 and east of the MKT Railroad line to the eastern city limits. This area is commonly referred to as "The Colony/Austin Ranch East," and residents within that area are subject to the Drought Contingency Plan in place for the City of Plano and its providers, which is currently Phase 3.

For Phase 3, drought contingency measures include all of Phase 2 requirements and the following:

- Outdoor use of water is restricted to Fridays only between the hours of 12 a.m. and 10 a.m. and between 6 p.m. and 11:59 p.m. Outdoor uses consist of washing vehicles, boats, trailers, landscape sprinkler systems and irrigation, recreational use of sprinklers, outside showers (in parks), and water slides. All commercial accounts and accounts servicing more than one address such as office buildings and multifamily complexes shall use the street number indicated on the service building. This restriction applies to all facilities including recreation fields, parks, schools, and the city. Irrigation of city parks, athletic complexes and facilities will be allowed Monday through Friday from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. Foundations may be watered for a two-hour period with soaker or hand-held hose equipped with a positive shutoff nozzle on the watering schedule.
- Washing of any motor vehicle, motorbike, boat, trailer, airplane or other vehicle not occurring on the premises of a commercial car wash or commercial service station and not in the immediate interest of public health, safety, and welfare is prohibited. Further, such authorized vehicle washing shall be only between the hours of 6 a.m. and 10 a.m. and between 6 p.m. and 10 p.m.

- Commercial uses not listed and industrial uses will be controlled to the extent dictated by the city manager.
- Restrict operation of ornamental fountains or ponds to initial filling except when equipped with a recirculation system.
- Recreational water use including uses of faucets, hoses or hydrants is prohibited.
- Wet street sweeping and city vehicle washing or rinsing is prohibited except in the interest of public health, safety, and welfare.

For more information on the city's drought contingency plans, contact Water Production Supervisor Jimmy Arthur at 972-624-3701.

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