

FAYETTE COUNTY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

GUIDE FOR UNDERSTANDING RULES & MANAGEMENT PLAN

Drilling, Registration & Permitting

- Water wells incapable of producing more than 25,000 GPD (17.3 GPM) for domestic or livestock uses are exempt from permitting and fees but must obtain registration prior to drilling.
- Permits are required for all non-exempt wells.
- All pre-existing wells are subject to registration.
- Maximum withdrawal presently allowed is 2 acre-feet, per contiguous acre controlled, per year.
- Non-exempt well drilling & operating permits requesting less than 200 acre-feet per year are approved by the General Manager.
- Non-exempt well drilling & operating permits requesting more than 200 acre-feet per year are subject to hearing process, hydrogeological report, and approval by the Board.
- Operating Permits describe the amount and rate of withdrawal of water as well as the location and usage.
- Operating Permits are issued for a 5-year term and are renewable.
- Groundwater Transport Permit required for water exported outside the District boundaries. A hearing, notification process, hydrogeological report, and Board approval is required.
- Transport Permits have thirty-year terms if construction of conveyance system initiated within 3 years.
- Historic use permits (for maximum annual use prior to 2004) good for life of well.

Well Spacing Requirements

- A new well may not be drilled within a minimum of 50 feet from the nearest property boundary and any existing well.
- Exceptions may be granted with a hearing and Board approval.
- Spacing for new permitted wells shall be spaced one foot per one gallon per minute (gpm) of production from an existing well up to a maximum of 1000 gpm. If over 1000 gpm, the new well shall be 1000 feet plus one-half foot per one gallon per minute of production in excess of 1000 gpm.

District Fees

- Failure to register new wells prior to drilling fee - \$50
- Application for a Well/Operating Permit - \$250.00
- Application for Exception to District Rules - \$10.00
- Application for Groundwater Transportation - \$250.00
- Notice of Intent to Drill a Test Well - \$100.00 (applied to permit if successful)
- Transportation Fee – Minimum \$0.0025/1000 gallons

Management Strategies

- Provide protection for existing users and landowners' property rights.
- Evaluate aquifer impacts through annual water level monitoring for wells identified throughout the District as Water Level Monitoring Wells.
- Take appropriate action to protect and maintain appropriate aquifer water levels to protect both current and future producers.
- Monitor drought and drought conditions within the District.
- Provide educational resources, including District Staff presentations, to schools and community events pertaining to conservation and aquifer management.
- Work with GMA process to develop DFCs and management strategies beneficial to all stakeholders.