

Press Release

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Manage. Enhance. Protect.

Overall Improved Aquifer Conditions Result in Reduced Edwards Permit Reductions for Both Pools

San Antonio, TX – The Edwards Aquifer Authority (EAA) has declared the lifting of Stage 2 with a return to Stage 1 Critical Period Management (CPM) pumping curtailments for Edwards withdrawal permit holders in the San Antonio Pool of the EAA's jurisdiction (Medina, Bexar, and parts of Atascosa, Caldwell, Guadalupe, Comal, and Hays counties). Simultaneously, the EAA lifts Stage 3 and returns to Stage 2 CPM pumping curtailments for Edwards Aquifer withdrawal permit holders in the Uvalde Pool of the EAA's jurisdiction (Uvalde County). Both reductions in CPM statuses are based on improved aquifer conditions effective Friday, July 24, 2026.

Today, the 10-day averages were as follows: For the San Antonio Pool, the J-17 index well was 650.4 feet above mean sea level (ft. amsl), Comal Springs was 215 cubic feet per second (cfs), and the San Marcos Springs was 131 cfs. For the first time since April 10, 2022, these aquifer condition indicators for the San Antonio Pool are all above the threshold for Stage 2 and within the Stage 1 range of the CPM. Furthermore, the 10-day average at the J-27 index was 845.6 ft. amsl, which is above the Stage 3 threshold and within the Stage 2 range of the CPM. The last time the Uvalde Pool was in Stage 2 CPM was on June 25, 2023.

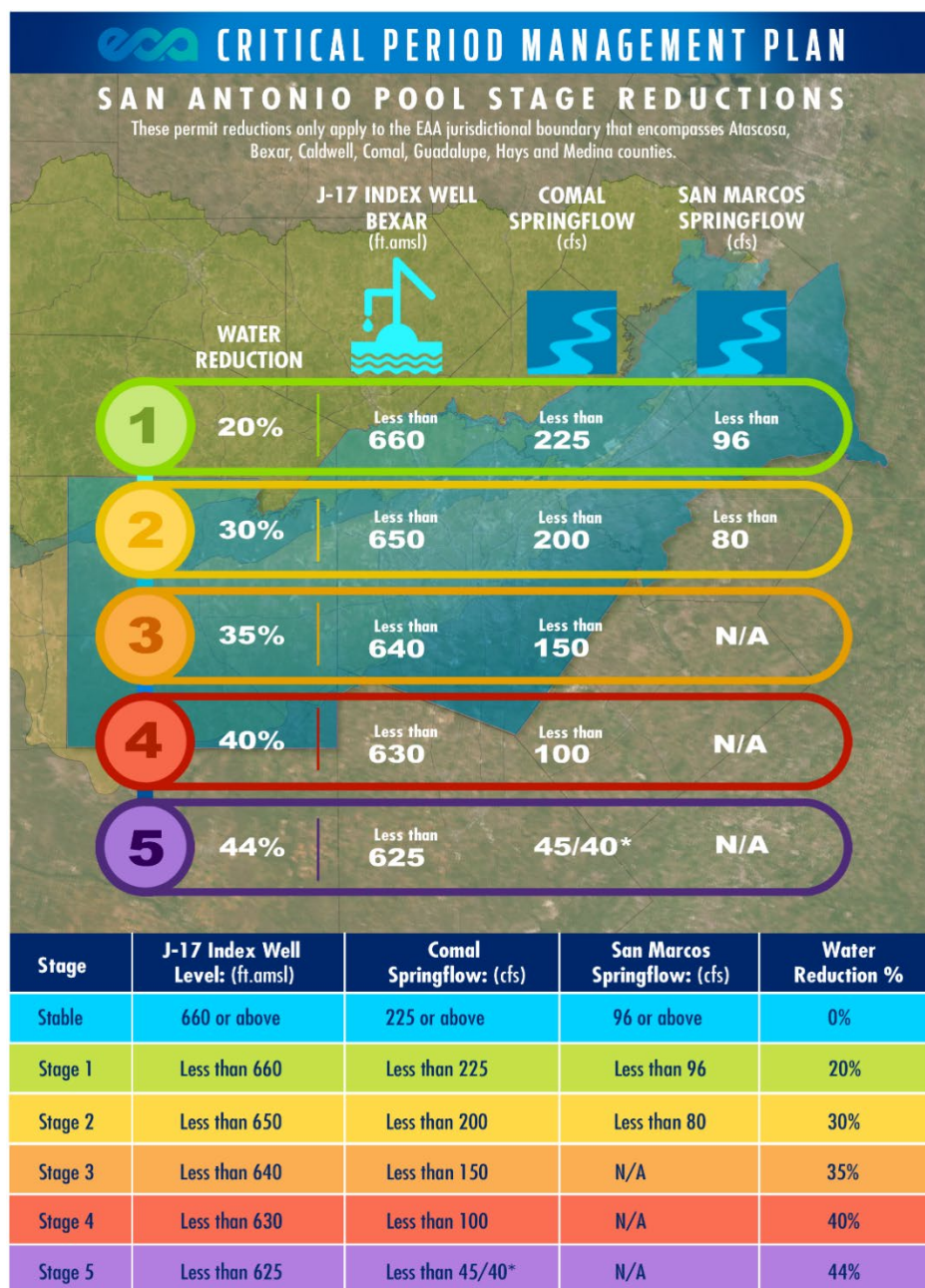
As shown in Figure 1, CPM Stage 1 for the San Antonio Pool reduces the annual authorized withdrawal amounts available to affected Edwards groundwater permit holders by 20 percent of their withdrawal amounts. Additionally, as shown in Figure 2, CPM Stage 2 for the Uvalde Pool reduces the annual authorized withdrawal amounts available to affected Edwards groundwater permit holders by 5 percent. These reductions are based on the number of days CPM is in effect for the indicated stage reduction and apply to all Edwards Aquifer groundwater permit holders authorized to pump more than three acre-feet annually. This includes industrial and agricultural users, as well as water utilities authorized to pump water from the Edwards Aquifer for delivery to their respective customers. All affected permit holders must also report their pumping totals to the EAA on a monthly basis.

