

Lubbock's Water Supply Working Toward Sustainable Alternatives

Lubbock citizens use an average of 38 million gallons of water each day. Lubbock has plenty of water to take care of our needs today and into the future, but it is absolutely essential that we carefully manage and conserve existing water resources. The goal of our community should be to ensure that every drop counts and is used for a beneficial purpose.



▼ On average, a Lubbock resident uses 181 gallons of water per day.

Projections of Lubbock's water supply needs have varied greatly. One projection indicated that Lubbock may need additional water supply after 2002, while another projected 2050. The State Regional Water Supply Plan indicates that Lubbock will need additional water by 2010. To meet the additional water supply need, the Lake Alan Henry pipeline project will be completed by 2012. We also need to begin developing future water supplies now since many supply alternatives can take 20 to 30 years to develop.

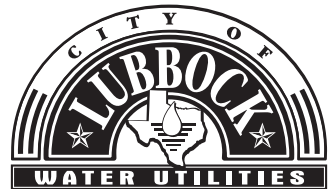
For more than 50 years, the Canadian River Municipal Water Authority (CRMWA) has provided 75 to 85 percent of Lubbock's water. CRMWA provides untreated water to 11 member cities from Lake Meredith and Roberts County groundwater wells. The level of water in Lake Meredith has continued to decline and is now reaching record lows. Anticipating this situation, CRMWA completed construction of the first phase of the Roberts County Well Field in 2002 and will complete the next phase of expansion by 2009. Even with groundwater, the amount of water that CRMWA can provide will continue to decrease if Lake Meredith does not receive substantial inflows within the next few years. In 2008, Lubbock and other member cities will receive 30 percent less water from CRMWA. Lubbock also receives water from the Bailey County Well Field (BCWF) near Muleshoe. This wa-

ter source served the City before CRMWA existed. The BCWF supplies the City with 15 to 25 percent of its annual water supply. If managed properly, the BCWF can continue to supply Lubbock water for an additional 40 years. If not conserved, BCWF water production could begin dropping significantly within five years. Until the Lake Alan Henry Pipeline Project is complete, the City will need to rely more heavily on the BCWF. Production from the well field can be reduced once the Lake Alan Henry pipeline project is complete.

Each Lubbock resident can assist in efforts to conserve water. If necessary, the City may consider entering Stage 2 of the Conservation and Drought Contingency Plan to reduce water use. The City is currently in Stage 1 of the Drought Contingency Plan due to low levels of Lake Meredith. Stage 1 of the Plan includes a standard for water use as follows: Water between the hours of 6 p.m. and 10 a.m. to reduce evaporation. Early morning between 3-7 a.m. is best for grass and bedding plants and is the least windy time of the day.

Water each area of the yard no more than 2 times each week, with one and a half inches (1.5") total to conserve water. Avoid run-off by watering in short cycles and allowing soak times in between. Avoid running water needlessly down the drain.

We encourage everyone to get involved in water conservation. Although we have enough water to meet our needs today, it will take careful management of this most valuable resource to ensure adequate water for the future.



For more information contact the Water Conservation and Education Department at 775-2595 or visit us online at <http://water.ci.lubbock.tx.us>

Lubbock's Water Demand Facts	10-Year Average 1998-2007	Year 2007
Average Daily Water Usage (in gallons)	37,425,000	29,390,000
Average Daily Maximum Water Usage (in gallons)	67,006,100	47,297,000
Average Annual Water Usage (in gallons)	13,689,765,700	10,755,862,000
Average Per Person Water Usage (in gallons)	181	136