



**NORTH
TEXAS
MUNICIPAL
WATER
DISTRICT**

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NTMWD Encourages Consumers to Prepare Lawns and Landscapes for Winter *Irrigation systems should be turned off and used only if needed*

WYLIE, TX – Nov. 1, 2018: Cooler temperatures and recent rains mean water customers served by the North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD) can turn off their irrigation systems and prepare their lawns and landscaping for the winter. November is when lawns typically start their transition into dormancy and annual hibernation.

During this period, green lawns will fade to brown and select varieties of trees and landscape plants will lose their leaves. This is their way of surviving the cold temperatures. Here are some tips to help maintain lawns and landscaping during this time of year while conserving water:

- Apply 2 inches to 4 inches of nutrient-rich mulch or compost in landscape beds, around shrubs and trees. Mulch acts as an insulator against cold temperatures and holds precipitation in the soil.
- Turn irrigation controllers to the **OFF** mode. Natural rainfall typically provides enough moisture throughout fall and winter, requiring no additional irrigation.
- Turning off irrigation systems during the winter helps prevent water run-off that can freeze on streets and sidewalks causing potentially dangerous conditions for pedestrians and motorists.

"It's important to remember that conserving water in the fall and winter helps save supplies for the warmer spring and summer months next year," said Denise Hickey, NTMWD Water Resource Program and Public Education Manager. "This also allows us to perform critical maintenance on our systems while consumer demands are lower," Hickey added.

Throughout the year, customers are urged to 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, if needed. For more water-saving tips, visit www.NTMWD.com.

About NTMWD

The North Texas Municipal Water District is a regional wholesale provider of water, wastewater and solid waste disposal services for approximately 1.7 million residents across 10 counties – a service territory covering 2,200 square miles. For more information, visit NTMWD.com.