

URGENT MESSAGE TO WATER **CUSTOMERS**

The Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer is our sole source of water. The Aquifer is under stress due to the 19-month (and counting) drought.

The Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer Conservation District regulates how much water users can pump out of the Aquifer. The District has established five drought stages. We are currently in Stage 4 (Exceptional Drought). The District has limited the allowable pumpage for Elliot Ranch and City of Hays due to this water emergency. Fines for over pumpage are charged.

Accordingly, the City of Hays Water Department approved drought surcharges for customers who exceed allowable usage. For Stage 4, the surcharge is \$9.50 per 1,000 gallons if the customer uses more than 20,000 gallons in a month.

For the first month exceeding allowable usage, the customer is not fined but is sent a written warning.

For the second month exceeding the allowable usage, the customer is charged the surcharge.

For the third and subsequent exceeding the allowable usage, the customer will be subject to the installation of a flow restriction device.

PLEASE help us during this water emergency by conserving your water usage.