



Current Drought Conditions

The City began Stage II of its Drought Contingency Plan July 3. As South Texas continues to receive insufficient rainfall, many cities including San Antonio draw water from the Edwards Aquifer. The aquifer feeds the Guadalupe River through the Comal and San Marcos Spring.

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), established minimum levels that the City may pump water from the Guadalupe River. "They change monthly," says Lynn Short, director of public works. "In July our permit is 300 cfs," says Short. "The river level will have to rise to 300 cfs for 14 days before we can come out of stage II," he says. Stage II of the Drought Contingency begins when the off-channel reservoir reaches 50 percent of its maximum draw-down.

The City stores an estimated year's supply in off-channel reservoirs (OCR). "We are pumping ground water from two wells in conjunction with the OCRs to the surface water plant," says Deputy Director of Public Works Jimmy Roach. Twenty-five percent of the water going to the surface water plant is from wells and 75 percent from reservoirs.

Five more wells are pumping 24 hours a day, into storm drains which discharge into the West Outfall and then into the Guadalupe River. "In exchange for pumping this water to the river, the TCEQ is allowing the city to pump water from the Guadalupe River and treat it at our surface water treatment facility," says Short. "This allows the City to provide a consistent, high quality water supply during this drought stage."

Stage II of the water conservation plan limits lawn watering to the hours of 6 - 10 a.m. and 8 p.m. - midnight. Vehicle washing is also limited to 6 - 10 a.m. and 6 - 10 p.m. These restrictions are being enforced. "Violation reports will be forwarded to our office," says Senior Code Enforcement Officer Grace Campos. "A verbal warning will be given for the first offence. Those who fail to follow or ignore the times allowed will be issued a citation."

"Since beginning Stage II, we've dispatched police officers on more than 30 watering violations," says 9-1-1 Coordinator Jean Smith. To report watering violations call 573-3221, the police non-emergency number. [Read the news release.](#)

BELLAMY BROTHERS CONCERT JULY 30
The Bellamy Brothers are coming to the Victoria Community Center Thursday, July 30. The one-night concert celebrates Crime Stoppers 25th anniversary. For tickets call 485-3757, or visit the Crime Stoppers website. [Click here.](#)

Downtown Sidewalk Project Facts The \$2.75 million project includes street repairs, curb rebuilding and new sidewalks. A detailed drawing is available on the City website. [Read the news release.](#)

Stimulus Funds New Sidewalks Federal Recovery grant funds have been designated for "shovel-ready" infrastructure improvements within urban areas. Four sidewalks and one transit stop project recommended by Development Services staff are within eligible areas with the highest pedestrian traffic and have been approved by the City Council. Construction is expected to begin late August to early September. [Read more-see page 7 for locations.](#)

Changes in Subdivision and Development Codes
The current guidelines which were approved by the City Council in May of this year, are available online. [Click here for pdf.](#)

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Juvenile Curfew Protects Youth
Juvenile curfew laws restrict juveniles from being outdoors in public places during certain hours of the day. Such laws aim to establish a safer community and to better protect kids from becoming victims of crime or becoming involved in delinquent behaviors. The Victoria City Council approved the Juvenile Curfew, March 24, 2009. For more information about the Juvenile Curfew see chapter 15, article III of the City Code [here.](#)

No License Renewal
The Victoria Municipal Court has reached an agreement with the Texas Department of Public Safety to deny driver's license renewals to persons who have failed to appear or failed to pay fines. [Read the news release.](#)

Most Requested City of Victoria Website Links

- NEWS RELEASES
- CITY DIRECTORY
- JOB LISTINGS
- PAY WATER BILL
- AUCTIONS
- POLICE DEPT.
- GIS MAPS
- PARKS & REC.

24-Hour access to reported criminal activity in Victoria

InTouch Victoria is a publication of the City of Victoria Public Information Office. Contact us at 361-485-3110 or pio@victoriatx.org

Outgoing Councilmen Honored

"For dedication to improving life for Victorians... and leadership in OUR CITY." Outgoing members of the City Council, Philip Guittard, Jim Wyatt, and Lewis Neitsch were recently recognized for public service. Jim Wyatt first served on the City Council from 1988 to 1995, he served as mayor pro-tem from 1990 to 1995. He was elected again in 2000 and served until his retirement in May 2009 representing Super District 5. Philip Guittard was elected to council in 1997 serving District 1 until his retirement this May. Lewis Neitsch served the citizens of District 2 from 1998-2009, he served as Mayor Pro-Tem 2006-2009. For the vision and dedication to serve our City, "...we shall always be grateful."

Above, City Manager Charles Windwehen, Councilman Lewis Neitsch and Mayor Will Armstrong. Right, City Manager Charles Windwehen, Councilmen Philip Guittard and Jim Wyatt and Mayor Will Armstrong.

