



Press Release

City of Killeen ■ Public Information Office ■ 254. 501.7751 FAX: 634.2484 ■ P.O. Box 1329 ■ Killeen, TX 76540-1329

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CONTACT: Hilary Shine
Director of Public Information
254-501-7751

KILLEEN WATER CONSERVATION PLAN TAKES EFFECT MAY 1

(KILLEEN, TEXAS): The city's Water Conservation Plan takes effect May 1 through September 30 each year. Because of ongoing low water levels at Belton Lake, Killeen entered Stage 1 February 18 and will remain in Stage 1, voluntary conservation.

Stage 1 of the Water Conservation Plan, public education and voluntary conservation, imposes no restrictions, but it implores residents to begin conserving voluntarily.

"It is more important now than ever for each of us to take daily steps to reduce our water consumption," says Hilary Shine, the city's public information director. "By voluntarily limiting our water use and learning more about our conservation plan, we can help preserve our water supply."

The city offers the following tips to reduce daily water usage:

- Repair leaky faucets, fixtures, and pipes
 - Turn water off while washing dishes, brushing teeth, or shaving
 - Use garbage disposal sparingly, compost vegetable scraps and yard waste instead
 - Scrape dishes instead of rinsing before placing them in the dishwasher
 - Rinse produce in a pan of water then reuse remaining water on household plants
 - Keep a container of water in the refrigerator instead of running water until it is cold
 - Check toilets for leaks by adding food coloring to the tank; if color appears in the bowl, you have a leak
 - Never use the toilet to dispose of trash
 - Take showers instead of baths
 - Install low-flow shower heads
 - Reduce shower time or install a cutoff valve
 - Wash only full loads of laundry when possible, or use the lowest water level setting for light or partial loads
 - Use cold water for laundry as often as possible to save energy
 - Use sprinklers that produce large drops of water instead of mist
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- Set sprinkler systems to water 1 inch every 5 days
- Adjust sprinkler heads that are spraying sidewalks, driveways, or streets
- Use drip irrigation for flower beds, shrubs and trees
- Condition soil with mulch or compost to retain moisture
- Set lawnmower on higher setting; taller grass retains more moisture
- Use a bucket of water to wash vehicles and only turn on hose for rinsing
- Do not water driveways, streets or sidewalks

Killeen City Council adopted a water conservation plan in 1998. The plan is in effect from May 1 to September 30 each year.

More information about the water conservation plan is available on the city's website, www.killeentexas.gov/wcp.

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