



**EDWARDS AQUIFER  
AUTHORITY**

MANAGE • ENHANCE • PROTECT

**April 8, 2024**

For Immediate Release

**Ann-Margaret Gonzalez**

210.222.2204

210.383.3315

[agonzalez@edwardsaquifer.org](mailto:agonzalez@edwardsaquifer.org)

## **EAA Declares an Increase to Stage 5 Permit Reductions for Uvalde Pool**

**San Antonio, TX** – The Edwards Aquifer Authority (EAA) has declared an increase from Stage 4 to Stage 5 Critical Period Management permit reductions for Edwards groundwater permit holders in the Uvalde Pool of the EAA's jurisdiction within Uvalde County. The EAA officially confirmed that the ten-day rolling average water level in the J-27 index well in Uvalde was 839.8 feet above mean sea level (ft msl) as of Saturday, April 6, 2024. The last time the EAA declared Stage 5 for the Uvalde Pool was March of 2013.

As shown in Figure 1, the EAA Critical Period Management Plan (CPM) Stage 5 for the Uvalde Pool reduces the annual authorized withdrawal amounts available to affected groundwater permit holders by 44 percent. These reductions 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 its respective customers. All affected permit holders must also report their pumping totals to the EAA on a monthly basis.

Residents and businesses who receive their water from a public water system should follow their respective water provider's directives regarding water use practices. It should be noted that the EAA does not enforce lawn watering schedules or other general water use limitations enacted by local ordinances. Such schedules or limitations are enforced by local municipalities and water purveyors. 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.

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 8 counties including Uvalde, Medina, Bexar, and parts of Atascosa, Caldwell, Guadalupe, Comal and Hays counties.



**Figure 1.**

## EAA Critical Period Management Plan

### How the EAA Manages Critical Stage Reductions

#### THE UVALDE POOL

The Uvalde pool pumping permit reductions only apply to Uvalde County.

Critical Period Stage	J-27 Index Well Level above mean sea level (amsl)	% of Water Reduction
No Stage indicates stable levels	850 feet or above	0%
Stage 1	N/A	0%
Stage 2	Less than 850 feet	5%
Stage 3	Less than 845 feet	20%
Stage 4	Less than 842 feet	35%
Stage 5	Less than 840 feet	44%

---

More information can be found at <https://bit.ly/EACriticalPeriodManagementPlan>