



News Release

Drought Tips

Austin, Texas - July 28, 2008 - Follow these tips to maintain a healthy lawn and landscape during hot and dry periods, especially leading up to and during drought conditions.

- **Mow turf at a higher setting to preserve the leaf blade.** Turf grasses breathe (transpire) through the leaf blade as a means of cooling the plant.
- **Delay fertilization.** The addition of nitrogen causes the plant to grow more requiring more water than at a relaxed state.
- **Aerate the soil.** Dense clay soils and compaction reduce the ability of water and oxygen to reach the root zone of plants.
- **Irrigate based on plant need.** Remember that plants need to breathe below the ground as well. All plants have a range of moisture and oxygen where they grow best, usually between 50 and 85 percent soil moisture to air ratio. Overwatering forces air out of the soil stressing the plants and creating long-term health issues.
- **Allow dormancy.** All plants, especially native plantings, have the ability to preserve themselves during drought conditions by going dormant like they do in the winter months. They will return as the temperatures drop and rains return. Plants also reach a "flash point" based on temperature in which they will retreat to dormancy even if water is available.

About Acequia, LP

Acequia has been providing water-saving irrigation-management solutions to commercial property owners since 2001. Acequia developed its advanced proprietary software to provide irrigation scheduling based on real-time environmental data transmitted continuously across the Internet from every control unit to the company's central server for analysis and action.

The selection of our company name has tremendous meaning and history which we feel reflects who we are and how we want to be viewed by our partners. "Acequia" is a term brought to this country via old Spain derived from the formalization of irrigation practices prior to the conquest of the Americas. During this period, Acequia referred to water stewards or overseers assigned to assure that colonies were established in accordance with sound environmental principals. Additional information can be found at www.acequia.com or 512-637-5172.