The City of Commerce has implemented Stage 2 of our Drought Contingency Plan. This is the second of five stages that consist of (1) Mild Drought, (2) Moderate Drought, (3) Severe Drought, (4) Critical, and (5) Emergency.

Stage 2 is intended to eliminate water waste. Guidelines from the moderate conditions according to the City of Commerce Drought Contingency Plan are as follows:

1. Watering your yard is limited to between the hours of 8:00 p.m. and 10:00 a.m. However, irrigation of landscaped areas is permitted at anytime if it is by means of a hand-held hose, a bucket or watering can that holds less than five gallons or drip irrigation system.

2. Use of water to wash any type of vehicle is prohibited except between the hours of 8:00 p.m. and 10:00 a.m. and it will be done with a bucket or a hose equipped with a positive shutoff nozzle. Vehicle washing may be done at any time at a car wash facility or commercial service station.

3. Use of water to fill, refill, or add to any indoor or outdoor swimming pool, wading pool, or Jacuzzi-type pool is prohibited except between the hours of 8:00 p.m. and 10:00 a.m.

4. Operation of any ornamental fountain or pond for aesthetic or scenic purposes is prohibited except where necessary to support aquatic life or where such fountains or ponds are equipped with a recirculation system.

5. Use of water from hydrants shall be limited to firefighting or other activities necessary to maintain public health, safety, and welfare.

6. The following uses of water are prohibited:
   a. Washing down any sidewalks, walkways, driveways, parking lots, tennis courts or other hard-surfaced areas.
   b. Use of water to wash down buildings.
   c. Use of water for dust control
   d. Flushing gutters or permitting water to run or into any gutter or street.
   e. Failure to repair a leak within a reasonable period.

At this time, Lake Tawakoni is 10.05 feet below normal level. Stage 3 of the Drought Contingency Plan could be implemented within the next few weeks if the lake levels
continue to drop. Residents will be notified by mail if the city implements Stage 3. For more information call City Hall at 903/886-1100.