Residents and businesses that receive their water from a public water system should follow their respective water providers' directives regarding water-use practices. It should be noted that the EAA does not enforce lawn-watering activities or other general water limitations beyond the curtailment of withdrawals from the Edwards Aquifer. Any enforcement of such activities or limitations is the responsibility of a municipality. The EAA does not regulate the general public but instead regulates Edwards well owners with withdrawal permits authorizing their right to pump from the aquifer.

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The EAA is a groundwater conservation district that manages, enhances and protects the Edwards Aquifer, a major groundwater system serving approximately two-and-one-half million South Central Texans. The EAA jurisdiction spans across eight counties including Uvalde, Medina, Bexar, and parts of Atascosa, Caldwell, Guadalupe, Comal and Hays counties.

Figure 1.

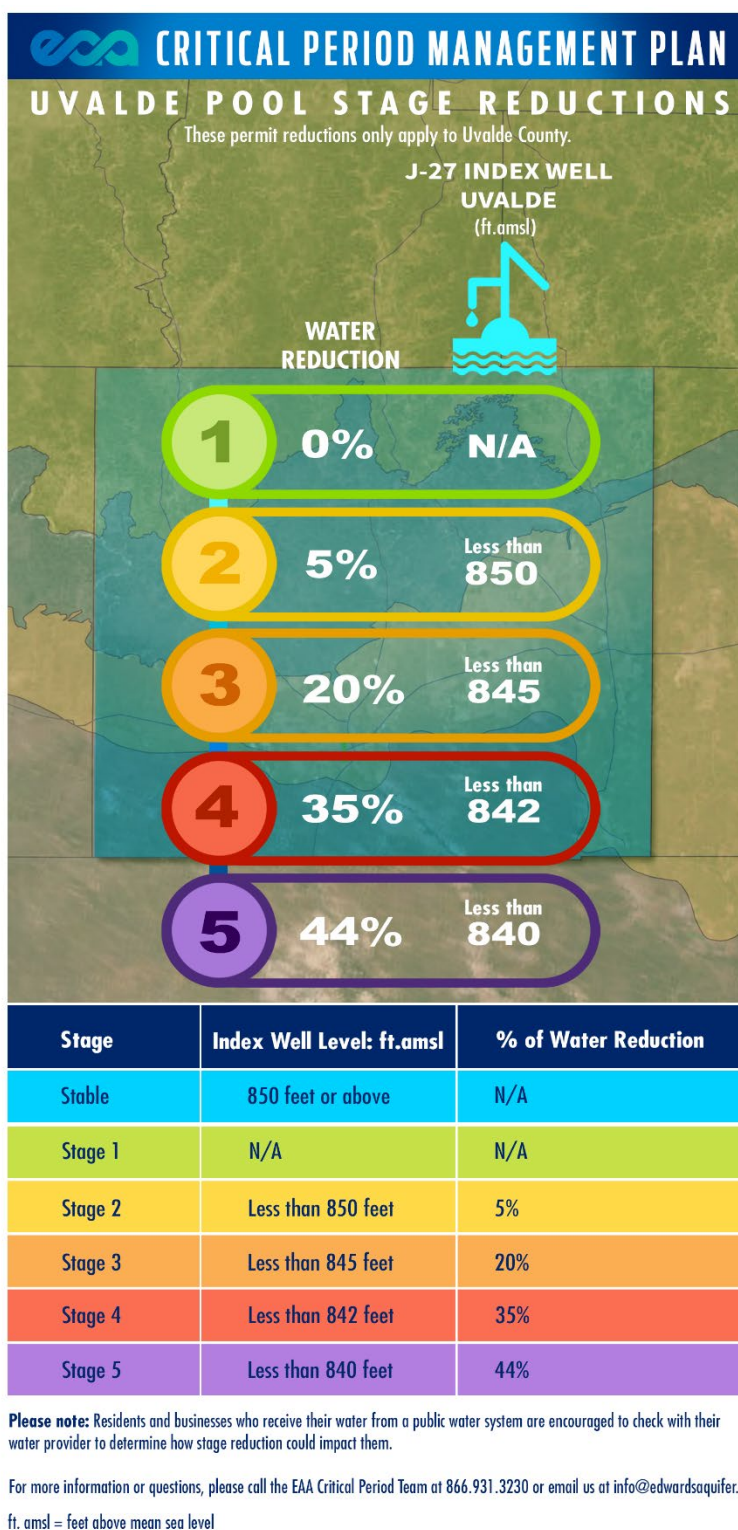


Please note: *Stage 5 Comal Springs springflow - to enter this stage based on the springflow, the reading must be less than 45 cfs on a ten-day rolling average, or less than 40 cfs based on a three-day rolling average. To leave this stage, the ten-day rolling average must be 45 cfs or greater.

For more information or questions, please call the EAA Critical Period Team at 866.931.3239 or email us at info@edwardsaquifer.org

ft. amsl = feet above mean sea level | (cfs) = cubic feet per second

Figure 2.



More information can be found at:

<https://www.edwardsaquifer.org/groundwater-users/critical-period-drought-management/>

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