



CITY OF MATHIS
411 E. San Patricio Ave.
Mathis, Texas 78368

June 26, 2025

Offices of the Mayor and
City Manager

Subject: **Drought Disaster High Stage 3 – ALERT! CONSERVE! ALERT! CONSERVE! ALERT! CONSERVE!**

Dear Mathis Water Consumers,

The City of Mathis is in support of Governor Abbott’s declaration, approval of water conservation efforts and emergency water supply augmentation projects across the State of Texas and his directives to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) **to utilize permitting and enforcement discretion** in considering emergency water supply augmentation and conservation projects being pursued by many municipalities across the State of Texas.

The City of Mathis is a purchaser of raw surface water from the City of Corpus Christi a regional water provider for the City of Mathis, and seven counties in the Coastal Bend, which includes a population of approximately 500,000 customers and large industrial users that have a significant impact on the regional water supply. Our city appreciates the Governor’s leadership regarding this State-wide problem as recognized by his December 23, 2024, January 22, 2025, February 21, 2025, and March 23, 2025 drought disaster declarations.

The City of Mathis is currently in the higher Stage 3 of its Drought Contingency Plan, which conforms to those guidelines set by our surface water provider, the (City of Corpus Christi) water purchaser agreement contract. The CCW water supply entered Stage 2 in March 2024 and quickly moved to Stage 3 in December 2024. The City of Corpus Christi has less than 20% of supply in its Choke Canyon and Lake Corpus Christi reservoirs. The City of Corpus Christi enters a Level 1 Water Emergency when the City can no longer meet its water demands, which could occur within 180 days if the City’s water supply on the Mary Rhodes Pipeline were to be interrupted and/or if the temporary groundwater wells described herein are delayed. Simply put, if the City of Corpus Christi is forced to implement a Level 1 Water Emergency the impacts will be significantly more severe and will result in detrimental financial consequences such as billions of dollars to citizens of this region, industries, economy, and for the State of Texas. The cities of Mathis, Beeville, Alice, San Patricio Municipal Water District, Nueces WCID #3, South Texas Water Authority, and Violet Water Supply would be in catastrophic trouble, and unable to deliver lifesaving drinkable water to tens of thousands of Texans living within our communities.

The City of Mathis has been made aware of the worsening water supply conditions, and that the City of Corpus Christi met with the Governor’s Staff, members of our State Legislative Delegation, and executive leadership from the TCEQ on January 16, 2025 to outline the severity of the drought conditions on the region.

The City of Corpus Christi has had what is described as several very productive meetings with TCEQ on the application and plans to apply for a temporary (3-year) Bed and Banks water right permit on May 12, 2025. The City plans to apply for permanent rights to discharge and re-divert this groundwater since these wells will be part of the City's water supply and could be a source of water for a future brackish reverse osmosis (RO) water treatment facility. The City of Mathis has had productive meetings with State officials and TCEQ officials related to an emergency application to immediately build city-owned ground water wells.

The City of Mathis believes that this emergency drought situation and the temporary relief sought by the City of Corpus Christi are similar to what occurs when hurricanes hit the Texas coast, and environmental standards are temporarily set aside to address the impacts of such an event, particularly to energy production and refinery operations while undergoing emergency startup and shutdown processes as applicable to air quality standards.

The City of Mathis has been advised that models shows that if current severe drought conditions continue to impact Lake Corpus Christi, it will negatively impact the Mathis ability to draw raw surface water from the lake by the end of the year. The City of Mathis is currently seeking its own environmental standards temporary set aside to address this catastrophic weather impact our city, by working with the State of Texas in support of our city's emergency application of building two new groundwater wells around a thousand feet deep, to supply a secondary source of drinkable water. Also supporting the efforts of the City of Corpus Christi approval from the Office of the Governor for flexibility in their water well projects while their city remains in Stage 3 or worse drought restrictions as well.

BE ADVISED: STARTING ON OR AFTER JULY 07, 2025 STRICT ENFORCEMENT OF THE STAGE 3 WATER RESTRICTION WILL NEED TO COMMENSE. VIOLATORS CAN BE CITED AND FINED FOR VIOLATIONS. ALL DROUGHT CONDITION STAGES AND INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND ON THE CITY OF MATHIS WEBSITE, AND THE CITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI WEBSITE.

Thank you for your time, attention, and help.

Humbly,

Cedric Davis Sr. - CPM, CSCP, CPFIO
City Manager
City of Mathis, Texas