



City of Kerrville
701 Main Street
Kerrville, Texas 78028
830.258.1116 (O)
830.792.3850 (F)

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Stuart Cunyus, Public Information Officer
(830) 258-1116

stuart.cunyus@kerrvilletx.gov

City of Kerrville curtails water production from the surface water plant



Kerrville, Texas (June 17, 2022) – Due to dry conditions and reduced river flow the City of Kerrville has self-curtailed water production from the surface water treatment plant by 500,000 gallons per day. “This will not change the water conservation stage from

‘year-round’ to ‘stage 1’ yet, but we are getting very close”, states Scott Loveland, Assistant Director of Public Works. “Citizens have been doing a good job of conserving water. Average daily water usage for Kerrville has been under 5 million gallons per day (MGD) until last week. That’s good for such a dry summer.” Normal water demand is approximately 3 MGD. Summer time irrigation can drive the demand up to 6 MGD.

The City is closely monitoring the river flow, aquifer levels, and weather and making adjustments as needed. Additional reductions in surface water curtailment, or increase in water usage from customers, could result in the need to move to stage 1 water restrictions.

Warm weather and reduced river flows also increase algal blooms in area lakes. The City of Kerrville gets its surface water from Nimitz Lake, which is currently experiencing an algal bloom due to these conditions. “The algal blooms are not toxic, however they give the treated water an earthy taste,” said Grant Terry, Water Production Superintendent. “The water is safe to drink, however it has a slight odor which we are actively working to eliminate.” To reduce or eliminate the odor the chemicals in the surface water plant are adjusted to counteract the algal bloom, and groundwater is used to blend with the surface water.

The City of Kerrville encourages everyone to continue to conserve water through the dry hot weather, and thanks the public for being patient as the algal bloom issues are addressed.

For further information on conservation, City water stages, weather and drought conditions, please visit the City web site at <https://www.kerrvilletx.gov/81/Water-Production>.

For more information, contact Public Information Officer Stuart Cunyus at (830) 258-1116.

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