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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Water conservation remains top of mind in Murphy *City remains compliant with water supplier recommendation*

MURPHY (June 9, 2014) Rains insufficient to replenish area lakes and the resumption of water harvesting from Lake Texoma are not nearly enough to change the current Stage 3 seasonal status in Murphy, set until Oct. 31, says City Manager James Fisher.

“While we welcome the rains with open arms, it’s simply not enough,” he said. “And the resumption of additional water from Lake Texoma, while encouraging, cannot bring us out of the current stage. Our only option is remaining in compliance with the recommendations from the NTMWD and conserving our water supplies.”

The water situation in North Texas, as it is in many other parts of the state, is severe to the point that the North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD) has lengthened the period in which landscape watering with automatic sprinkler systems is confined to twice monthly.

“When one looks at the output rate versus the input rate of the area lakes, it’s simple logic. We cannot sustain that kind of depletion,” he said. “And, since the input rate is completely outside of our direct control, we are left with conserving water and eliminating waste.”

The water supply situation is made more severe by the lingering drought, which is forecasted to remain in place for the foreseeable future. Interestingly, it was the stark drought of the 1950s that gave rise to the development of the water district. Cities that felt the impact of that disaster decided to band together to face the crisis as a collective.

“Murphy’s residents have remained in compliance with the recommendations of the water supplier, so we have been doing our part,” he added. “We understand the stress this may put on lawns and landscaping, but if we don’t all cooperate, we may be looking at Stage 4.”

Stage 4 of the water conservation plan places a virtual prohibition on all outdoor watering.

A sensible and effective technique being widely used in area cities is disabling the automatic timer on the irrigation system and making use of the controller’s manual on and off feature. That way, homeowners can be assured that they are watering only on allowable days and the appropriate times. No watering is allowed after 10 a.m. or before 6 p.m. on allowed days.

“We are indeed in this together,” he said. “And, by cooperating we can avoid being put in a position where there is not enough water for public health, sanitation, firefighting and other essential purposes. We appreciate the cooperation shown by Murphy residents.”

More information is available online at www.murphytx.org.

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ABOUT MURPHY -- Murphy is a fast-growing community located in Collin County. The population is approximately 18,020, generally characterized as highly educated with a median household income above the state average. With more than 70 percent of the land developed, the community is dominated by single-family residences. Determined to maintain a country living ambiance, city planners strive to preserve that feel while still exhibiting an aggressive economic development stance. The centrally-located municipal complex includes four buildings that house Fire, Police, City Administration and Public Works. Money Magazine has dubbed Murphy as the 27th Best Place to Live in America for small cities.