

Drinking Water Quality Report

Year 2014 Data



New water director takes the helm

Allow me to introduce myself. My name is Carman, and I joined the management team at the Fort Worth Water Department on April 6, 2015. Carman is my last name, but is what I like to be called. While I am still learning about this city and the unique aspects of Fort Worth's utility system, I have spent my adult life in different aspects of the water utility business.

I started my career as a wastewater plant operator with Salt Lake City Public Utilities. While working night shifts, I attended the University of Utah, where I earned a bachelor's and a master's degree in engineering. After 15 years working with for Salt Lake City, I was offered a management role with the Metropolitan Water District of Salt Lake and Sandy, a wholesale provider to the city. I was employed there for 11 years, the last four years as general manager.

After retirement, I worked the next five years with an international engineering firm. My first post was in Salt Lake City, followed by Santa Rosa, Calif., and Chicago, Ill. What I discovered was I enjoyed working on the utility side and became public utilities director for the city of Raleigh, N.C., in 2010.

Having worked in the arid west and the wet east, I realize all water utilities in this country have the same purpose and are facing the same challenges. The



purpose is to protect public health and the environment. The challenges include lower water consumption, lower wastewater volumes, aging infrastructure, higher costs and increasingly stringent regulations.

As our ratepayers and consumers, you are essentially owners of the system and you need to know how these challenges impact you. A significant part of my role is helping our owners understand this. Being informed is critical to helping your utility make sound judgments, and a great way to get started is by reading the information provided in this annual water quality report.

Throughout my career, I have discovered that people who work in the water industry are passionate about their jobs. We

understand the vital role our utility plays in the daily lives of our communities, even though the ratepayers and consumers may take this for granted. Think about it: did you use the water system today?

We want to share our passion with you. I and other employees are willing to come to your neighborhood association or civic group to share our story. Our contact information is in the blue box on the bottom left. Please invite us. We want to meet you.

Fort Worth Water Department

Customer Service: 817-392-4477
Speakers Bureau: 817-392-8206
wpe@FortWorthTexas.gov
www.FortWorthTexas.gov/water
www.SaveFortWorthWater.org
Facebook: Fort Worth Water

Twitter: @FWWater

Administrative Office:

Fort Worth City Hall, 2nd Floor 1000 Throckmorton St. 76102

The Water Department is part of the Fort Worth city government. The City Council meets each Tuesday at City Hall, 1000 Throckmorton St. The meetings are at 7 p.m. Check the calendar online for changes or cancellations.

Information for immunocompromised people

The following information is not meant to alarm or scare you. It is meant to make you aware. The exact wording shown below is required by state regulations.

You may be more vulnerable than the general population to certain microbial contaminants, such as Cryptosporidium, in drinking water. Infants, some elderly or immunocompromised persons, such as those undergoing chemotherapy for cancer, those who have undergone organ transplants, those who are undergoing treatment with steroids and people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders can be particularly at risk from infections.

You should seek advice about drinking

water from your physician or health care provider.

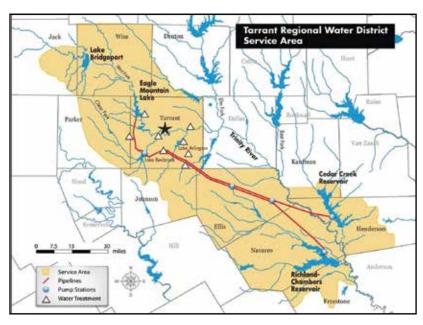
Additional guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium are available from the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Microorganisms not detected

Tarrant Regional Water District monitors the raw water at all intake sites for *Cryptosporidium*, *Giardia Lamblia* and viruses. The source is human and animal fecal waste in the watershed.

Viruses, *Cryptosporidium* and *Giardia Lamblia*, microbial parasites common in surface water, were not detected in any of the 2014 sampling.

Fort Worth relies entirely on surface water



Tarrant Regional Water District supplies
Fort Worth with raw water.

Fort Worth uses surface water from Lake Worth, Eagle Mountain Lake, Lake Bridgeport, Richland Chambers Reservoir, Cedar Creek Reservoir, Lake Benbrook and the Clear Fork Trinity River.

Fort Worth owns Lake Worth.
The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is responsible for Benbrook Lake. The other four lakes are owned and operated by Tarrant Regional Water District.

