

save our future



**Together we can make a difference
Conserve Water**



Pflugerville

Water Conservation

2015 Texas Water Conservation And Reuse Awards

Category: Indirect

In the summer of 2013, the City implemented Stage 3 Water Restrictions for watering once a week to increase awareness and educate the public. The following activities have been implemented by conservation staff. Public and School Activities Include:

- **School Education**

In 2014, the City's Water Conservation Team attended several school events throughout the community including the City-Sponsored Nature Fest. The staff demonstrated a Watershed Model to the students in a hands-on display allowing the students to become more aware of how to conserve and protect our water source. Each student received a bag of educational materials to take home and share with their family and friends. Over 600 water education bags were handed out in 2014 to youth throughout the community.

In 2013 a Save our Pfuture Activity Book was created for students. This too allows kids to perform activities that teach them the importance of Water Conservation.

- **Public/Customer Education**
Sprinkler Audits-

Sprinkler audits are offered to all Pflugerville Utility customers at no charge. Licensed Staff checks the irrigation systems for proper operation consulting the homeowner about any problems at that time. An irrigation audit is a series of tests to check the performance and determine how uniformly the system applies water to the lawn. Education regarding optimal watering requirement is essential to make sure customers are watering the right amount for their turf and maximizing irrigation cycles for the most productivity.

Each audit includes:

- a visual inspection of each zone to identify problems
- tests that measures how; and how much water is being applied
- a water pressure check and adjustment recommendation
- a custom watering schedule is recommended from the tests performed based on slope and soil type

- **Rain Harvesting-**

Rainwater harvesting is an innovative alternative water supply approach that anyone can use. It has become one of several creative solutions that the City's team is using to promote the City's drought management planning and enforcement strategies. Rainwater harvesting captures, diverts, and stores rainwater for later use.

Measuring Results-

- **School & Public Education-**

At the city-sponsored Nature Fest held in the summer of 2014, over 400 students from local schools attended the daylong event which allowed the Conservation staff to reach out to the students educating them about the importance of our current drought.

- **Sprinkler Audits-**

Licensed Conservation staff scheduled and performed 38 sprinkler audits in the year of 2014 and met with each resident on the proper operations and recommended any needed repairs of the Irrigation system.

In addition to conserving water, customers should see a lower water bill and a healthier lawn, if they follow the recommendations given after the audit. The City of Pflugerville conservation team's goal is that the water usage of customers who received an irrigation audit increases in customer water efficiency.

- **Rainwater Harvesting-**

In the spring of 2014, the city hosted its second Rain Barrel sale. The 2014 sale of rain barrels increased the total sales to over 800 residents in our community. Our logo on each Rain Barrel making it unique for the community.

The Rain Barrels were distributed at the annual Public Works Open House held in May 2014. The events also allowed residents to visit the department to learn more about the current water restrictions and obtain Water Conservation tips and future projects. Additionally in August 2014, staff have ordered more Rain Barrels to meet demands.

Rainwater harvesting reduces customers water usage cost and demand on the water supply. This program is part of the City's Water Conservation strategy and will allow for lower water usage. Water Customers can use harvested rainwater for watering plants and landscaping. Initiatives such as this help the City maintain an adequate supply of water for the future water system.

Respectfully Submitted,

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