

## ***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

### **City of Texas City Enacts Stage 2 Water Restrictions**

(City of Texas City, TX) August 11, 2011 – The City of Texas City is now implementing **mandatory** water restrictions in accordance with the City’s Water Conservation and Drought Contingency Plan. Due to extreme drought conditions, which are predicted to continue for the foreseeable future, many municipalities that draw water from the Brazos River Basin are requiring restrictions for all outdoor watering so that adequate quantities of drinking water can be maintained. These restrictions will continue until further notice. Violating water use restrictions could result in fines and penalties.

The City of Texas City has instituted the following Stage 2 water restrictions:

- Irrigation of landscaped areas with hose-end sprinklers or automatic irrigation systems shall be limited to Tuesdays and Thursdays for customers with a street address ending in an even number (0, 2, 4, 6 or 8), and Monday and Wednesdays for water customers with a street address ending in an odd number (1, 3, 5, 7 or 9). Irrigation of landscaped areas is further limited to the hours of 8:00 p.m. until 4:00 a.m. on designated watering days. However, irrigation of landscaped areas is permitted at anytime if it is by means of a hand-held hose, a faucet filled bucket or watering can of five (5) gallons or less, or drip irrigation system.
- Use of water to wash any motor vehicle, motorbike, boat, trailer, airplane or other vehicle is prohibited except on designated watering days between the hours of 8:00 p.m. and 12:00 midnight. Such washing, when allowed, shall be done with a hand-held bucket or a hand-held hose equipped with a positive shutoff nozzle for quick rises. Vehicle washing may be done at any time on the immediate premises of a commercial car wash or commercial service station. Further, such washing may be exempted from these regulations if, as determined by the Director of Utilities, the health, safety, and welfare of the public is contingent upon frequent vehicle cleansing, such as garbage trucks and vehicles used to transport food and perishables.
- Use of water to fill, refill, or add to any indoor or outdoor swimming pools, wading pools, or Jacuzzi-type pools is prohibited except on designated watering days between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 4:00 a.m.
- Operation of any ornamental fountain or pond for aesthetic or scenic purposes is prohibited except where necessary to support aquatic life or where such fountains or ponds are equipped with a recirculation system, with auto fill valves closed.

- Use of water from hydrants shall be limited to fire fighting, related activities, or other activities necessary to maintain public health, safety, and welfare, except that use of water from designated fire hydrants for construction purposes may be allowed under special permit from the Director of Utilities or designee.
- Use of water for the irrigation of golf course greens, tees, and fairways is prohibited except on designated watering days between the hours 10:00 p.m. and 4:00 a.m. However, if the golf course utilizes a water source other than that provided by the City of Texas City or the GCWA, the facility shall not be subject to these regulations.
- All restaurants are prohibited from serving water to patrons except upon request of the patron.
- The following uses of water are defined as non-essential and are prohibited:
  1. wash down of any sidewalks, walkways, driveways, parking lots, tennis courts, or other hard-surfaced areas;
  2. use of water to wash down buildings or structures for purposes other than immediate fire protection;
  3. use of water for dust control;
  4. flushing gutters or permitting water to run or accumulate in any gutter or street; and
  5. failure to repair a controllable leak(s) within a reasonable period after having been given notice directing the repair of such leak(s).

**Report Water Leaks and Violations:**

To report water leaks or violations please call the Utilities Department, Monday – Friday, 8 AM – 5PM at 409-643-5860. For water leaks after 5PM on weekdays, as well as on weekends, please call 409-682-6846. To report violations after 5PM on weekdays, as well as on weekends, please call the Texas City Police Department’s non-emergency number at 409-643-5760.

**Irrigation Meter Shut Off Offered Free of Charge:**

The City is offering to shut off irrigation meters free of charge upon request. The City is offering to help absentee homeowners comply with the mandatory water use restrictions. Any homeowner that contracts with an irrigation service should first contact the company for assistance. To request a shut off please call the Utilities Department, Monday – Friday, 8AM – 5PM, at 409-643-5860. To request assistance afterhours or on the weekend please call the Utilities Department on-call number at 409-682-6846.