

# Corpus council ends rationing

**United Press International**  
**CORPUS CHRISTI** — The City Council Tuesday ended two months of water rationing imposed during one of the driest summers this century, but simultaneously made plans to ensure adequate supplies in the future.  
 The council continued in effect its mandatory water conservation plan limiting the watering of lawns and plants, and approved plans to develop and produce 25 million gallons of water a day from underground wells.  
 Almost all of the water for the city's more than 200,000 residents came from Lake Corpus Christi, before the drought reduced its level to as low as 36 percent full.  
 Tuesday's action allows 15 other Coastal Bend cities that buy their water from Corpus Christi to end water allocations at their discretion.  
 In relaxing the strict water rationing plan, Mayor Luther Jones and Hayden Head Sr., head of an ad hoc water advisory committee, said publicly about its water problems was

hurting the city's image.  
 Head and Jones appeared concerned that the water shortage might hurt the city's chances of becoming the home port for a battleship squadron that the U.S. Navy plans to station in the Gulf of Mexico in the future.  
 Head's committee submitted a three-point proposal: 1) complete development and production of water wells that will provide 25 million gallons of water a day, 2) acquire land for future well sites that could bring the total of supplemental water to 60 million gallons a day, and 3) restructure water rates to cover the development and production cost of well water.  
 Jones said it would take years for Corpus Christi to recover from national and international publicity generated by its water problems, but that a move now to eliminate allocations would go a long way toward improving the city's reputation and also would assist in the city's quest to become the station for the Navy battleship group.

# Technology

*Fiber optics handles bytes of info by a mere thread*

**United Press International**  
**WALTHAM, Mass.** — The rapid development of computers has received a great deal of publicity lately, but little has been said for computers' important counterpart — fiber optics.  
 No matter how much information computers are able to process and store, their use is limited unless large volumes of information can be transferred from one place to another quickly and cheaply.  
 Copper telephone lines, microwave transmitters and satellites aren't able to transmit the enormous amounts of information experts are predicting will soon be speeding through computer networks.  
 Light signals carried along threads of glass will most likely be the solution.  
 Fiber optic technology is already used for trunk telephone lines and between nearby businesses that require a large flow of computer information.  
 Within this decade, experts predict, fiber optics will even reach into the home. Sprint, a long-distance telephone service, already uses fiber optics along much of its transcontinental network.  
 "Because light's information carrying capacity is so great, relatively early in its technology fiber optics surpassed all other forms of transmission in cost effectiveness," said Leslie A. Riseberg, director of components research at GTE Laboratories Inc.  
 At GTE, a leader in fiber optics development, Riseberg's researchers are designing new ways to reduce the cost and increase the amount of

information that can be transmitted across the hair-thin glass fibers.  
 One fiber can carry the signals from 10 television stations. That is roughly equivalent to transmitting the entire Encyclopedia Britannica within a few seconds.  
 Why is fiber optics better than conventional methods of transmission?  
 Because most common forms of transmission use electromagnetic signals, much like radio waves only of higher frequency. Fiber optics uses light. Light is also part of the electromagnetic spectrum, but the distance between each wave is so much smaller that 100,000 times more information can be carried on it.  
 The technology is not without its problems.  
 For a long time engineers worried that broken lines could not be easily spliced together. Copper cables can simply be soldered, but glass fibers have to be perfectly aligned before melted together.  
 GTE solved the problem by inventing a device similar to Chinese handcuffs. Each end of the fiber is cut and then inserted into an elastic tube. The inner elastic lining aligns the two strands perfectly.  
 Riseberg said GTE has also found a way of packing the information onto the telephone lines more tightly.  
 When people talk, there are always gaps between their words. GTE engineers discovered a way of filling those spaces with computer communication. Whenever a gap occurs, the computer fills it with information being transmitted somewhere else.

# Federal jury indicts 14 on drug charges

**United Press International**  
**HOUSTON** — A grand jury has indicted 14 people — including a wealthy Santa Fe, N.M., man — on racketeering and narcotics charges in a widespread investigation by a federal strike force.  
 The Department of Justice also seeks forfeiture of \$5 million worth of real estate, luxury cars and bank accounts.  
 The indictment, unsealed Monday, charges that Drake Williams, 37, a certified public accountant from Santa Fe, concocted a drug and money-laundering scheme that has netted him and others at least \$15 million since 1974.  
 Williams' organization was charged with distributing 40 tons of marijuana and 46.5 ounces of cocaine, and offering illegal tax deductions to businesses for laundering drug profits.  
 Prosecutors filed court documents Monday preventing the sale of a \$200,000 house in nearby Sugar Land, a duplex in West University Place, inside Houston, and other houses and acreage in Santa Fe and in several Texas communities.  
 The government sought most of the stock in a copying business called A-jiffy Inc. in Houston, which Williams has renamed Pro-Graphics.  
 Prosecutors said they also were freezing several bank accounts, including one in Zurich, Switzerland, and seizing a number of luxury cars, motorcycles and airplanes that they said were used in racketeering or organized criminal activity.  
 Williams, jailed in lieu of \$500,000 bond, was charged with operating a criminal enterprise, the so-called "drug kingpin" statute, which carries a maximum penalty of life in prison and a \$100,000 fine.

Williams, who told a magistrate that he has an accounting practice in Houston, also was charged with three criminal racketeering counts carrying maximum sentences of 60 years. He also was indicted on 11 tax and drug violations.  
 Others indicted were Williams' twin brother, Vance, Beverly Springer Lunday, 36, and William Calhoun, 33, of Houston; Tanny Gerald Miller, 33, of Waller; Charles Vorum of League City; Marshall Calhoun, 65, of Spring; Jan Grossman and Oscar Silva of Austin; Michael Sahis, in federal custody in Big Spring; Edward Orellana of Burlington, Mass.; Salvatore Meraz of El Paso; Joseph C. Watson of Austin; and Robert A. Williams of Paso Robles, Calif., brother of Drake and Vance.  
 Their 24-count indictment alleges the defendants used the Houston copying business and several others to launder substantial sums of cash from drug trafficking.  
 Drake Williams allegedly offered an illegal tax deduction to Marshall and William Calhoun, a father and son who operated Custom Steel Co., Inc., in Houston.  
 Williams was charged with giving two large amounts of cash to the two businessmen in exchange for checks, which were then reported on the firm's business tax returns as payments for "contract services" which were never rendered.  
 The indictment charged that Drake Williams also was heavily involved in cocaine and marijuana distribution.  
 Williams earlier was indicted in May 1983, but the Gulf Coast Regional Drug Task Force later asked for dismissal to pursue stronger charges against Williams and the others which allowed confiscation of their assets.

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