

# The WATER WORKS

Volume 1, Issue 1

October 2006

**Phase 3 — Emergency (current stage)**

We have mandatory reductions in water usage per the Water Conservation & Draught Contingency Plan which is a requirement of TCEQ & North Texas Municipal Water District. We institute rationing programs through fixed allotments based on past usage, or other data.

**Phase 4 — Critical (next stage)**

Critical shortage requiring more mandatory reductions. All of emergency stage three steps are intensified. Monitor usage for compliance with necessary reductions. No additional water for outdoor usage. No potable water used by landscape meters.

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## Beginning A New Era!

Everyone loves adventure, and the start-up and publication of a **quarterly** newsletter is certainly one of the most exciting adventures of any editor/writer.

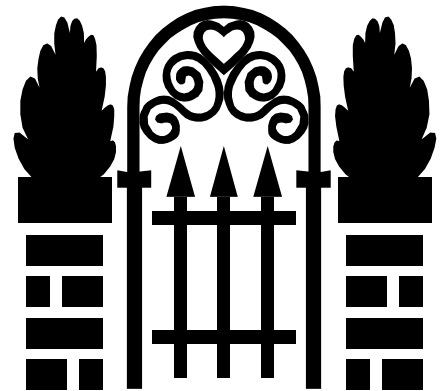
The development of *The WATER WORKS*, will certainly change over time as our community grows. But, the purpose of keeping you informed will always be static, never changing.

If there are topics you would like to have covered, just drop us a note in the drop-box at the office, or leave us a phone message at 972-442-2075.

The purpose of *The WATER WORKS* is to provide you, the customer, with specialized informa-

tion about your water company, Wylie Northeast Special Utility District.

Some topics to be covered in upcoming issues include a message from our president of the Board of Directors; monthly highlights; the history of Wylie Northeast Special Utility District; message from the systems engineer dedicated to keeping clean, purified water flowing into your pipes; conservation tips on how to use less water and lower your water bill; consumer information; profiles of the employees; and a calendar of upcoming



Gateway to a new era!

ing events and training required by our staff and board members. If we go to emergency stage four (4), then that will be covered here also.

Hopefully, you will enjoy reading about what is happening in your water community.

Serving You!

## Monthly Highlights

General Manager Ms. Sue Jones, Director Clint Davis, and Operations Supervisor Joseph Sebring attended TRWA District Conference in Austin on August 31 and September 1, 2006. Their message to the rural wa-

ter associations was that of “conserve water.”

October brought the arrival of a new piece of equipment, a Case Model 580M Series loader/backhoe with climate controlled cab, allowing our

workers to warm-up or cool-off as the weather dictates. Every worker employed in the field is certified to operate each piece of machinery. Rotation of operators will be mandatory.

# Water, Water, Everywhere

Without water life is impossible. Without "drinkable" (liquid) water, life is still impossible. The problem with water in the universe is perhaps best depicted in Samuel Taylor Coleridge's epic poem, *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*: "Water, water every where / Nor any drop to drink." Picture sailors stranded on a ship in the middle of the ocean. There's water everywhere, as far as the eye can see, but none of it is drinkable water for the thirsty men on board.

"Water, water every where,  
Nor any drop to drink."

*The Rime of the Ancient Mariner* by Samuel Taylor Coleridge  
1798 (revised 1817)

surface is almost three-fourths water. But this water is too salty to drink.

Looking out over Lake Lavon, we can see the water level is down. The old trees are sticking further out of the water. Old bridges and roads are rising from their watery graves. The living trees are backing away from the water's edge and giving up their place to parched, burnt ground.

The view of the lake is both beautiful and abnormal. It is such a lovely lake, but it is almost empty of any

kind of boating or water sport.

Activity on the lake is almost non-existent in the still scorching temperatures during the week and on weekends. Few fishermen sit in their boats in the old fishing grounds. Even fewer people visit the updated Collin Park Marina.

We are just a couple of inches away from leaving emergency stage three and entering into stage four.

Please conserve your water until the fall rains hopefully come to fill the lake once again, and water our thirsty land.

Water is everywhere! The Earth's

lake, but it is almost empty of any

## Water and Your Home

(*Handbook of Water Use and Conservation*, Amy Vickers).

**Learn to read your water meter.** Try turning off all faucets and water-using appliances and take a reading. Leave everything off for 30 minutes and take another. If the reading has changed, you may have a leak that needs to be repaired. Fixing leaky faucets and plumbing

joints can save up to 20 gallons a day per leak.

**Insulate hot water pipes** so you don't have to run as much water to get hot water to the faucet.

**Repair dripping faucets.** Dripping faucets can waste about 2,000 gallons of water each year.

**When washing dishes by hand,** don't let the water run while rinsing. Fill one sink with wash water and the other with rinse water. Or, use a container with water to rinse dishes.

**Keep a pitcher of water** in the refrigerator instead of running the tap for cold drinks.

## Be Prepared

The ongoing drought continues to dry out our soil which causes water leaks to continue to plague Texas cities.

**Be prepared** in case you are without water until crews restore water to your area. Keep a few gallons of water in storage containers for

emergencies.

**Report public water leaks** to the Wylie Northeast Special Utility District office, **972-442-2075**. Tape this number on the front of your refrigerator. When calling, give your name, address, and your primary phone number.

In case a leak repair should happen in your area, we promise to restore your water service as quickly as possible.

These are reminders that it is always best to be prepared.