As water travels over the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and radioactive material. Water also can pick up substances resulting from animal waste or human activity.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of these

contaminants does not necessarily indicate the water poses a health risk.

Contaminants that may be in source water before treatment include microbes, inorganic contaminants, pesticides, herbicides, radioactive materials and organic chemical contaminants.

In addition, contaminants found in drinking water may cause taste, color or odor problems. These types of problems are not necessarily cause for health concerns. For more information on taste, odor or color of drinking water, please contact us at 817-392-4477 or wpe@fortworthtexas.gov.

To ensure tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality regulate the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public systems.

TCEQ assesses raw water supplies

Fort Worth uses surface water from Lake Worth, Eagle Mountain Lake, Lake Bridgeport, Richland Chambers Reservoir, Cedar Creek Reservoir, Lake Benbrook and the Clear Fork Trinity River.

Fort Worth owns Lake Worth. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is responsible for Benbrook Lake. The other four lakes are owned and operated by Tarrant Regional Water District.

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality completed an assessment of Fort Worth's source waters. Results indicate that some of the sources are susceptible to certain contaminants based on human activities and natural conditions.

The sampling requirements for the water system are based on this susceptibility and previous sample data. Any detection of these contaminants may be found in this report.

Tarrant Regional Water District, from which Fort Worth purchases its water, received the assessment reports.

For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, contact Stacy Walters at 817-392-8203.

For more information about Fort Worth's sources of water, please refer to the Source Water Assessment Viewer available at the following URL: http://www.tceq.texas.gov/gis/swaview.

Further details about sources and source-water assessments are available in Drinking Water Watch at the following URL:

http://dww.tceq.state.tx.us/DWW.

Drinking water quality test results

Contaminant Mea	asure	MCL		2014 Highest singl			monthly % of es ≤ 0.3 NTU	MCLG		Common Sources of Substance
Turbidity ¹ N	ITU	TT		0.29			100%	N/A		runoff (Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of water. It is monitored ause it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of the filtration system.
Contaminant		Measure		MCL	2014	Level	Range	MCLG		Common Sources of Substance
Total Coliforms (includi fecal coliform & E. coli)	_	% positive samples		resence in 5% or l of monthly sampl		ce in 1.4% nly samples	0 to 1.4%	0		liforms are naturally present in the environment as well as feces; fecal liforms and E. coli only come from human and animal fecal waste.
Contaminant	M	easure	MCL	2014 Level	Range	MCLG				Common Sources of Substance
Gross Beta particles & photon emitters ²		pCi/L	50	5.6	4 to 5.6	N/A	Decay of natural arradiation known as			osits of certain minerals that are radioactive and may emit forms of a radiation
Radium 226/228 ²		pCi/L	5	1	1 to 1	0	Erosion of natural	deposits		
Arsenic		ppb	10	1.28	0.97 to 1.28	0	Erosion of natural	deposits; ı	unoff fr	rom orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Atrazine		ppb	3	0.09	0 to 0.10	3	Runoff from herbic	ide used o	n row c	crops
Antimony		ppb	6	0.22	0 to 0.22	6	Discharge from pet	troleum re	fineries,	, fire retardants, ceramics, electronics, solder, test addition
Barium		ppm	2	0.07	0.05 to 0.07	2	Discharge of drillin	ng wastes;	discharg	ge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium (Total)		ppb	100	0.55	0.00 to 0.55	100	Discharge from ste	el and pul	p mills,	erosion of natural deposits
Cyanide		ppb	200	113	0 to 113	200	Discharge from pla	stic and fe	ertilizer	factories; discharge from steel and metal factories
Fluoride		ppm	4	0.62	0.27 to 0.62	4	Water additive white aluminum factories	•	es stron	ng teeth; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and
Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen)		ppm	10	0.82	0.28 to 0.82	10	Runoff from fertili:	zer use; le	aching f	from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrite ³ (measured as Nitrogen)		ppm	1	0.03	0 to 0.03	1	Runoff from fertili	zer use; le	aching f	from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Bromate		ppb	10	8.92	0 to 8.92	0	By-product of drinl	king water	disinfe	ction.
Haloacetic Acids		ppb	60	11.5	0 to 11.5	N/A	By-product of drinl	king water	disinfe	ction
Total Trihalomethanes		ppb	80	26	0 to 26	N/A	By-product of drinl	king water	disinfe	ction
Contaminant		Measure		MRDL	20	14 Level	Range	I	MRDLG	Common Sources of Substance
Chloramines		ppm		4		2.8			4	Water additive used to control microbes
Contaminant		High		Low	А	verage	MCL		MCLG	Common Sources of Substance
Total Organic Carbon ⁴		1		1		1	TT = % rem	oval	N/A	Naturally occurring

It is used to determine disinfection by-product precursors. Fort Worth was in compliance with all monitoring and treatment technique requirements for disinfection by-product precursors.

