



**Barton Springs  
Edwards Aquifer**  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

**For Immediate Release: Monday, May 1, 2017**

For more information, contact: Robin Gary, Senior Public Information and Education Coordinator, (512) 282-8441 or [rhgary@bseacd.org](mailto:rhgary@bseacd.org)

## **Beginning of Water Conservation Period**

The District's Water Conservation Period starts Monday, May 1st and extends through the end of September—the time when water use is at its peak.

Since January 2016, groundwater levels in the District have been above drought thresholds. Recent wet weather has helped augment water supplies, but there is still a need to conserve water resources. The last drought proved that surface water and groundwater resources are precious and limited. Water conservation through the summer months can help us delay and/or avoid another drought situation.

Starting on May 1<sup>st</sup>, Austin Water Utility restricts outdoor watering to no more than twice per week, and the Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District initiates a voluntary 10% reduction in groundwater pumping by its permittees. Though the approaches are different, the goal is the same—prolong water availability throughout the hottest and driest portion of the year.

John Dupnik, Aquifer District General Manager notes, “Through being mindful of smart water use during the hot summer months, a little effort by individual end-users, when multiplied across central Texas, can do a great amount of good.”

“Our groundwater users are traditionally very conscious of water use. Simple leak fixes and water conservation choices can add up to make a big difference in extending our long-term water supply,” states Robin Gary, Senior Public Information and Education Coordinator.

Water conservation strategies, rainwater harvesting information, water-wise landscaping ideas, and self irrigation audit guidance is available at [www.bseacd.org/education/water-conservation/](http://www.bseacd.org/education/water-conservation/).

*BSEACD is a groundwater conservation district charged by the Texas Legislature to preserve, conserve, and protect the aquifers and groundwater resources within its jurisdiction, which includes parts of three central Texas counties. It is governed by a Board of five elected directors and staffed with hydrogeologists, groundwater regulatory compliance specialists, environmental educators, geospatial systems specialists, and administrative support personnel.*