

Fort Bend County MUD 35 : Severe Drought Notice

Fort Bend County MUD 35 has been placed in the “Stage 3: Severe Drought” stage of its Drought Contingency Plan. In this stage, residents are **mandatorily** asked to reduce water consumption whenever possible. Please try to remain conscious of your water usage while we all proceed through this together. Every drop counts!

- Irrigation of landscaped areas is prohibited.
- Use of water to wash any motor vehicle, motorbike, boat, trailer, airplane or other vehicle not occurring on the premises of a commercial car wash or commercial service station is prohibited. Such vehicle washing at commercial car washes and commercial service stations shall be allowed only between the hours of 9am and 2pm and between 8pm and 5am.
- The filling, refilling, or adding of water to any Aesthetic Water Use is prohibited.
- Use of water from hydrants shall be limited to firefighting, related activities, or other activities necessary to maintain public health, safety, and welfare, except that use of water from designated fire hydrants for construction purposes may be allowed under special permit from the District.
- Operation of any ornamental fountain or pond for aesthetic or scenic purposes is prohibited except where necessary to support aquatic life or where such fountains or ponds are equipped with a recirculation system.
- All restaurants are prohibited from serving water to their patrons except when requested.
- Use of water for the irrigation of golf course greens, tees, and fairways is prohibited. However, if the golf course utilizes a water source for irrigation other than that provided by the District's potable water supply system, the golf course shall not be subject to this restriction.
- Any violators will be subject to a surcharge set forth in the Drought Contingency Plan

Listed below are some of the many steps that all residents of our community can easily do to reduce consumption.

In addition to the steps listed below, customers should subscribe to Eye-On-Water to monitor their water usage. This free utility is available to all Fort Bend County MUD 35 customers. registered, you can set leak alerts and monitor your personal usage. To sign-up for Eye-On-Water, follow this link: www.eyeonwater.com/signup

Ways to Conserve Water in the Yard

- Use a broom, not a water hose, to clean driveways and sidewalks.
- When your kids want to cool off, use the sprinkler where your lawn needs it most.
- Set a timer to remind you when to turn off the sprinklers. A running hose can let out up to 10 gallons of water per minute.

- Water during the early morning or evening hours since evaporation losses will be up to 60 percent higher during the day.
- Put a layer of mulch around trees and plants. Mulch will slow evaporation of moisture while discouraging weed growth.

Ways to Conserve Water in the Bathroom

- When running a bath, plug the bathtub before turning on the faucet. Then, adjust the temperature as the water is running.
- Better yet, take five-minute showers instead of baths. A full bathtub requires up to 70 gallons of water. If you keep your shower under five minutes, you will save up to 1,000 gallons per month.
- Turn off the water while brushing your teeth and you can save up to four gallons per minute. That equals 200 gallons per week for a family of four.
- Check faucets and shower heads for leaks and make sure you turn them off tightly after each use. One drip every second adds up to five gallons per day. Install aerators and flow reducers in sinks and shower faucets.
- Test your toilets for leaks – toilet leaks can be silent! A good way to check is by putting food coloring in your toilet tank – if it seeps into the bowl without flushing, then there is a leak that needs fixing

Ways to Conserve Water in the Kitchen

- Use your dishwasher- it uses less water than washing dishes by hand. Make sure it is a full load before starting a cycle, and you will save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- If you have to wash a few pots by hand rinsing, turn the water off when you are not rinsing. Better yet, instead of running the water while you scrub the pots and pans, soak them in soap and water.
- Use a designated water bottle or glass to refill all day, allowing you to cut down the number of glasses to wash.
- Defrost food in the refrigerator rather than running it under the faucet. Cook food in as little water as possible to conserve water and retain more nutrients.
- If you accidentally drop ice cubes, place them in a house plant instead of tossing them in the sink.

Ways to Conserve Water in the Laundry

- Wash only a full load when using an automatic washing machine (32 to 59 gallons are required per load).
- Use the lowest water-level setting possible on the washing machine for light or partial loads.