

TRINITY GLEN ROSE GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
DROUGHT AND CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

ADOPTED NOVEMBER 16, 2023  
EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 14, 2023

**I. Purpose**

The Trinity Glen Rose Groundwater Conservation District (the District) adopts this plan for the purpose to conserve, preserve, protect, and recharge the groundwater resources of the District, and to prevent waste and degradation of quality of those groundwater resources.

**II. Applicability**

Provisions of this plan apply to all District wells and all persons or organizations, public or private, owning or operating wells within the District, regardless of purpose of use, size, capacity, date drilled, ownership, or the exempt or non-exempt status of a well.

**III. Enforcement**

This Drought and Conservation Management Plan will rely primarily on voluntary compliance, except where otherwise noted for Desired Future Conditions in Chapter 16 of the District Rules for permitted wells. The District encourages the voluntary reduction measures outlined in this plan to achieve a desired level of conservation and reduced impact to the Trinity Aquifer. **However, this section does not exclude the District from exercising authority of its civil penalties in the District's Rules and § 36.102 of the Texas Water Code regarding wasteful use of water.**

**IV. Public Water Supply Entities**

The District recognizes that Public Water Supply Entities develop and utilize drought contingency plans that accomplish groundwater resource conservation. The District will support and provide assistance when requested from the Public Water Supply Entity, using groundwater, to implement their plans and use their discretion as to how much desired reduction is to be accomplished during a drought. The District asks to be notified by each Public Water Supply Entity in the event that a drought stage has been triggered or canceled.

**V. Initiation and Determination of Drought Stages**

The various drought stages will be initiated by the District's Board of Directors (the Board) or the Board's designee, utilizing but not limited to any of the following.

- 1) The Palmer Hydrological Drought Index (PHDI). (see following information on PHDI).
- 2) The District's various monitor wells may be utilized to determine aquifer level fluctuations and declines.
- 3) Public Water Systems declaration of drought stages.

The drought stage in effect may be reduced or terminated when the PHDI is greater than the trigger conditions of the drought stage in effect. Public notification of the initiation or termination of drought stages may be provided by means of press release, website updates, articles, public meetings and mailings.

PHDI is developed by NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) and available at: <https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/access/monitoring/historical-palmers/>

The PHDI is a long-range, cumulative drought index that measures the long-term hydrological drought conditions based on the local climate, current and past weather trends, and is an accurate representation

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of the groundwater and other hydrological conditions. The PHDI reflects impacts of drought for hydrologic parameters (groundwater levels, reservoir levels, streamflow, soil moisture, etc.). The PHDI responds slowly to changing conditions and is used to assess long-term cumulative moisture supply. PHDI values are calculated with an algorithm that incorporates many hydrological values and will generally range from -6 to +6, where negative values denote dry spells, and positive values denote wet spells.

The drought stages of this plan will coincide with the various stages of drought in the PHDI which are as follows:

**Mid-Range or Near Normal PHDI from -1.99 to +1.99**

**Moderate Drought PHDI from -2.00 to -2.99**

**Severe Drought PHDI from -3.00 to -3.99**

**Extreme Drought PHDI from -4.00 and below**

## **VI. Drought Stages**

### **A. Year-Round Conservation**

**PHDI is above -1.99 (considered Mid-Range or Near Normal)**

This stage is what most people would consider normal seasonal climate conditions for the area. Year-round watering rules are in effect when no drought conditions are active.

The District strongly encourages homeowners, home owner associations, homebuilders and/or developers, exempt or non-exempt well users to incorporate the conservation practices as outlined in the City of San Antonio's Code of Ordinances, Chapter 34, Article IV, Conservation and Reuse. Specifically, the incorporation of the following best management practices:

1. Rain Sensors - rain sensors should be installed and maintained on all irrigation systems equipped with automatic irrigation controls and inspected annually.
2. Xeriscape Option - Homebuilders and/or developers subdividing lots and/or constructing new single family residential homes should offer a xeriscape option in any series of landscaping options offered to prospective home buyers.
3. Rainwater Harvesting Systems - Homebuilders, developers, Homeowner Associations, and homeowners should consider the installation of rain harvesting systems. Rain harvesting systems can reduce reliance on common water supplies with a low-cost investment.
4. Improve the quality of home irrigation systems - Homeowners, Homeowner Associations, homebuilders, and developers should consider installing or replacing irrigation systems with an efficient system. This can lessen the strain on groundwater resources.

