

Recharge: Your Groundwater Resource

Post Oak Savannah Groundwater Conservation District Newsletter

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Summer 2007

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Water Links

Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts - www.texasgroundwater.org

Texas Water Development Board - www.twdb.state.tx.us

National Groundwater Association—www.ngwa.org

Texas Ground Water Association - www.tgwa.org



General Manager Updates

District Monitor Wells Added



Water wells in the District are being identified to become monitor wells. These wells can be abandoned wells or wells that are currently being used for agricultural, domestic and municipal purposes. Monitor wells are used as testing sites to gage groundwater depths. New wells have been added to assist us in providing additional data. Annual monitoring of these wells are vital components in our groundwater monitoring program. Thus far, we have over 40 monitor wells and this continues to grow. It is Post Oak Savannah's overall goal to use this monitoring program to manage the groundwater resources efficiently so that sustainability is achieved through reasonable means.

Flow Rates For Producer Wells

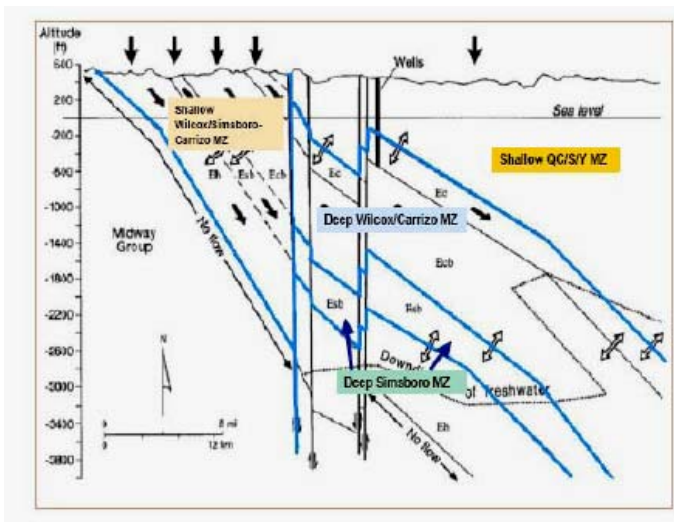
Producers in the Brazos Bottoms normally begin irrigating during the summer months when conditions are dry. During July and August, Post Oak Savannah will assist them in determining the flow rates of their irrigation wells. By knowing their flow rates, they will know how efficient their wells are functioning. This service not only provides them with information on the efficiency of their wells, it provides the District with valuable data for managing and planning our present and future water storage and usage. If you are a producer and would like to partici-



Inside This Issue

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Post Oak Savannah Groundwater Management Planning



Post Oak Savannah has divided the District into seven groundwater management zones to properly manage groundwater resources for the purpose of conserving water for future generations. Anticipating future development and the export of water from the District's aquifers, each zone will be managed according to its characteristic and for this reason will be managed differently. The District has adopted rules to sustain water use of groundwater resources.

Management Zone Names and Locations

Trinity: Northwest corner of Milam County, recharge area in the counties north and northwest.

Brazos River and Little River Alluvium: Eastern borders of Milam and Burleson Counties and Central Milam County, primarily for agriculture use.

Queen City and Sparta: Along and south of the Milam-Burleson County lines, source for numerous domestic wells and some public water supply systems.

Shallow Carrizo-Wilcox (Simsboro): North of Milano Fault Zone, numerous domestic wells and small public water supply systems.

Deep Simsboro: South and east of the Milano fault zone.

Deep Carrizo-Wilcox: South and east of the Milano fault zone, the major regional aquifer.

Yegua/Jackson: Southern portion of Burleson County

General Management Strategies

1. Production and well spacing requirements
2. Issue permits for production wells according to aquifer characteristics
3. Establish water drawdown limits
4. Monitor aquifer levels and production
5. Encourage water conservation
6. Make adjustments to permitted production

Groundwater conservation districts are the state's preferred method of groundwater management through rules developed, adopted, and promulgated by a district.

Texas Water Code, Sec. 36.0015

Well Completion (Well Drilling, Capping and Plugging)

The Responsibilities of Well Drillers and Landowners

Below is an adaptation of Chapter 76.702. The following information can be found on Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations website: <http://www.license.state.tx.us/wwd/wwdrules.htm>.

