



## Blanco-Pedernales Groundwater Conservation District

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### **PRESS RELEASE**

#### **Blanco-Pedernales Groundwater Conservation District Announces County-Wide Downgrade to Drought Stage 3**

Johnson City, TX — April 17, 2026 — The Blanco-Pedernales Groundwater Conservation District (BPGCD) today announced that, following a unanimous vote by the Board of Directors, the district is officially moving from Drought Stage 4 to Drought Stage 3, effective immediately **across the entire county**. This downgrade reflects the gradual improvement in groundwater levels throughout the region and reduced pressure on municipal, agricultural, and residential water supplies.

#### **Current Conditions**

- **Monitoring-Well Data:** The latest aggregate analysis of the district's network of monitoring wells (see the below graph entitled, "Average Normalized Water Levels") shows a sustained recovery in water tables, bringing the average water level in the range of Drought Stage 3 in the Blanco-Pedernales Drought Index (BPDI).
- **BPDI Model:** The BPDI model, which integrates the regional Palmer Hydrologic Drought Index (PHDI), now classifies the district's overall water status as moderate (Stage 3), indicating that water levels have stabilized and existing supplies are better positioned to meet essential demand.

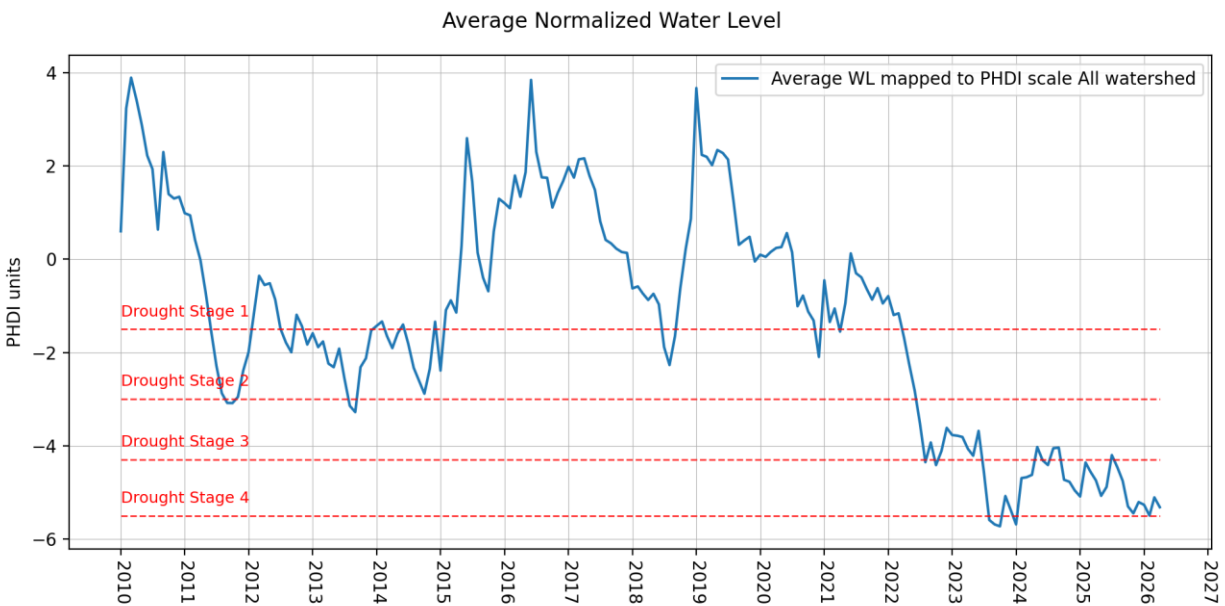
#### **Stage 3 Restrictions and Compliance Guidelines**

**Conservation Goal:** 25% reduction in groundwater use

#### **Usage Reduction Measures:**

- Continue voluntary reduction in non-essential uses
- Check for and correct all plumbing leaks
- Outside watering of lawns, trees, shrubs, or gardens permitted 2 days per week

- Vehicle washing permitted at commercial facilities only
- Washing of buildings, driveways, streets, patios, or other outdoor surfaces permitted with hose shut-off nozzle
- Watering for dust control permitted when required by law
- Livestock watered in leak-proof troughs only
- Providing groundwater to ponds, lakes, tanks, reservoirs, or other surface impoundments for holding water remains prohibited



## Community Impact

The District encourages all residents and businesses **throughout the county** to continue practicing water conservation while acknowledging the progress made toward drought recovery. These adjusted measures recognize improved conditions while maintaining vigilance to protect remaining water resources and ensure availability for critical needs. For more information on Stage 3 restrictions and conservation guidelines, please visit the District's website at [blancogroundwatertx.gov](http://blancogroundwatertx.gov) or phone the office at 830-868-9196.



## About the Blanco-Pedernales Groundwater Conservation District

The Blanco-Pedernales Groundwater Conservation District manages and protects the region's groundwater resources, providing safe, reliable water to residents, farms, and businesses.

Through science-based tools such as the BPDI, the District monitors water-level trends and implements proactive drought-management strategies to safeguard the community's water future.

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