Blue Sky Initiative Idle Less, Breathe Easier!
It's hot outside and it's important to keep cool, so many of us leave our vehicles running when we pick up kids after school, go to the drive thru at the bank or restaurant. But did you know that idling vehicles are one of the biggest problems among today's drivers? Idling wastes money, wastes natural resources, damages our vehicles and harms the environment and our health.

IDLING FACTS
Idling your car for 10 seconds uses the same amount of gas as starting your vehicle.
Idling your car for 10 minutes uses as much fuel as it takes to travel 5 miles.
Every gallon of gas you use produces about 19 pounds of carbon dioxide.

WHAT YOU CAN DO
Turn off your engine when you are parked or stopped.
Roll down the windows or get out of your vehicle and sit under a shade tree to stay cool.
Park your car and put those legs to work rather than sitting in a drive thru.
Make the Blue Sky Pledge to not idle at www.victoriabluesky.org

Hurricane Season: Website offers additional Resources for Residents with Special Needs
The Victoria Office of Emergency Management has expanded the resource file for individuals with special needs. [Click here for more information.](#)

Will you need assistance evacuating?
[Dial 2-1-1 to Register](#)
Victoria is a HURRICANE EVACUATION ZONE. Elderly, disabled or any residents in need of special assistance to evacuate for a hurricane are urged to dial 2-1-1 and register now. **Individuals must re-register each year prior to hurricane season.** [Texas 2-1-1 website](#)

DO YOU TWEET?
Follow the OEM on Twitter
Emergency alerts, the latest hurricane information and tracking can be sent directly to your cell phone. [Register here](#)

Hurricane Preparedness Tips on VTV15
Emergency Coordinator Jeb Lacey has tips on how to prepare for a hurricane. See the program on Suddenlink cable channel VTV15 or online: <http://www.vtv15.org/emergencyPreparedness.php>

Learn to Paddle! Get Fit
Victoria, the Victoria Parks and Recreation health and fitness program, and the Coastal Bend Paddlers of Victoria are hosting a Paddling Clinic at the City Pool August 29 from 9 am until noon. This is an event the entire family can enjoy. The program is free and registration is required. Forms are available at the Park's office located at 476 McCright Drive or online at www.getfitvictoria.com. For more information call 485-3200.

VICTORIA PUBLIC LIBRARY
CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE!
Find the latest events and programs, new book arrivals, genealogy database and monthly calendar on our new homepage.

AUGUST PROGRAMS

CHILDREN
Summer Reading Program Party - August 5, 2 pm
It's a Wild West Reading Show Party! Kids will be transported back to 1835 Texas with Roosevelt Rat and David Hopperfield. This SRP party will be held at the Community Center and is open to those who completed their first reading log and received an invitation. Refreshments provided!

Back2School Resource Fair - August 18, 5:30-7pm
Library resources will be demonstrated for parents and youths through stations set-up with laptops and handouts. Resources will feature early literacy, AR, Lexia Levels, science fair bibliographies, Lunch Hora/Monday Hour, and Tween Parent Book Club. Refreshments provided.

TEENS
TTR '09 Party - August 3, 2 pm
Celebrate completion of the teen reading program with a pizza party. The Wii will be set up with Rock Band and Wii Sports. Gift card and grand prize drawings will be awarded. ONLY teens who completed at least 10 hours of the reading program are invited. (Grades 6th - 12th)

ADULTS
Brown Bag Book Group-August 5 @ 12 p.m. in the Bronte Room
The brown bag book group meets every first Wednesday in the Bronte Room. Light refreshments provided. This month's discussion: Now They Call Me Infidel by Noni Darwesh.

LUNCHTIME LEARNING
Planning a Genealogy Trip - August 11, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Learn about genealogy research; held in the Bronte Room of the Victoria Public Library. This month's topic: Planning a Fall Genealogy Trip. Soup or salad will be served. Registration requested.

COMPUTER CLASSES
Free Computer Classes available @ the Victoria Public Library
Classes for beginner to advanced. Registration required. Visit the VPL website www.victoriapubliclibrary.org for more information or call 485-3316.

Self Guided Computer Training - Every Monday from 9 - 11 a.m. (NEW Class @ VPL)
Enhance your skills with more than 110 different tutorials from Atomic Learning, Learning Express Library and Mavis Teaches Typing! The Computer Lab will be reserved every Monday for this self-guided training.

Genealogy Computer Lab - Every Friday from 9 - 11 a.m. Registration required.
Genealogy databases and websites will be featured each week with time allowed to use them.
August 7 - Texas Baptist Historical Collection
August 14 - Texas General Land Office
August 21 - TexasSeaportMuseum
August 28 - Corpus Christi Caller Times Obituaries

MOVIES
Family Movie Days - 3:30 p.m. each Thursday in August.