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# News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Water restrictions to be lifted on May 1 in Murphy *City to return to twice-a-week watering, only if necessary*

MURPHY (April 23, 2015) Starting on May 1, Murphy's water supplier will lift all restrictions on outdoor watering, and return to a more relaxed twice-per-week schedule, says Candy McQuiston, Customer Service Manager.

"The recent rainfall and subsequent runoff which feed into the North Texas Municipal Water District's reservoirs have had a very positive impact on the levels," she said. "But just as impactful has been the conservation efforts of residents in Murphy and throughout the region. It's been a difficult three to five years, and while the drought is still officially upon us, we are seeing a little relief."

Starting on May 1, the Stage 3 Seasonal restrictions that have limited watering to twice a month are being lifted, and watering with automatic sprinkler system may occur up to twice a week, if necessary. During those specific weeks when homeowners decide to use their automatic sprinklers twice, determining the watering days will be left to each individual. However, no watering should occur between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.

"This new development on May 1 does not mean that everyone should immediately begin twice-a-week watering," added McQuiston. "What it does mean is that in order to maintain a healthy lawn, watering with automatic sprinklers may be utilized up to twice a week. Even then, it should happen only when necessary."

Most lawns and landscaping do not require constant watering. To promote deep root growth, lawns in the area need only be watered about an inch a week. Depending on the size of the lawn, that can usually be accomplished with one soaking a week.

"To get a feel for how much watering is required for one inch of soaking, residents and businesses can place a container in their yard and after one watering session, measure the water in the container," she said. "Then, depending on how much water is in the container, they will know how to adjust their watering schedule."

A reliable method of determining when and how much to water can be obtained by visiting [www.watermyyard.org](http://www.watermyyard.org) and entering some basic information. The Water My Yard program provides users with information useful in determining watering requirements.

Water conservation is still necessary, though. Repairing and readjusting sprinkler heads, fixing leaky faucets and ensuring compliance with schedules, are all still very much a priority, since wasted water cannot be recovered.

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**ABOUT MURPHY** -- Murphy is a fast-growing community located in Collin County. The population is approximately 18,020, generally characterized as highly educated with a median household income above the state average. With more than 70 percent of the land developed, the community is dominated by single-family residences. City planners strive to preserve a country feel while exhibiting an aggressive economic development stance. The centrally-located municipal complex includes four buildings that house Fire, Police, City Administration and Public Works. Money Magazine has dubbed Murphy as the 27<sup>th</sup> Best Place to Live in America for small cities, and D Magazine placed Murphy as the fifth best suburb in the 2014 list, where it has consistently ranked in the top 10.