



For Immediate Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**CONTACT: Judi Pierce
Public Information Officer
(254) 761-3103**

STAY SAFE WHILE CELEBRATING THIS INDEPENDENCE DAY

WACO, Texas (June 23, 2011) – The United States of America celebrates its 235th birthday this July 4, and what better way to join in the fun than visiting one of the lakes in the Brazos River Authority system: Possum Kingdom, Granbury and Limestone. The BRA encourages everyone to come on out and make this an enjoyable – and safe – holiday.

The vast majority of Texas 254 counties are under burn bans, including those with BRA lakes. Because of the recent wildfires and ongoing fire danger, the BRA wishes to remind everyone it is against Authority Lake Regulations to use fireworks at the lakes' public areas and on or over the water, including off private docks and off boats. Instead, this might be a good year to enjoy one of the public fireworks displays being held at or near each lake.

In response to the added risk, rangers will be watching for fireworks at the lakes and will have to issue a citation or confiscate fireworks if any are seen in use. For additional information on fireworks restrictions at Brazos River Authority lakes, please call 888-922-6272.

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About the Brazos River Authority

The Brazos River Authority, with headquarters in Waco, is the oldest river authority in Texas. Created by the Texas Legislature in 1929, the Authority's 42,000 square-mile territory includes all or part of 70 counties; extending from the Texas-New Mexico border west of Lubbock to the Gulf of Mexico near Freeport.

The Authority built, owns, and operates three reservoirs (Lakes Possum Kingdom, Granbury, and Limestone). In addition to these water supply reservoirs, the Authority contracts with the Corps of Engineers for the water supply storage space at eight federal multi-purpose flood control and water conservation reservoirs (Lakes Whitney, Belton, Proctor, Somerville, Stillhouse Hollow, Granger, Georgetown and Aquilla).

The Brazos River Authority owns and operates a regional wastewater system for the cities of Temple-Belton. The Authority also operates wastewater treatment plants for the cities of Georgetown, Dime Box, Clute-Richwood and Sugar Land. Through an alliance with the Lower Colorado River Authority, the Brazos River Authority operates wastewater treatment plants at Brushy Creek Regional Wastewater System in Round Rock, the city of Hutto and the city of Liberty Hill.

The Authority owns and operates water treatment systems at Lake Granbury (which supplies potable water to wholesale customers in Hood and Johnson Counties), and the City of Taylor. The Authority also operates a potable water treatment plant for the City of Dime Box. A water treatment plant for the City of Leander is operated by the Brazos River Authority through an alliance with the Lower Colorado River Authority.

The Authority also engages in water quality monitoring activities throughout the Brazos River basin. As a member of the Texas Clean River Program, the Authority samples and tests water from 157 locations throughout the basin on either a monthly or quarterly basis.

For further information on the Brazos River Authority, please contact Judi Pierce, Public Information Officer at 254-761-3103.