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5. **Water Waste** is prohibited at all times. Allowing groundwater to run off into a ditch, or drain, failing to repair a controllable leak, including lawn watering overspray and runoff is considered waste.
6. Limit aesthetic water use and take inventory of non-essential water use.
7. Using groundwater for washing impervious cover such as parking lots, driveways, streets or sidewalks is discouraged and should be done responsibly to avoid runoff/waste.
8. The use of commercial vehicle wash facilities that recycle water is encouraged.
9. Handheld watering with groundwater using a hand-held hose or bucket is encouraged any time and any day.
10. Landscape watering with groundwater using an irrigation system/sprinkler, drip irrigation, or soaker hose may be used any day of the week before 11 a.m. or after 7 p.m.

**B. Stage 1- Moderate Drought**

**Triggers Considered:**

1. **PHDI from -2.00 to -2.99; and/or**
2. **the majority of public water suppliers within the District have initiated stage 1 of their drought plans;**

**Conservation Measures**

Year-round conservation measures remain in effect unless added or replaced by Stage 1 conservation measures.

1. Water use reduction goal of 5%.
2. Watering with an irrigation system/sprinkler, or soaker hose should be limited to only once a week before 11 a.m. or after 7 p.m. on your designated watering day as determined by your address below, watering days begin and end at midnight:

Last Digit of Address	Watering Day
0 or 1	Monday
2 or 3	Tuesday
4 or 5	Wednesday
6 or 7	Thursday
8 or 9	Friday
No watering on weekends	

**Areas without a street address, such as medians and neighborhood entryways, water on Wednesday.**

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3. Swimming pools should have a minimum of twenty-five percent (25%) of the surface area covered with evaporation screens when not in use. Inflatable pool toys or floating decorations may be used.
4. Residential car washing should occur only once a week on Saturday or Sunday as long as there is no water waste.

**C. Stage 2 - Severe Drought**

**Triggers considered:**

1. **PHDI from -3.00 to -3.99**
2. **the majority of public water suppliers within the District have initiated stage 2 of their drought plans; and/or**
3. **aquifer level declines have been continuously observed.**

**Conservation Measures**

Year-round conservation and Stage 1 measures remain in effect unless added or replaced by Stage 2 conservation measures.

1. Water use reduction goal of 10%.
2. Aesthetic fountains are discouraged, unless an alternative source of water other than groundwater is used.
3. Landscape watering with an irrigation system/sprinkler, or soaker hose is allowed only once a week from 7-11 a.m. and 7-11 p.m. on your designated watering day, as determined by your address.
4. Watering with drip or a 5-gallon bucket is permitted any day, but only between 7-11 a.m. and 7-11 p.m.
5. Operators of golf courses, athletic fields, and parks are encouraged to reduce watering, to eliminate irrigation between 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. and provide for irrigation of landscape areas not directly “in play” once per week.

**D. Stage 3 - Critical Drought**

**Triggers considered:**

1. **PHDI from -4.00 to -4.99**
2. **the majority of public water suppliers within the District have initiated stage 3 of their drought plans; and/or**
3. **aquifer level declines have been continuously observed.**

**Conservation Measures**

Year-round conservation, Stage 1 and Stage 2 remain in effect unless added or replaced by Stage 3 conservation measures.

1. Water use reduction goal of 15%.
2. Landascape watering should occur **every other week** with an irrigation system/sprinkler, or soaker hose from 7-11 a.m. and 7-11 p.m. on your designated watering day, as determined by your address.

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3. Watering with drip irrigation is allowed every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, but only from 7-11 a.m. and 7-11 p.m.
4. Installing newly planted landscapes is discouraged.