Rules established by chapter 76.702 of the Texas Administrative Code:

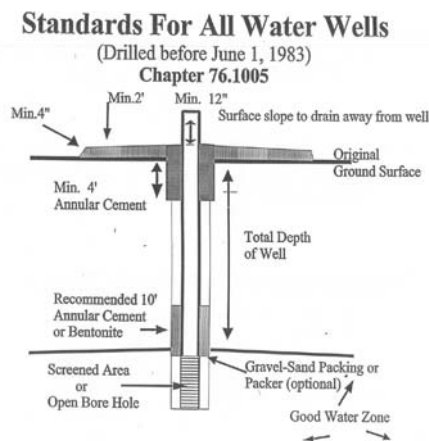
1. Landowners must allow drillers to complete wells to the established standards
2. In the event that landowners do not allow drillers to perform this duty, drillers must file with the Department of Licensing and Regulations a statement within 5 days of the denial. The Department will notify the landowner that the well should be complete to well standards within 10 days.
3. All wells must be capped according to the standards set forth in Chapter 76.1004 of the Texas Administrative Code.
4. Landowners are required to plug abandoned wells as described under Chapter 76.1004.
5. The licensed well driller must inform a landowner that a well must be plugged if abandoned.
6. The Licensed well driller and landowner must ensure that a well containing undesirable water is plugged or converted into a monitoring well as defined by Chapter 76.10(13) and set forth in 76.1004.
7. If an unfinished well is left unattended it is the responsibility of the driller or the installer to cover the well or boring with a cap that cannot be easily removed.
8. When a driller knowingly encounters undesirable water, he must ensure that the well is plugged.

In the event that a landowner denies the driller access to wells that requires plugging or completing the well, the driller will file a signed statement within 48 hours notifying the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation and the local groundwater conservation district stating the following:

- a. the driller or person under his or supervision encountered undesirable water while drilling,
- b. the driller has informed the well owner of the undesirable water and that the well must be plugged or completed under the Texas Occupations Code 1901.255,
- c. the landowner has denied access, and
- d. the reason, if known for which access is denied.

Commonly asked questions and answers can be found at this website.

<http://www.license.state.tx.us/wwd/wwdfaq.htm#g7>



POSGCD Mission Statement—Our mission is to strategically manage the groundwater resources of Bureson and Milam counties in order to protect against aquifer depletion and pollution and to ensure an adequate water supply for future generations. Through responsible management, we will accomplish this undertaking of preservation by collecting data, monitoring groundwater levels, regulating excessive production, permitting, educating the public and coordinating with neighboring districts for mutual benefit.

Calendar of Events

July

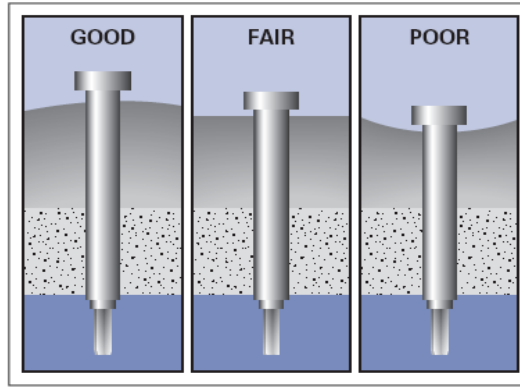
24-25, National Groundwater and Environmental Law Conference, 5100 Upper Metro Place, Dublin, Ohio
http://www.ngwa.org/e/conf/0707245066.cfm

August

9 /GMA 8 Meeting
14-15, Public Drinking Water Conference
Double Tree Hotel, 6505 IH 35, Austin, TX
http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/permitting/water_supply/pdw/conference.html

September

10-11, Texas Water Law Super Conference, Omni Hotel, South Park at South Park, Austin, TX
http://www.cle.com/dev/product_info.php?products_id=838



The well should be located so rainwater flows away from it. Rainwater can pick up harmful bacteria and chemicals on the land's surface. If this water pools near your well, it can seep into it, potentially causing health problems.

EPA Drinking Water From Household Wells

Wells should be 50 feet from a septic tank and 100 feet from drain fields or spray areas with minimum well construction specifications
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

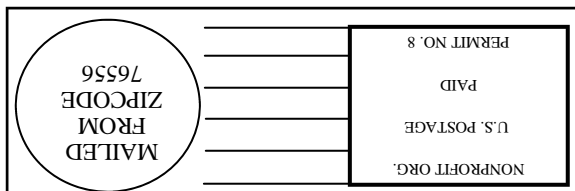
ARE WE PROVIDING INFORMATION YOU NEED?

The District Staff would like to know what information you would like to see in this newsletter. Contact us at the District offices or email us at posgcd3@tconline.net with your suggestions.



POSGCD was created to conserve and regulate the use of groundwater through monitoring of aquifer levels and production and encourage conservation rules which limit pumping, thereby extending the quantity and quality of the water available in all of the aquifers in Milam and Burleson counties. POSGCD is a member of the Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts (TAGD).

Look for our next issue in Fall 2007!



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