Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority
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GBRA Initiates Stage II Drought Measures on Hydroelectric Lakes

For more information
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SEGUIN, TX — Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority (GBRA) officials on Wednesday announced Stage II restrictions for its Hydroelectric Lakes to go into effect immediately. Restrictions will affect lawn watering, outdoor fountain use, vehicle washing and other areas.

According to the river authority's Drought Contingency Plan, Stage II applies on any day following a day when the average 24-hour spring flow rate from the Comal Springs, when measured at the Comal River, is at or below 200 cubic feet per second (cfs), but greater than 150 cfs. As of Wednesday, June 8, 2011, Comal Springs flow rate was 184 cfs, thus triggering Stage II restrictions.

Critical period stages apply to any diverter of water other than contracted stored water that diverts and uses water from any of the GBRA Hydroelectric Lakes ? **Lake Dunlap** (Comal and Guadalupe counties, **Lake McQueeney** (Guadalupe County), **Lake Placid** (Guadalupe County), **Lake Nolte** (Guadalupe County), H4 or **Lake Gonzales** and H5 or **Lake Wood** (both in Gonzales County).

With Stage II in effect, the following restrictions on the Hydro Lakes will apply:

All of the prohibitions applicable in Stage I apply in Stage II, except to the extent replaced by more restrictive conditions imposed by this stage.
Landscape watering is prohibited between 9 a.m. and 7 p.m., and is further restricted such that properties with an odd-numbered address may landscape water only on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, and properties with an even-numbered address may landscape water only on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. However, landscape watering by means of a bucket or hand-held or soaker hose, or a properly installed drip irrigation system is permitted at any time. This subsection does not apply to reclaimed, recycled or reuse water.
No person may use water for an ornamental outdoor fountain or similar feature, unless the water is recycled and the only additional water used is to compensate for evaporative losses.
No person may wash a vehicle at other than a commercial vehicle wash facility except over a pervious surface area, during the above designated watering days and times with a hand-hose with automatic shut-off nozzle or using a bucket.
The penalty for wasting water or any violation of Stage II restrictions as determined by the GBRA general manager, or his designee, is $100 per day per violation.

Restrictions from Stage I already prohibited wasting water from irrigation or vehicle washing, and required the use of covers for swimming pools to prevent evaporation when not in use.

"During these times of drought, it is prudent for all of us to try to be good stewards and conserve our water resources," Bill West, GBRA general manager said.

Restrictions of a drought contingency Stage may be terminated when the condition listed as the triggering event for such Stage has ceased to exist for a period of 30 consecutive days. Upon termination of the restrictions of the applicable Stage, the restrictions of the prior Stage become operative.

GBRA's Drought Contingency Plan is available to read online at the following link:

http://www.gbra.org/documents/conservation/GBRADroughtContingencyPlan.pdf

The GBRA was established by the Texas Legislature in 1933 as a water conservation and reclamation district. GBRA provides

stewardship for the water resources in its 10-county statutory district, which begins near the headwaters of the Guadalupe and Blanco rivers, ends at San Antonio Bay, and includes Kendall, Comal, Hays, Caldwell, Guadalupe, Gonzales, DeWitt, Victoria, Calhoun, and Refugio counties.

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