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**For Immediate Release**

## **Hot/Dry Summer brings on Sever Drought**

**STANTON, Texas (September 22, 2020)** – Big rains in May had west Texas hopeful that we would be having a wet year. However, summer had other plans. With most of the summer pushing scorching temperatures and providing little rainfall, it has pushed Martin County into a state of severe drought. The new drought status comes in accordance to the Palmer Drought Severity Index for the month of August, but recent rains have citizens hopeful for a cold/wet winter.

Keeping current drought conditions in mind, the PBUWCD offers helpful outdoor tips to remember as we slip in to the cooler months.

**Tip 1** – Water plants sparingly throughout the early autumn until the time your leaves fall. Watering plants sparingly in early autumn will allow them to transition smoothly from the growing season into the dormant season.

**Tip 2** – Avoid watering during any form of precipitation.

**Tip 3** – Use mulch around your plants and trees to maintain moisture.

**Tip 4** – Adjust your sprinkler timer. When temperatures go down, water requirements for your landscape follow suite.

**Tip 5** – Insulate water pipes to reduce heat loss, save energy, and prevent them from breaking. Winterize outdoor spigots when temperatures dip below freezing to prevent pipes from bursting or freezing.

For more ways to conserve water in and around your home, visit the Permian Basin UWCD's website at [www.pbuwcd.com](http://www.pbuwcd.com) or stop by our office at 708 W. St. Peter in Stanton.