



Aqua Facts

October 2008

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Helpful Phone Numbers:

Customer Service:

(210) 922-1221
8am to 7pm weekdays

Emergency Services:

(210) 922-2141

BexarMet Website:

www.bexarmet.org

Report Water Waste:

waterwasters@bexarmet.org

Board Elections Set for Tuesday, November 4, 2008

BexarMet will be holding elections for Board Members in Districts 1, 4, 5 and 6 on Tuesday, November 4, 2008. Early voting for customers in these districts begins on October 26, 2008. For more information, contact Board Assistant Angelita Vasquez at (210) 354-6503.

Complete information on the November 4, 2008 BexarMet Board election can be found on the BexarMet website by visiting www.bexarmet.org/elections. Maps of the districts in the election, including boundaries, can be downloaded and printed from this site. A list of early voting locations is also available on this page.

Need a Speaker?

BexarMet offers educational presentations efficient water use, rebate programs and other water-related topics for your school or neighborhood association. Contact the BexarMet Water Efficiency Department at (210) 357-5705.

BexarMet is a very unique entity in San Antonio because the Board of Directors is elected by a vote of the ratepayers. Don't miss your chance to vote for your Board representative on November 4th!

Prepare Your Landscape for Fall and Winter

Now is the time to get your landscape ready for fall and winter conditions. Apply a winterizer fertilizer to your lawn in October to stimulate root growth over the winter and cause a faster green up in the spring.

In addition, begin reducing your irrigation regime to once or twice per week as temperatures begin to cool. Once the first frost hits, water once per week until the grass is completely dormant. After dormancy, water your grass once per month through the fall and winter if no rainfall occurs.

WATER RESTRICTIONS UPDATE: **Year-Round Water Restrictions Remain in Effect**

All BexarMet service areas are currently under Year-Round Restrictions set forth by the City of San Antonio Water Ordinances and BexarMet Water Rule 2006-001. The major component of these restrictions is the rule of non-sprinkler hours in effect. Automatic and hose-end sprinklers may not be used year-round between the hours of 10am and 8pm daily. Watering by hand-held hose, bucket, soaker hose or drip irrigation is allowed any time on any day. Do not use hose sprinklers in the evening until after 8:00pm or before 10:00am in the morning. Using sprinklers during the prohibited time of the day will earn a water waste warning and repeat violations will be fined. Prevent water waste by not allowing water to run off of your property, repair leaks quickly and use a broom and bucket to clean driveways and sidewalks. Charity car washes are only allowed at commercial car wash facilities where runoff water can be collected and recycled.

BexarMet enforcement personnel are patrolling service areas looking for water rule violations. If you receive an orange door tag at your home, it is a reminder that a water waste rule has been broken and you should examine your watering practices so they stay within the rules for water waste prevention. For more information on BexarMet Water Rules and the City of San Antonio Water Ordinance, visit www.bexarmet.org/restrictions. If you have a question about BexarMet water rules or need to report a water waste violation, please call (210) 357-5705.

If caught for a repeat violation, you may be fined \$100 for the first offense, \$250 for the second, and \$1,000 for the third and subsequent repeat violations within 6 months of the first offense.

If no further violations within 6 months of your last offense are observed at your location, your warning or citation will expire and your "record" will be clean.

All EAA Restrictions have been lifted. For more information on the Edwards Aquifer Authority, visit www.edwardsaquifer.org.

Fire Hydrant Flushing Benefits Water Quality and Ensures Fire Readiness

Many times you may have seen water flowing from a BexarMet fire hydrant and wondered why BexarMet is wasting so much water when it is getting so expensive. There are some very important reasons for flushing fire hydrants:

- 1) Flushing after a repair removes dirt, sediment and contaminants from the lines and returns the water to a safe level for drinking.
- 2) Flushing also helps BexarMet maintain adequate disinfectant levels in the water in areas where flow is not constant.
- 3) Flushing helps BexarMet ascertain the pressure and flow potential of fire hydrants to make sure they have adequate capability in case there is a fire.