



**NORTH
TEXAS
MUNICIPAL
WATER
DISTRICT**

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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As Cooler Weather Begins, NTMWD Encourages Consumers to Prepare Lawns and Landscapes for Annual “Hibernation”

WYLIE, TX – Nov. 1, 2017: Fall brings cooler temperatures, a time when lawns and landscapes begin transitioning into dormancy. The North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD) encourages consumers to prepare their lawns and landscapes for annual “hibernation.” During this dormant period, lawns will turn brown, and select varieties of landscape plants will lose their leaves.

Several key measures can be taken to maintain lawns and landscaping during this time of year and preserve our precious water resources:

- Only water lawns when needed
- Apply 2 inches to 4 inches of mulch in the landscape beds

“Lower water use in fall and winter helps save supplies for next year’s needs and allows us to perform critical maintenance on our systems while demands are lower,” said Denise Hickey, NTMWD Water Resource Program and Public Education Manager.

Beginning November 1 and lasting until March 31, NTMWD recommends the following strategies to keep lawns and landscapes healthy while also conserving water.

- **Turn off automatic sprinklers.** Now is the time to stop watering lawns and landscape beds. Plants become dormant during the colder weather months, so it is a good time to set sprinkler controllers to the “off” position. Turning sprinkler systems off, operating on manual mode, and only watering when necessary will prevent potential water run-off that can freeze on streets and sidewalks during severe weather conditions.
- **Use weather-based irrigation tools such as WaterMyYard.org, Frisco’s WaterWise, or Texas A&M’s ET Network.** These irrigation tools use data from local weather stations to provide recommendations for any necessary supplemental irrigation.
- **Cover soil.** Prepare soil ready for next year’s plantings and winterize the landscape. Cover these areas with nutrient-rich mulch and or compost to provide a warm layer and maintain soil moisture.

About NTMWD

The North Texas Municipal Water District is a regional wholesale provider of water, wastewater and solid waste disposal services for approximately 1.6 million residents across 10 counties – a service territory covering 2,200 square miles. For more information, visit NTMWD.com.

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