The tables list only those contaminants detected in Fort Worth's water. For a complete list of what is tested for in drinking water, visit http://water.epa.gov/drink/contaminants/index.cfm#List.

¹ Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of water. It is monitored because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of the filtration system.

² Because of historically low levels of radionuclides in its water, TCEQ has Fort Worth on a reduced monitoring schedule. The test results shown are from 2011 (Radium) or 2014 (Gross Beta).

³ The state last sampled for Nitrite in 2013.

⁴ Total Organic Carbon is used to determine disinfection by-product precursors. Fort Worth was in compliance with all monitoring and treatment technique requirements for disinfection byproduct precursors.

What you should know about lead in drinking water

If present, elevated lead levels can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Fort Worth's drinking water does not have elevated lead levels.

Lead in drinking water is primarily from

Abbreviations used in tables

MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level - the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal - the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

MRDL: Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level - the highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

MRDLG: Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal - the level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

MRL: Minimum Report Level - The lowest concentration of a contaminant that can be measured by a laboratory

NTU - Nephelometric Turbidity Unit; a measure of water turbidity or clarity

pCi/L - Picocuries per liter; a measure of radioactivity

ppb - Parts per billion or micrograms per liter ($\mu g/L$)

ppm - Parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

TT: Treatment Technique - a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water

materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing.

Fort Worth is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components.

When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to two minutes before using the tap water for drinking or cooking.

If you are concerned about lead in your water, the Fort Worth Water Department Laboratory offers testing to our customers. The cost is \$15 per sample. Call 817-392-4477 to make the arrangements.

Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods and steps you can take to minimize your exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791 or at www.epa. gov/safewater/lead.

Contaminant	Year of testing	Measure	90th percentile	# of sites exceeding action level	Action Level	Common Sources of Substance
Lead	2012	ppb	4.5	2	15	Corrosion of household plumbing
Copper	2012	ppm	0.51	0	1.3	systems; erosion of natural deposits

90th Percentile Value: 90 percent of the samples were at or below this value. EPA considers the 90th percentile value the same as an "average" value for other contaminants. Lead and copper are regulated by a treatment technique that requires systems to control the corrosiveness of their water. If more

than 10% of tap water samples exceed the action level, water systems must take additional steps.

Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

Violations Cited in 2014

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality indicates Fort Worth had two violations in 2014, but the utility is contesting the Public Notification Rule violation.

Fort Worth learned of the Total Coliform Rule (TCR) monitoring violation in a TCEQ letter dated Sept. 26 and had 90 days to make the notification. Bills inserts mailed between Nov. 21 and Dec. 22 included an insert explaining the TCR

violation that occurred in July. The information was shared by email with customers opting out of receiving a paper bill.

The issue with the TCR violation is that one sample site was common to two of the repeat sample sets. We took only one sample from the site and TCEQ said two samples should have been taken at the one site. The one sample did test negative, as did all other repeat samples.

Rule	Violation Type	Begin Date	End Date	Explanation
Total Coliform Rule	Monitoring, Repeat Minor	7/12014 7/31/2014		Failed to collect all of the follow -up samples in response to finding total coliform bacteria in a routine sample.
Public Notification Rule	Linked to above violation	11/10/2014	11/21/2014	Failed to adequately notify you about the above violation of the drinking water regulations.

Unregulated Disinfection By-products

Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted.

