



North Texas
Municipal Water District

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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North Texas Municipal Water District launches website www.WaterMyYard.org to compute water needs for your landscape by using actual weather data.

(Wylie, Texas-May 6, 2013) The North Texas Municipal Water District, in partnership with Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service (AgriLife), is offering a new tool that computes landscape water needs based on local weather conditions. The website, www.WaterMyYard.org has been developed to assist in determining an adequate amount of supplemental water that is needed to maintain a healthy landscape.

It only takes a few short steps to begin receiving a weekly email to know how much water your landscape actually requires based on local weather conditions - effective rainfall, solar radiation, relative humidity and wind. Residential and business water customers can go online, select a weather station near where they are located and then select the brand and type of irrigation system they use. Based on the previous 7 days of weather conditions recorded at the weather station for that microclimate, the site will compute the amount of time your sprinkler system will need to run.

“Research indicates that most landscapes require less water than many people realize. This tool will help reduce overwatering of lawns which will extend our available water supplies on any day, during times of drought, and while the Texoma supply is offline,” said Jim Parks, Executive Director of NTMWD. “This website will compute the amount of supplemental water their landscape actually needs,” Parks added.

Proper watering is critical as the NTMWD, and its Member Cities and Customers, prepare to enter Stage 3 drought restrictions effective June 1. Residential and business customers will be limited to once per week landscape watering, if needed, using automatic sprinkler and irrigation systems. Check with your city for specific restrictions under Stage 3.

Property owners with sprinkler systems are urged to have their systems checked, and if necessary, repaired by a licensed irrigation specialists. Misaligned sprinkler heads and broken pipes can result in significant water waste.

For more information on efficient use of irrigation systems visit www.WaterIQ.org or the EPA’s WaterSense site at www.epa.gov/watersense/outdoor/index.html. Also, this week is *Drinking Water Week*. The American Water Works Association is actively involved in public awareness of drinking water issues, and information about *Drinking Water Week* can be found at www.awwa.org.