



City of Murphy
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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Murphy moves to Stage 2 from June 1 to Sept. 30

Conservation still necessary, though most restrictions are lifted

MURPHY (May 25, 2012) As of Friday, June 1 and continuing until the end of September, the City of Murphy will move from Stage 3 to Stage 2 on its water conservation plan, according to Candy McQuiston, Manager of Customer Services.

“The City’s goal of reducing usage by 10 percent is still valid, and we are doing all we can to meet it, but the restrictions associated with Stage 3 will be lifted during the summer and into the fall,” she said.

The highly-anticipated early spring rains and the effectiveness of water conservation measures at the more restrictive level have combined to alleviate the need to continue at the Stage 3 level. There is, however, the lingering issue of reduced water inventory due to the self-imposed prohibition of harvesting water from Lake Texoma due to the presence of invasive zebra mussels, which can cause severe damage to pipes and pumps.

“The fact that Lake Texoma, our largest lake, is still offline makes it a priority to maintain a posture of water conservation, regardless of the announced stage. Water is a non-renewal resource, and the water needs of the growing population of the area can still cause serious strains on the system,” said McQuiston. “Water should never be wasted or used without regard for its finite nature.”

During Stage 2, Murphy residents are asked to limit landscape watering with sprinklers or irrigation systems to no more than twice per week, and then only if needed.

“Healthy lawns need only about one inch of water per week. Residents can use a rain gauge, measuring cup or other method to accurately calculate the amount of water their sprinkler system distribute, and ensure that they do not overwater,” she added.

Significantly, all restrictions on watering days will be removed during this time period, meaning that residents can choose the two best days to water, again, if necessary, without consulting a calendar or timetable.

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Nevertheless, because of the evaporative effects of the sun, **watering is prohibited between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. every day.** However, consumers are allowed to use soaker hoses and drip irrigation systems for up to two hours on any day for foundations and trees.

There are other restrictions that apply during Stage 2, and these can be found at www.murphytx.org or by calling 972-468-4100.

“We want to emphasize that water is still a very precious and limited resource and that using it wisely is always the right thing to do,” concluded McQuiston.

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ABOUT MURPHY -- Murphy is a fast-growing community located in Collin County and bounded by Plano, Richardson, Wylie, Sachse, and Parker. While only about four square miles in size, the population is approximately 18,020. The population is 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. Determined to maintain a country living ambiance, city planners strive to preserve that feel while still 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 27th Best Place to Live in America for small cities.