

which can be a challenge when trying to conserve the necessary resource.

“We are starting to see widespread drought stress in trees across the state,” said Karl Flocke, Texas A&M Forest Service Woodland Ecologist. “At this point, we are even seeing some trees starting to die because of stress.”

Dying trees are generally in isolated pockets where the soil is dry and not holding much water, or in parts of the state where there has been an extended period without rain.

“Several different species are dying and declining rapidly,” said Flocke. “But generally, we are seeing the most drought-induced mortality on oaks, a few elm trees, hackberry trees and even some junipers.”

The best thing we can do to slow mortality rates in trees is water them, and consistently. Consistent watering is crucial for trees because there is no water storage system within them. Most of the water taken up by trees is not held in the trees but instead is returned to the atmosphere in a process called transpiration.

“You think about a cactus and how it’s filled with water for later use,” said Flocke. “Trees are not like that; they are not filled with water. Trees are constantly getting water from the soil and releasing it back in the atmosphere through transpiration.”

Due to the lack of a water storage system within trees, they need watering regularly to survive.

As the drought continues, though, many counties, cities and water districts have begun putting water restrictions in place to conserve the precious resource.

“When most of us turn on a hose, the water that comes out was either pumped from an underground aquifer or it came from a surface source such as a lake,” said Flocke. “This resource is limited and is necessary to support the life of not only fish and wildlife, but humans as well.”

During extreme drought, using water in our landscape for trees and yards can reduce the amount of water available in aquifers, rivers and lakes.

“This same water is needed to sustain wildlife, grow food, cool power plants and fight wildfires,” said Flocke.

So, how can you best take care of your trees while conserving water resources?

First, well-established trees that are not showing signs of heat stress do not need to be watered. Signs of stress to look for include dropping or wilting leaves, small or malformed leaves, yellowing of the leaves and browning tips of the leaves.

Younger trees that have been planted in the landscape in the last few years, though, should be watered consistently.

Next, it’s important to prioritize the trees that you want to maintain in your landscape. Keeping shade trees

alive that add incomparable value when it comes to lowering temperatures around your home should be the first priority.

“It’s important to prioritize keeping a healthy tree canopy, especially around residential areas,” said Flocke. “Really, focusing on the trees that have significance to you for either shade, beauty or emotional meaning.”

In a typical summer, watering young trees with two to three

gallons per inch of trunk diameter, two to three times per week is a good rule of thumb. However, make sure the soil is never saturated with water.

When under water restrictions and drought conditions, though, the goal shifts to keeping your trees alive until conditions change, rather than forcing them into a growing stage, which requires more energy. In extreme drought, trees can

survive on half the recommended water - one to two gallons per inch of trunk diameter, once a week.

When watering your trees, there are many techniques and practices to help limit water waste and increase water retention:

Water in the morning or evenings when there will be less loss to evaporation.

Reduce overhead watering by

using a hose, bubbler or drip system instead of a sprinkler.

Avoid chemical fertilizers as these increase the demand for water. Instead, use compost to improve oxygen and water availability.

Use mulch over the critical root zone. Two to three inches of mulch under the canopy of the tree helps to reduce moisture loss and the drying effects of wind.

(Continued on next page)

## Bronte Lady Longhorns Volleyball Schedule

August 5	Lake View	Lake View	TBA
August 9	Cornerstone/ACHS Duel	Bronte	TBA
August 12	Albany Tourney	Albany	TBA
August 16	Big Lake	Big Lake	6:30 pm
August 19-20	Nita Vannoy Tourney	San Angelo	TBA
August 23	Knox City	Knox City	6:30 pm
August 26-27	Showdown Tourney	Bronte	TBA
August 30	TLC/Coleman Duel	Bronte	TBA
September 3	OPEN		
September 6	Sterling City	Sterling City	6:30 pm
September 10	Hawley/Benjamin Duel	Hawley	TBA
September 13	Miles	Miles	6:30 pm
September 17	Rankin	Bronte	11 am
September 20	Bangs	Bronte	6:30 pm
September 24	Water Valley	Water Valley	12 pm
September 27	SA Saints	Bronte	6:30 pm
October 1	Trent	Bronte	1 pm
October 8	Paint Rock	Bronte	
October 11	TLCA	San Angelo	4 pm
October 15	Veribest	Veribest	12:15 pm
October 18	Paint Rock	Paint Rock	6:15 pm
October 22	Sonora	Sonora	12 pm
October 25	Veribest	Bronte	6:15 pm
October 29	District Certification		

# IVEY MOTORS

**2019 Ford F-350 King Ranch** **\$68,500**

*White w/Brown Accent & King Ranch Leather! Navigation, Adaptive Cruise, & Power Running Boards, 100K Miles!*

#Y663A

**2018 Chevrolet Suburban LT** **\$41,900**

*Blue w/Black Leather! Rear Entertainment System, Rear Bucket Seats, & Sunroof! 65K Miles!*

#5683A

**2017 Toyota 4Runner Limited** **\$39,900**

*White w/Brown Leather! Navigation, Sunroof, & Heated Front Seats! Only 45K Miles!*

#X618A

**2017 Chevrolet Suburban LS** **\$37,900**

*White w/Black Cloth! Remote Start & Tow Package! Excellent Shape! 58K Miles!*

**Price Drop!**

#X625A

**2021 Kia Sorento S AWD** **\$37,500**

*Silver w/Black Leather! Very Nice SUV! Only 30K Miles!*

#Y685A

**2020 Mercedes-Benz GLA250** **\$34,900**

*White w/Tan Leather! Great Fuel Efficient SUV! Only 21K Miles!*

#X545B

**2016 Toyota Tundra SR5 4WD** **\$31,500**

*Gray w/Black Cloth Seats! Double Cab! 5.7L V8! Bed Liner! 96K Miles!*

#X540A

**2005 Ford Excursion Limited 4WD** **\$19,900**

*Tan w/Tan Leather! DVDs! 6" Lift Kit, Front Replacement Bumper! 6.8L V10! 155K Miles! Excellent Shape!*

#Y685A

**2014 Ford Expedition EL XLT** **\$9,500**

*Blue w/Tan Accent & Tan Leather! Rear Entertainment System & Bluetooth! 209K Miles!*

#7298C

*Let Ivey Motors help you  
with your service needs!!*

**453-4561**

Ask For:

**Cole Flanagan • Buddy Wallace • Kagan Maxcey**

