

NEWS RELEASE

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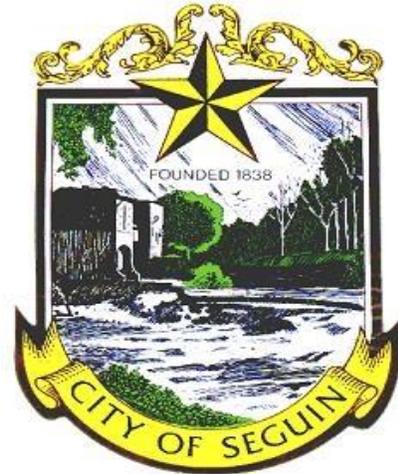
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Drought Contingency and Water Emergency Response Plan Updated ***City of Seguin in Normal/Awareness Water Stage***

SEGUIN, Texas – The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality requires retail public water suppliers with more than 3,300 connections to develop and submit an updated Drought Contingency and Water Emergency Response Plan every five years.

The Drought Contingency and Water Emergency Response Plan is designed to provide procedures for voluntary and mandatory action to be placed into effect to temporarily reduce the demand placed upon the City of Seguin’s water supply system during a water shortage emergency and to promote conservation practices.

“The City of Seguin is fortunate to have diverse water sources that mitigate the impact of drought conditions,” Seguin Assistant City Manager Rick Cortes said. “However, the City recognizes that water is a valuable natural resource and should not be wasted; therefore the City has instituted a permanent year-long watering plan that limits watering.”

Effective May 20, 2014, City Council adopted the 2014 Drought Contingency and Water Emergency Response Plan, which states:

Outdoor watering, with both ground water and surface water systems, between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. is prohibited year-round, except for the use of a handheld hose or handheld watering device or a drip irrigation system, which can be used at any time.

As always, the City encourages residents to voluntarily reduce water consumption. Residents may conserve water in the following ways, as recommended by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality:

1. Water your yard thoroughly, but only as needed—usually no more than 1 inch, once a week.
2. Use drip irrigation for plants and gardens, and water early in the morning to minimize evaporation.
3. Collecting rainwater for landscape use is great for the plants and can save you water and money.
4. Install aerators to cut in half the amount of water used by each faucet.
5. Fix faucet leaks, which can waste up to 3,000 gallons of water a year.
6. Install water-efficient plumbing fixtures to reduce water consumption by 25% to 60% and save energy.
7. Check your toilet by using a leak-detection dye tablet. Leaks can waste up to 200 gallons of water a day.
8. Replace older toilets with water-efficient models and save up to 4,000 gallons of water a year.
9. Washing only full loads of laundry can save an average household more than 3,400 gallons of water each year.
10. Invest in an ENERGY STAR-qualified clothes washer, which typically uses 50% less water and 30% less energy per load.

City of Seguin water customers do not fall under the water restrictions that are being publicized by area cities. The City of Seguin is fortunate to be in its Normal/Awareness Water Stage.

In 1998 the City of Seguin took steps to secure its water supply future with the formation of the Schertz-Seguin Local Government Corporation which has developed a 12 well Carrizo Aquifer ground water supply in Gonzales County to serve the two cities. The City of Seguin also has the second oldest river right on the Guadalupe River for 7,000 acre feet of water.

These water supplies ensure adequate water for the City of Seguin for the next 50 years, insure an excellent supply of water contributing to the quality of life for our citizens, and enable economic development growth in our city at a time when water is a precious commodity across Texas.

Those who have questions regarding water restrictions in the City of Seguin may contact Emery Gallagher, Director of Water/Wastewater Utilities, at 830-386-2540. The City's 2014 Drought Contingency and Water Emergency Response Plan and the 2014 Water Conservation Plan can be accessed on the City's website under the "Water & Wastewater Utilities" tab.

About the City of Seguin

Seguin, Texas is located along Interstate 10, about 35 miles east of San Antonio. Seguin is big enough to boast a top-rated university and a state-of-the-art hospital. More than 25,000 residents enjoy a range of cultural, recreational, and employment opportunities. Seguin's robust diversified economy features a steelmaker, a manufacturer of automotive parts and plants making roadside mowing equipment and building materials. In 2009, Seguin was proud to be selected by Caterpillar as the site of a major new engine manufacturing facility.

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