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***CITY TO INCREASE WATER SUPPLY FROM CANYON LAKE
Keeping Boerne Utilities water sources balanced***

In June, the city's water system set a new record for potable water production at just over one hundred million gallons, surpassing a record of ninety-nine million gallons set in the summer of 2017.

The Boerne City Council has approved the purchase of additional surface water from Canyon Lake through its water 2000 supply contract with the Guadalupe Blanco River Authority (GBRA). "Purchasing additional surface water also means we can reduce the amount of groundwater we are using," said Ron Bowman city manager.

The City has 3,611 acre-feet of Canyon Lake water on reserve with the GBRA but has been purchasing only 975 acre-feet annually over the last ten years. This new additional supply of 325 acre-feet brings the city's total purchase to 1,300 acre-feet annually, about 35 percent of the reserved total available through the GBRA contract. This surface water supply increase has been delayed the last two years due to ample rains.

During drought conditions the city's groundwater wells become less reliable, so adding about 246,000 gallons per day from our reserved GBRA surface water will help meet the demand. That amount equates to roughly the same production as one of the city's primary wells.

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“Our new Reclaimed Water Utility along with year-round water conservation measures have been effective but now is the time to act to further reduce our reliance on groundwater,” added Bowman. “We are currently working on our utilities budgets for 2019 and we hope to keep a water rate increase to a minimum.”

Boerne has a very productive water treatment plant and quality Cow Creek wells, but they can only produce a finite amount each day. During these hot dry summer days the production capacity often reaches just over 3.5 million gallons per day putting a strain on the system.

City officials intend to keep the existing water treatment plant functioning effectively for the near term; however, expansion of the water treatment plant on Ranger Creek Road will eventually be required as more water customers come online.

Boerne Water Utilities customer must still adhere to Stage 1 of the city’s water conservation ordinance, which means water utility customers must limit outdoor water usage. Customers are permitted to use individual sprinklers or sprinkler systems for lawns, gardens or other landscaped areas, but only on designated outdoor water use days and at designated times.

On designated watering days, sprinkler irrigation is only allowed between the hours of 7:00 p.m. and 11:00 a.m. and only two days per week – one weekday and one weekend day.

Designated watering days have been assigned according to the last number of the street address as follows:

LAST DIGIT OF STREET ADDRESS

OUTDOOR WATERING DAYS

0 or 1	Monday and Saturday
2 or 3	Tuesday and Saturday
4 or 5	Wednesday and Saturday
6 or 7	Thursday and Sunday
8 or 9	Friday and Sunday

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Stage 2 restrictions, when implemented, will allow for landscape watering only on designated weekdays – weekend watering will be prohibited.

For a full list of the City of Boerne water conservation measures and/or restrictions by stage, please contact the Utility Customer Service office at (830)249-9511 or view the City's Conservation and Emergency Drought Management Plan online at www.boerne-tx.gov by looking for Chapter 22 (Utilities) of the Code of Ordinances.