

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Stage 2 Water Conservation Rescinded, Stage 1 Ordered**

COPPERAS COVE, Texas – Per Bell County Water Control & improvement District #1’s (BCWCID1) recommendation, the City of Copperas Cove has rescinded the Stage 2 Order for water restrictions and implemented a Stage 1 Order for Voluntary Water Conservation. The decision was made following notification from the Brazos River Authority (BRA) as a result of increased lake levels. The Stage 1 voluntary conservation measures encourage the responsible use of water resources by the City’s residents, businesses and other entities.

Effective immediately, Mayor Dan D. Yancey has signed an Order for Stage Implementation, Water Restrictions – Stage 1 Ordered. All citizens are encouraged to review and be familiar with the Stage 1 voluntary restrictions, as they are outlined in the attached document. Notification will be provided when voluntary restrictions are either terminated or revised. Updates will be shared with local media, as well as posted on the City’s website at [www.copperascovetx.gov](http://www.copperascovetx.gov) and various social media pages. BCWCID1 and the City of Copperas Cove extend gratitude to all residents who contributed to conservation efforts since Stage 2 was ordered last summer.

The entire Water Conservation and Drought Contingency Plan may be found online at: [https://library.municode.com/tx/copperas\\_cove/codes/code\\_of\\_ordinances?nodeId=COOR\\_CH6CIDIPREMA\\_ARTIIWACODRCOPL](https://library.municode.com/tx/copperas_cove/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=COOR_CH6CIDIPREMA_ARTIIWACODRCOPL)

Questions or concerns may be directed to any of the following:

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(Stage Order Attached)

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**COPPERAS COVE WATER CONSERVATION  
AND DROUGHT CONTINGENCY**

**RESCINDING STAGE 2 AND IMPLEMENTING STAGE 1 ORDER FOR  
VOLUNTARY WATER CONSERVATION**

**WHEREAS,** The City of Copperas Cove receives all of its treated potable water from Belton Lake through agreement with Bell County Water Control and Improvement District #1; and

**WHEREAS,** The City had previously ordered implementation of Stage 2 water restrictions on August 1, 2023 due to low lake levels in Belton Lake; and

**WHEREAS,** The Brazos River Authority (BRA) notified Bell County Water Control and Improvement District #1 on April 19, 2024 that, due to recent rainfall, the Belton Lake water level has risen about six feet above the Stage 2 drought conservation triggering level and BRA further anticipates that Belton Lake will remain above that level for an extended period of time; and

**WHEREAS,** Bell County Water Control and Improvement District #1 has recommended and City staff agree that voluntary conservation measures should be enacted and maintained to encourage the responsible use of this precious resource by the City's residents, businesses and other entities; and

**WHEREAS,** Bell County Water Control and Improvement District #1 has advised that the current lake levels and Bell County Water Control and Improvement District #1's ability to deliver treated potable water do not require the implementation of more stringent measures; and

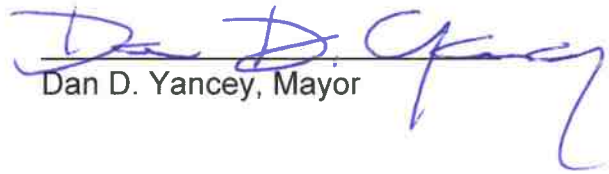
**WHEREAS,** The City Council approved Ordinance 2024-7, amending the City's Water Conservation and Drought Contingency Plan (Plan); and

**WHEREAS,** The Plan authorizes the Mayor to implement stages of the Plan upon determination that it is necessary to protect public health, safety, and welfare; and

**WHEREAS,** The City of Copperas Cove will provide notice to all residents and business owners of the need for water restrictions as required by the implemented stage.

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF COPPERAS COVE, TEXAS ORDERS** rescinding STAGE 2 water restrictions and the implementation of STAGE 1 water restrictions effective on April 23, 2024. Water restrictions consistent with this stage, as specifically detailed on the attachment hereto, will continue until terminated or revised by the Mayor.

**ORDERED** on this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of April, 2024 as authorized by the City's adopted Water Conservation and Drought Contingency Plan.

  
Dan D. Yancey, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

  
Lisa Wilson, City Secretary

## Stage 1 - Drought Response Stages

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Pursuant to Chapter 6, Division 2, Section 6-46 (Drought response stages) of the City's Adopted Code of Ordinances:

**Stage 1 response— MILD water shortage conditions.**

- a. ***Goal.*** To raise citizen and customer awareness regarding water demand and potential drought conditions and to encourage voluntary water conservation by reducing unnecessary water use. Achieve a five to ten (5—10) percent reduction in daily water demand.
- b. ***Supply management measures.*** The City of Copperas Cove will reduce flushing of water mains, reduce irrigation of public landscaped areas; use of reclaimed water for non-potable purposes will be allowed.
- c. ***Water use recommendations.*** Some guidelines for conservation are:
  1. Irrigation of landscaped areas with hose-end sprinklers or automatic irrigation systems should be limited to any two (2) days of the week between the hours of 12:00 midnight until 10:00 a.m. and from 8:00 p.m. until 12:00 midnight.
  2. Outdoor water use should be limited between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m., except when a hand-held hose, a faucet-filled bucket, or a watering can of five (5) gallons or less is used.