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For Immediate Release

West Texas still facing Severe Drought

STANTON, Texas (August 1, 2012) - The small amount of rainfall in Howard and Martin counties has not given West Texas the desperate drought relief it needs. Areas of the state are still facing extreme to severe drought as temperatures rise and predictions for little rainfall continue.

As of June, the Palmer Drought Severity Index showed Martin and Howard counties in extreme drought. With little rainfall throughout July, the drought monitor could still be high in the coming months. Keeping this in mind, the Permian Basin Underground Water Conservation District monitors the drought index to better communicate the importance of conserving water. In order to save water and use it wisely, the PBUWCD offers helpful indoor and outdoor tips to practice daily.

Tip 1 – Water your yard early in the morning or late at night when temperatures are cooler and when the sun cannot evaporate the water being applied.

Tip 2 – Time your showers to five minutes or less to save 150 gallons of water a month.

Tip 3 – Install a rain sensor on your irrigation controller so your system won't run when it's raining.

Tip 4 – When doing laundry, match the water level to the size of the load.

Tip 5 – Even though it's hot, avoid recreational water toys that require a constant flow of water.

For more ways to conserve water in and around your home, visit the Permian Basin UWCD website at www.pbuwcd.com or stop by our office at 708 W. St. Peter in Stanton.

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The Southern Ogallala Conservation & Outreach Program is the education and public relations division of the Sandy Land UWCD. SOCOP's mission is to spread underground water awareness and encourage water conservation practices. For more information, visit savingh2o.org.