

# Blanco-Pedernales Groundwater Conservation District

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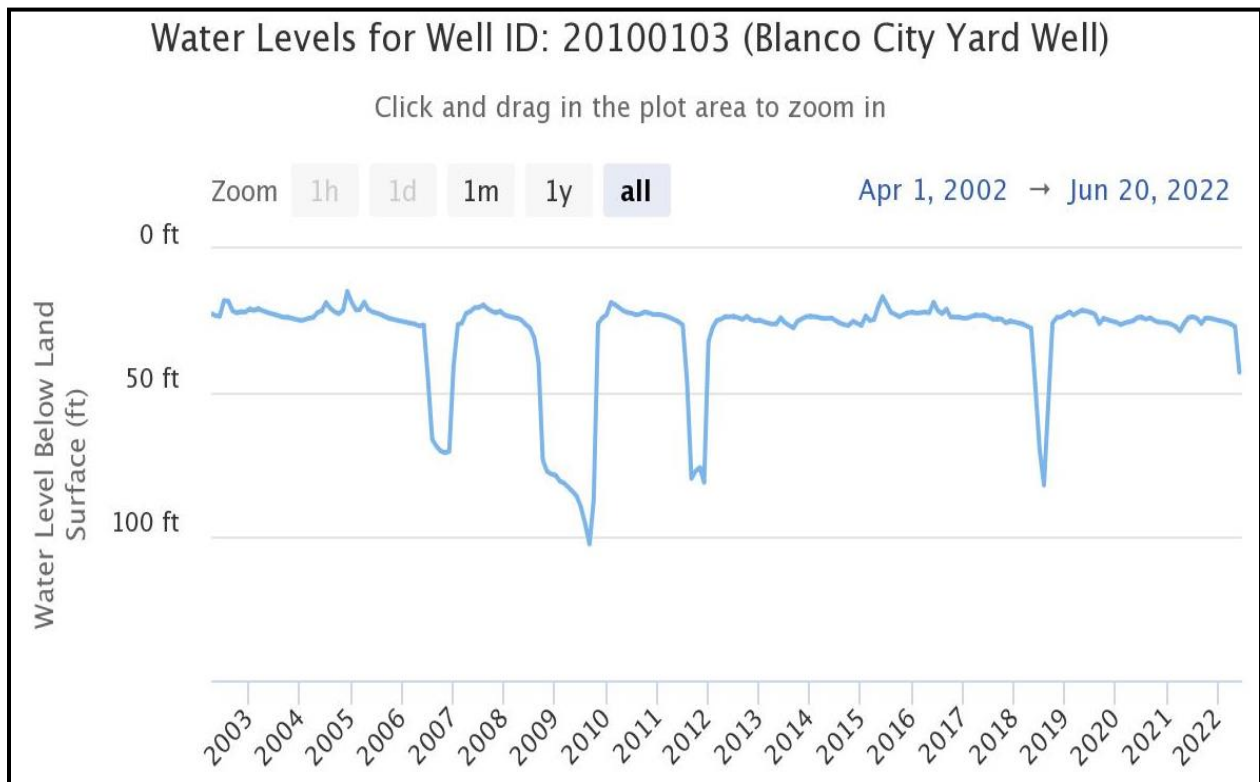
## Press Release

### Groundwater District Declares Stage 2 Drought Conditions in Blanco County

After reviewing water levels and hydrological conditions in District Monitor Wells and Blanco County aquifers, Ron Fieseler, General Manager of the Blanco-Pedernales Groundwater Conservation District, has raised drought conditions in Blanco County from Stage One (Mild Drought) to Stage Two (Moderate Drought). This declaration goes into effect on June 20, 2022 and will continue until further notice. Stage Two Drought conditions affect well owners throughout Blanco County.

Weather conditions and forecasts do not indicate any chance of significant rain events in the foreseeable future. Fieseler also notes that he has received many reports from landowners that flow from seeps, springs, creeks and rivers have been severely reduced, and in some cases, have ceased entirely. These conditions will not improve until multiple rainfall events re-saturate the water-bearing soils and rocks. While groundwater conditions are currently classified as “moderate drought,” surface conditions are considered to be in “extreme drought” or even “exceptional drought” by the National Weather Service and other drought tracking indices.

The City of Blanco is on surface water and anyone who is served by that water system is not required to comply with drought reductions required by the District. However, City of Blanco water customers must comply with any water use restrictions imposed by the City of Blanco.



Under Stage Two, the District's Drought Rule increases the conservation goal from the 5-10% reduction previously required under Stage One, to a 20% reduction in groundwater use. The 20% reduction can be achieved by following one or more of the water conservation methods listed below.

### **Stage Two: Moderate Drought**

Conservation Goal: 20% reduction in groundwater use

Usage Reduction Measures:

- Continue, or increase, voluntary reduction in various uses
- Check for and correct all plumbing leaks
- Water outside lawns, trees, shrubs once every 5 to 7 days
- Water at night between hours of 8pm and 8am
- Keep swimming pools, landscape or decorative ponds, and fountains covered, use water recirculation, and refill only once every 5 to 7 days
- Wash vehicles at car wash only as needed
- No washing of buildings, driveways, streets, patios, or other outdoor surfaces except as required for human or animal health and safety needs, or for fire prevention
- Water livestock in leak-proof troughs as much as practical
- Maintaining more than 50,000 gallons of groundwater in ponds, lakes, tanks, reservoirs, or other surface impoundments for holding water is prohibited except for those wells permitted for non-domestic irrigation.

The District is grateful for the water conservation efforts of well owners during the last month. The voluntary reductions in use have helped to slow the steady decline in water levels measured in District Monitor Wells. If reduction goals during Stage Two are met, the District may be able to avoid declaring a more serious drought condition.

If you have any questions or concerns about water wells, Drought Conditions, water conservation practices, or Blanco County groundwater resources, you should contact the District directly. The District is the primary source in Blanco County for aquifer questions, water level records, water quality data and testing, individual well records, and overall geology and hydrology information.

The District Office is located at 601 West Main in Johnson City and the office phone number is (830) 868-9196. You can also email the General Manager, Ron Fieseler, at: [manager@blancogw.org](mailto:manager@blancogw.org).