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Water Less Y'all -- Upper Trinity Kicks off Summer Water Conservation Campaign

Lewisville, TX – June 1, 2022 – Considerable population growth in North Texas and more extreme weather events are underscoring the importance of water conservation for the region. The Upper Trinity Regional Water District that serves approximately 350,000 people in Denton, Dallas and Collin counties is launching its summer conservation campaign this week.

"We anticipate more extreme weather events where our region will see longer dry periods followed by high precipitation events," said Larry Patterson, Upper Trinity's executive director. "We are counting on the 'can-do attitude' of North Texans to pitch in and conserve water to help us extend our water supply no matter what Mother Nature throws at us," he said.

This year's campaign theme plays off fun and familiar Texas sayings with messages asking residents to **#WaterLessYall** and offering helpful resources and tips. Residents are encouraged to "do the Texas two-step" by watering no more than two days a week and only after 6 p.m. or before 10 a.m. Early morning watering is best due to cooler temperatures and less evaporation. Residents are also encouraged to "do the Texas Hold 'em": hold off watering after it's rained or when rain is in the forecast, as well as during windy conditions.

As much as 80% of water use in the summer months is for outdoor watering. It's estimated that half of that water may be wasted due to poorly designed and maintained irrigation systems or watering at the wrong time of the day or for too long. There are easy, inexpensive ways to reduce water use and save money on water bills, while still maintaining healthy landscapes. Check out Upper Trinity's new webpage at www.WaterLessYall.com which includes the following free resources, water-saving tips and more:

- **Sign up for weekly watering advice:** The Water My Yard program (www.watermyyard.org) recommends the amount of supplemental water needed to maintain a healthy lawn each week based on current local weather conditions.
- **Only water when it's needed:** An easy way to see if your lawn needs water is to insert a soil moisture gauge or a long screwdriver into the soil. If the screwdriver easily inserts into the soil, like a toothpick into a cake, your lawn does not need watering. If it's hard to push in the soil, it's time to water.

- **Cycle and soak:** This method of watering helps water go deeper into the roots which is better for the plants. Water in shorter cycles (5-6 minutes each) and wait one hour between each cycle.
- **Get familiar with your sprinkler controller:** The District has short videos at www.WaterLessYall.com showing how to adjust your sprinkler controller. Landscape professionals are also good resources to set and program systems. Avoid setting a controller once and forgetting it; adjust regularly for the time of year and weather conditions. Following Water My Yard recommendations can help with this.
- **Select the right plant for the right place:** Texas native plants need less water and do better in local growing conditions. Installing plants that have similar water needs in the same location also helps avoid overwatering. Soil amendments (compost and mulch) help retain water in the soil and improve plant health.
- **Learn about Water Efficient Lawn & Garden Care for North Texas:** The District shares the best water-saving tips on the website in [one convenient brochure](#).

The 29 communities Upper Trinity serves are projected to grow nearly fivefold by 2070. To meet future needs, Upper Trinity must rely on conservation, in addition to water reuse, maximizing existing supplies, and developing new water sources, such as [Lake Ralph Hall](#), which is now under construction.

“If we all do our part, we can stretch our water supplies further. This helps water providers, like Upper Trinity, keep costs down and ensures that adequate water supply is there every time we turn the tap,” added Patterson. “So, Water Less Y’all!”

About Upper Trinity

Upper Trinity is a regional water district created by the Texas Legislature in 1989 for the benefit of cities and utilities in the Denton County area. Its mandate is to develop regional plans for water services, and to provide both water and wastewater services on a wholesale basis to cities and utilities within its service area, including all of Denton County and portions of Dallas and Collin Counties. Upper Trinity is a leader in public education regarding water conservation and water quality protection, and regularly conducts programs concerning drought tolerant landscape techniques, landscape practices and more efficient water use. **For more information, please contact Jason L. Pierce, Manager of Governmental Affairs & Communications at 972-219- 1228.**