Contaminant	Measure	Range of Detects	2014 Level	MCL	MCLG	Common Sources of Substance
Chloral Hydrate	ppb	0.26 to 0.49	0.49	Not regulated	None	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Bromoform	ppb	1 to 3.6	3.6	Not regulated	None	By-products of drinking water
Bromodichloromethane	ppb	2.6 to 7.6	7.6		None	disinfection; not regulated
Chloroform	ppb	2.8 to 9	9		70	individually; included in Total
Dibromochloromethane	ppb	2.2 to 6.8	6.8	Not regulated	60	Trihalomethanes on page 3
Monochloroacetic Acid	ppb	0 to 3.5	3.5	Not regulated	70	
Dichloroacetic Acid	ppb	3 to 5.7	5.7	Not regulated	None	By-products of drinking water
Trichloroacetic Acid	ppb	0 to 1.8	1.8	Not regulated	20	disinfection; not regulated individually; included in
Monobromoacetic Acid	ppb	1 to 2	2	Not regulated	None	Haloacetic Acids on page 3
Dibromoacetic Acid	ppb	0 to 3.3	3.3	Not regulated	None	

Secondary Constituents

These items do not relate to public health but rather to the aesthetic effects. These items are often important to industry.

ltem	Measure	2014 Range
Bicarbonate	ppm	81.8 to 126
Calcium	ppm	31.3 to 47.9
Chloride	ppm	19.9 to 27.1
Conductivity	μmhos/cm	306 to 433
pH	units	7.9 to 8.1
Magnesium	ppm	4 to 6.9
Sodium	ppm	18 to 28.1
Sulfate	ppm	23.5 to 36.4
Total Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	ppm	81.8 to 126
Total Dissolved Solids	ppm	171 to 267
Total Hardness as CaCO ₃	ppm	104 to 125
Total Hardness in Grains	grains/gallon	6 to 7

Water treatment process protects public health

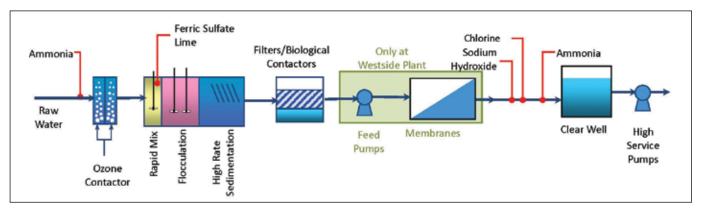
A multi-barrier approach is used in treating drinking water. The treatment process may vary between utilities based on source water quality.

In Fort Worth, the process starts with adding ozone to kill bacteria and viruses. Adding ammonia prior to ozonation decreases bromate formation.

Chemicals, called coagulants and polymers, are added to the water to cause small particles to adhere to each other, forming clumps. This process is called flocculation. In the sedimentation basins,

the particles, called floc, settle to the bottom of the basin and are removed. A small amount of fluoride is added to the amount naturally present for dental health.

Water is filtered through four feet of biologically active charcoal filters. At the Westside Water Treatment Plant, the water then passes through



 $membrane\ filters.\ See\ Page\ 6\ for\ more\ information\ on\ the\ Westside\ plant.$

Monochloramine is added to provide disinfection all the way to your faucet. The chlorine kills bacteria and viruses. Ammonia is added to reduce the chlorine odor and the amount of chlorine byproducts created.

Water is temporarily stored in tanks, called clearwells, before it is pumped to the public.

Data gathering to determine if more regulation needed

Water utilities in the United States monitor for more than 100 contaminants and must meet 91 regulations for water safety and quality.

But should other contaminants be regulated? The 1996 Safe Drinking Water Act amendments require that once every five years EPA issue a new list of no more than 30 unregulated contaminants to be monitored by public water systems. This monitoring provides a basis for future regulatory actions to protect public health.

The first Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 1) was published on Sept. 17, 1999, the second (UCMR 2) was published on Jan. 4, 2007 and the third (UCMR 3) was published on May 2, 2012. Fort Worth did not detect any of the contaminants in the UCMR 1 and UCMR 2 testing.

The third unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule includes assessment for 21 chemical contaminants. 7 hormones and two viruses. The virus testing did not impact Fort Worth. This testing was limited to small groundwater systems that do not disinfect.

UCMR benefits the environment and public health by providing EPA and other interested parties with scientifically valid data on the occurrence of these contaminants in drinking water. Health information is necessary to know whether these contaminants pose a health risk.

Public water systems will sample for these contaminants for four consecutive quarters from 2013 to 2015. Fort Worth's sampling occurred from June 2013 through March 2014. The results shown are for the final quarter of sampling. The first three quarter's results appeared in last year's annual report of the 2013 water quality.

Additional Information:

water.epa.gov/lawsregs/rulesregs/sdwa/ucmr/ucmr3/index.cfm

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Fort Worth's testing detected only four of the 21 chemical contaminants and none of the seven hormones.

