

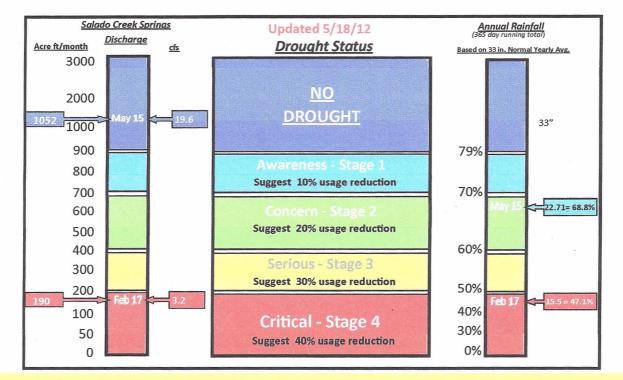
## <u>Edwards BFZ Aquifer - Drought Status Report</u>

## Serious - STAGE 3

"Clearwater Underground Water Conservation District has continued their very cautious position on moving from the current Stage 3 Drought Declaration made last month," says Dirk Aaron, General Manager. Aaron stressed, "The District wants those businesses and utilities that have permitted wells to be supportive of this very conservative position". The permit holders and exempt well owners of wells in the Edwards Aquifer are encouraged to remain actively conserving under the "Serious" Stage 3 Declaration Level.

Aaron stressed, "The Edwards aquifer has responded due to the recent rains and the District's system of watching and recording rainfall averages over the Edwards Aquifer. The Data shows that we are still -10.3 inches behind in the Edwards Recharge Zone based on the 33.33 inches of annual rainfall expected over the previous 365 day running total. Couple these facts to the positive increase in the Salado Spring Flow of 19.6 cfs, meaning 1,052 acre feet." Aaron states, "Conventional wisdom says the District's Staff should be cautiously optimistic but measured."

The Board of Directors, in their monthly meeting (June 19, 2012), will review the General Manager's position on this declaration. Aaron states, "The need for continuing to ask well owners (both permitted and exempt well users) not to utilize this precious resource inappropriately and excessively for landscape purposes is the best way to conserve for a possible repeat of last year's drought. We realize businesses and homeowners have a significant investment in their landscape, and feel a need to protect that investment". "Our position," states Aaron "is to properly protect the Aquifers in accordance with the District's Management Plan and available groundwater data pursuant with Chapter 36 Texas Water Code. We have a job to do and that is to protect water quantity for the future."



Serious - Stage 3 - Suggest 30% usage reduction

- Continue to increase voluntary reduction in various uses.
- Check for and correct all plumbing leaks
- Re-use or re-circulate water whenever possible.
- Limit watering of landscape (lawns, trees, shrubs, etc.) to only once every 5-7 days between the hours of 7 p.m. and 7 a.m. Agriculture and horticulture operations are exempted from this measure but are encouraged to reduce tree, plant, and crop watering by 30%.
- Wash vehicles at car wash only as needed.
- No washing of buildings, driveways, streets, patios or other outdoor surfaces except as required for human/animal health and safety needs or fire prevention.
- No filling of ponds, lakes, tanks, reservoirs, swimming pools or other surface impoundments for holding water that have a total capacity of more than 50,000 gallons, except for
  public water supply systems. Public water supply systems are encouraged to implement measures to achieve a 30% reduction in water usage.
- Filling of ponds, lakes, tanks, reservoirs, swimming pools or other surface impoundments for holding water that have a total capacity of less than 50,000 gallons is discouraged.
- Keep swimming pools, landscape or decorative ponds and fountains covered (where possible), re-circulate water, and do not fill except to support aquatic life.
- Water livestock in leak-proof troughs pumping water into ponds is discouraged.
- Water for dust control on when required by law.