

PRESS RELEASE



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No Watering Restrictions for Plano: Voluntary Water Conservation Continues

The drought of 2005 and 2006 has officially been over since July 4, 2007. Normal rainfall has returned to North Texas and Lakes Lavon, Chapman and Texoma (Plano's water sources) are brimming with water. Another hot Texas summer looms just over the horizon and all the signs of a glorious growing season surround us, green grass, tall trees and lush beautiful landscapes. Many have asked "why no watering restrictions in Plano?" The answer is simple – voluntary conservation. Even though watering restrictions are not in place this year, water users in Plano continue to be wise in their use of such a vital resource.

The five year water usage average for Plano is around 22.5 billion gallons per year. In 2007 that number dropped to a little over 19 billion gallons, amounting to a whopping 15% reduction in overall water use. This outstanding effort was achieved even though 6 months of that year were completely water restriction free. As we approach the end of the "water year" (August 1 – July 31) it looks as though Plano will be tracking about the same, around 19 billion gallons.

"Our decision to forgo water use restrictions was influenced by three major factors; The lakes are completely full, the rain has been abundant this year and our community members are continuing to show great civic pride by watching their water consumption" said Lorrie Reeves, Water Education and Services Supervisor. "Our annual water consumption has not been this low since 1999 when our population was significantly smaller than it is today." Kudos to Plano for stepping up to the plate!

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