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Contaminant	Measure	Range of Detects	2014 Level	MRL	Common Sources of Substance		
Vanadium	ppb	0.62 to 0.86	0.86	0.2	Naturally-occurring elemental metal; used as vanadium pentoxide which is a chemical intermediate and a catalyst		
Molybdenum	ppb	1.4 to 2.1	2.1	1	Naturally-occurring element found in ores and present in plants, animals and bacterial; commonly used form molybdenum trioxide used as a chemical reagent		
Strontium	ppb	260 to 290	290	0.3	Naturally-occurring element; historically, commercial use of strontium has been in the faceplate class of cathode-ray tube televisions to block x-ray emissions		
Chromium ¹	ppb	not dete	ected	0.2	Naturally-occurring element; used in making steel		
Chromium-6	ppb	0 to 0.068	0.068	0.03	and other alloys; chromium-3 or-6 forms are used for chrome plating, dyes and pigments, leather tanning, and wood preservation		
Chlorate	ppb	0 to 170	170	20	Agricultural defoliant or desiccant; disinfection byproduct; and used in production of chlorine dioxide		

¹ Total Chromium, the sum of chromium in all its valence states, is already regulated in drinking water. As part of UCMR 3, EPA requires testing for Total Chromium in the same samples used to test for Chromium 6, which is on the UCMR 3 list. The value differs from what is listed in the other table because of different sampling periods. The MCL for EPA's current total chromium regulation was determined based upon the health effects of Chromium 6.

UCMR 3 contaminants not detected

Chemicals

1,2,3-trichloropropane

1,3-butadiene

chloromethane (methyl chloride)

1.1-dichloroethane

bromomethane

chlorodifluoromethane (HCFC-22)

Bromochloromethane (Halon 1011)

1,4-dioxane

cobalt

perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS)

perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)

perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA)

perfluorohexanesulfonic acid (PFHxS) perfluoroheptanoic acid (PFHpA) perfluorobutanesulfonic acid (PFBS)

Hormones

17-ß-estradiol

17-α-ethynylestradiol

estriol equilin

estrone

testosterone

4-androstene-3,17-dione

Plant smart with Texas SmartScape

Summer is here and it's time to think about how to drought proof your landscape. The past drought had a major impact on our plants — stressed and dying plants could be seen in much of Texas.

As a result, several area cities, including Fort Worth, and participating retailers came together last year to increase the accessibility of lowwater-use plants that thrive in Texas heat. This partnership created the Texas SmartScapeTM Plant Fair.

The fairs are an opportunity to get great deals on select varieties of native and adapted drought-tolerant plants. Knowledgeable master gardeners, plant experts and irrigation specialists are all on hand to answer questions. Events also include "kidfriendly" activities, with special hands-on gardening workshops for children ages 5-12.

The Fort Worth Water Department stepped forth and also created a plant emagazine, showcasing the beauty and variety of just a few of the SmartScapeTM plants.

"Last year we had 10 events in nine cities," says Water Conservation Specialist Stephanie Zavala, who leads the regional



program. This year there are 29 events planned across 23 cities in the region. All plant fairs take place from 8 a.m. to noon, now and through September. For a list of the remaining plant fairs across the Metroplex, visit www. txsmartscape.com.

To learn more about the plants that are available during the

plant fairs please check out the emagazine at www.saveFortWorthwater.org.

Programs focus on water loss

Water loss control represents the efforts of water utilities to provide accountability in their operation by reliably auditing their water supplies and implementing controls to minimize system losses.

Water loss control programs can potentially defer, reduce, or eliminate the need for a facility to expend resources on costly repairs, upgrades, or expansions.

Many variables influence water loss, including meter inaccuracy, data discrepancies, reported breaks and leaks unauthorized consumption and unreported losses.

Fort Worth's Water Conservation Plan addresses water loss and has goals for lowering this over time. In the water loss audit submitted to the Texas Water Development Board for calendar year 2014, the Fort Worth system lost an estimated 8,738,310,385 gallons of water from the 67,427,240,000 gallons of water purchased. Fort Worth has an Infrastructure Leakage Index of five, which means, theoretically, the leakage could be reduced five times before reaching the lowest possible value.

The city will continue to use its state-of-theart technologies that use acoustic leak-noise detectors to target and locate suspected leaks. Its leak detection program continuously monitors almost 230,000 linear feet of pipe in critical areas, as well as surveying over 2.5 million linear feet annually.

Customers are encouraged to report visual leakage by calling 817-392-4477.

