

# **Overview - Groundwater Reduction Plan**

The City of Rosenberg engaged Jones & Carter, Inc. to produce a Groundwater Reduction Plan to meet the requirements of the Fort Bend County Subsidence District to convert thirty-percent (30%) of groundwater usage to an alternate source by 2016, and sixty-percent (60%) to an alternate source by 2025.

Several surrounding entities requested to participate with the City of Rosenberg in order for them to comply with the Fort Bend County Subsidence District regulations for conversion. The other entities in the Groundwater Reduction Plan include: Quadvest, L.P. (Bridlewood Estates), Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District ("MUD") No. 5, Fort Bend County MUD No. 155, Fort Bend County MUD No. 162, and Fort Bend County Fresh Water Supply District No. 2.

In 2016, the City of Rosenberg will purchase approximately three (3) million gallons per day ("MGD") of water from an alternative source. The three (3) MGD will not only meet the 2016 conversion requirements for the City of Rosenberg and the Groundwater Reduction Plan participants, but will also provide over-conversion credits to be utilized in emergency situations, times of drought, or in the event the alternative water source is temporarily unavailable.

By 2025, the City of Rosenberg and the Groundwater Reduction Plan participants will require approximately six (6) MGD of alternative water for 60% conversion. The City of Rosenberg projects purchasing at least six (6) MGD of alternative water in 2025 to continue to accumulate conversion credits and meet the future needs of the service area.

Between 2011 and 2016, the City of Rosenberg will construct approximately \$11 million of groundwater plant and distribution system improvements to adequately distribute the alternative water and groundwater throughout the City of Rosenberg. The cities of Rosenberg and Richmond also anticipate jointly investing a significant amount of additional funds in infrastructure to deliver the alternate water supply in 2016.

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# **Water Conservation**

When it comes to water conservation, just a few minor changes in our habits can really add up!

## **Inside the Home:**

- Never use any more water than necessary to complete a task.
- Fix leaks on faucets, sinks, and toilets.
- Take short showers instead of baths.
- Turn off water while brushing teeth or shaving.
- Install low-flow showerheads and toilets.
- Keep a container of cold water in the refrigerator instead of waiting for water to cool from faucet.
- Fill sink halfway to rinse produce instead of rinsing one at a time under running water.
- Wash dishes by hand by filling one side of the sink with soapy water for washing and the other side with clear water for rinsing instead of using a dishwasher.
- If you must use a dishwasher, always be sure to have a full load before running a cycle.
- When washing clothes, only run the washer with a full load. If running a small load, be sure to select the correct water level.
- When cleaning or emptying a fish tank, use the old water to irrigate houseplants or outdoor landscaping.

## **Outside the Home:**

- Swimming pools should be covered when not in use so water does not evaporate.
- Water lawns only when needed at the first signs of wilt. (When the grass blades fold together or the grass does not immediately spring back up when walked on.)
- Water early in the morning or late at night to prevent evaporation under our hot Texas sun.
- Never water on windy days - this causes water to evaporate more quickly.
- Use a drip irrigation system for shrubbery and flower beds.
- Water hoses should have a trigger nozzle.
- Use mulch around trees, plants, and gardens to retain moisture.
- Save rain water for plants. A rain barrel is a great option.
- Use a timer when watering lawns to prevent over-watering and run-off.
- When using a sprinkler, be sure to adjust the spray to water only where needed for vegetation and not on sidewalks or paving.

- Instead of hosing down sidewalks and driveways, sweep or use a leaf blower.
- After washing your vehicle, use the leftover water on plants or lawns.

For more helpful water conservation tips, please visit the **Texas Water Development Board's [Water IQ website](#)**.



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