If you have any questions about the water loss audit, please contact Water Conservation Manager Micah Reed at 817-392-8211.

Free Seminars

If after selecting and purchasing plants you still need help, the Fort Worth Water Department — in partnership with Texas AgriLife Extension Service — hosts free, monthly seminars highlighting the "how to" of water-saving landscapes.

Learn how to keep plants healthy all through the summer and during local watering restrictions or how to perform irrigation checkups or make minor repairs and adjustments to your watering system.

Seminar topics include lawn maintenance, shade gardening, sprinkler system quick fixes, native and adaptive plants, trees for North Texas, and rain gardening, amongst others.

For a complete list of seminars and dates, please visit www.FortWorthTexas.gov/water and click on "Water Seminars and Events." To speak with a representative, please call 817-392-6565.

Twice per week watering always in effect

MONDAY No watering with sprinklers or irrigation systems TUESDAY & FRIDAY Non-residential sites (apartments, businesses, parks, common areas) WEDNESDAY & SATURDAY Residential addresses ending in 0, 2, 4, 6, 8 THURSDAY & SUNDAY Residential addresses ending in 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 Questions? Call 817-392-4477 or visit us online at: FortWorthTexas.Gov/Water | SaveFortWorthWater.Org

There is no watering with irrigation systems or sprinklers between 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Remember, although there are two allowable days to water, you don't have to water if your landscape does not need it.

Even though Stage 1 drought measures ended on May 18, outdoor watering requirements for Fort Worth Water customers do not change.

The same watering schedule remains in effect. In April 2014, the Fort Worth City Council adopted maximum twice per week watering as a year round conservation measure.

In addition, the prohibition, adopted in 2007, on watering any day between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.

remains in effect.

Year-round watering requirements which remain in effect include:

- Watering with a soaker hose, drip irrigation or with a hand-held hose is allowed any time of the day.
- No watering with irrigation systems or sprinklers between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. on any day;
 - No watering hard surfaces;
 - No watering during precipitation; and
- No water waste through missing, misaligned or broken sprinkler heads.
- Water may not run off a lawn or yard and onto the street. Supervised testing, repair or maintenance of an irrigation system is an exception.

While the city ordinance allows for enforcement through locking out backflow devices or issuing citations, the department works first to achieve compliance through education and cooperation. This approach has resulted in positive results through the years.

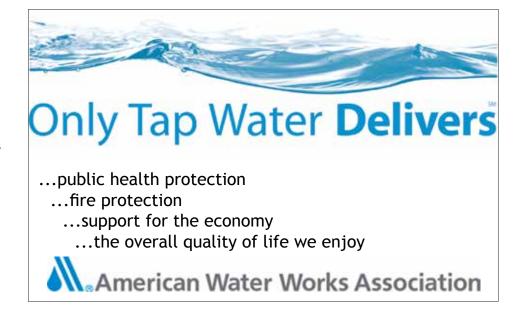
There are many free programs customers can take advantage of to be efficient in their water use. These include seminars about plant selection, how to operate the irrigation system and make simple repairs, and how to install drip irrigation.

Another free program is an irrigation system checkup. Any homeowner or business can request a free irrigation system checkup by calling 817-392-8740.

More information about the seminars and programs offered, visit the website at www.saveFort Worthwater.org or like the Fort Worth Water page on Facebook.











Residential Landscape Contest

Would a supermodel do all that dieting not to walk the runway? Would a bodybuilder eat all those raw eggs before tiresome workouts, not to compete onstage? Would you get your mani/pedi and your hair done just to sit at home on a Saturday night? Of course not! Then why would you go to a Texas SmartScapeTM plant sale, plant all those beautiful plants, and not try out for EcoScape?

Redesigning your landscape takes time and effort. You not only have done that, but you've also saved water by using Texas SmartScape TM plants. You are a Conservation Superstar. Let's hear you roar.

Registration is June 14 through August 16. Go to www.fortworthtexas.gov/ EcoScape to register and learn more about the contest rules.

Judging Criteria

- Design -Aesthetic appeal, composition, use of color and plant variety.
- Water Conservation -Efficient irrigation/water use, use of non-vegetative materials (fences, walls, walk, etc.), use of native or adaptive plants, reduced turf area and the use of mulches.
- Appropriate Maintenance Tidiness of landscape, proper pruning of plants (as appropriate) and health of plants (disease and pest free).

